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# Resolution

## Resolution of ANF Statewide Members Meeting - 21 November 2011

This mass meeting of members of the Australian Nursing Federation (Vic Branch), having heard a report back from the Secretary, notes that:

- Our 'legally protected' industrial action for members employed by the eighty-six Single Interest Employer Authorisation health services (Category A) has been suspended for 90 days.
- The ANF has sought a judicial review of the suspension which, if successful, would mean that the suspension, and subsequent 'stop' order, were both invalid.
- The option suggested by Justice Boulton of consent arbitration, ANF's agreement to that option and the Baillieu Government's rejection of that option which could protect nurse to patient ratios and skill mix.
- Our 'legally protected' industrial action continues for members employed at all other health services where the ballot was successful.
- No offer of settlement has been made by the State Government.

Determines and resolves as follows:

1. To call on the Baillieu Government to settle the dispute by making a settlement offer that the State Secretary can recommend to members or to accept the olive branch of fast-tracked consent arbitration on all matters that remain in dispute.
2. To continue the industrial action in support of a fair and just outcome for Victorian nurses and midwives that both respects our work and maintains, improves and extends nurse to patient ratios, and protects the Victorian community, consistent with our successful protected action ballot.
3. To authorise the State Secretary to suspend all industrial action in the event agreement is reached on consent arbitration, including its timetabling and matters that will be subject to that consent arbitration.
4. To participate in stop work meetings when requested, where any ANF member's health and safety is jeopardised as a consequence of intimidation or bullying for supporting or taking part in the action.

**PTO**

*Authorised by Lisa Fitzpatrick, ANF (Vic Branch) Secretary*

5. To continue wearing campaign T-shirts, and commence wearing campaign T-shirts where not already the case, and call upon employers to recognise that the wearing of T-shirts is not, of itself, industrial action.
6. To continue to only take action that does not endanger the health, welfare or safety of the Victorian community.
7. To condemn the Minister for Health for:
  - a. making untrue statements to the Victorian community regarding our action and the impact of it on patient health, welfare and safety; and
  - b. refusing ANF's offer of consent arbitration that could have brought the dispute to an end without threatening nurse to patient ratios.
8. To condemn the State Government for having made no offer of settlement, and for continuing to use the law to attack nurses instead of seeking to negotiate a settlement.
9. To call the State Government and our employers to take active steps to bring the dispute to resolution given the impact an intractable dispute would have on the public health system and its nursing workforce.
10. To lobby State Government members not to support the strategy of the Health Minister and support nurse to patient ratios.
11. To meet again in the Bourke St Mall at 12.30pm Thursday 24 November 2011 and to march to the steps of Parliament House for a 1.00pm protest.
12. To meet again on 29 November 2011 (subject to confirmation) to hear a further report back and consider what action needs to be taken in the event that an acceptable offer is still not made to Victorian nurses and midwives.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**