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Public Sector EBA Update No 22 - 25 November 2011

Victorian Public Sector Nurses and Midwives

25 November 2011 – 11.30 am

FWA update and ANF statewide members meeting

Thousands of Victorian nurses, midwives and community members rallied yesterday in front of Parliament House to voice their support for the campaign to retain and expand nurse to patient ratios. The support from the community was overwhelming and a great lift in spirits. Congratulations to all who had the opportunity to participate.

It will be a busy day in Fair Work Australia today with the VHIA (representing hospital CEOs) and the Government arguing that:

- The Order of Commissioner Jones be overturned, with the VHIA seeking that it be replaced with a more broad Order covering all possible industrial action by ANF and its members; and
- The ANF is not bargaining in good faith by continuing industrial action that is not protected (however the question of whether it is protected is the subject of an expedited Federal Court case)
- In light of the above that our ongoing conciliation before Commissioner Gooley not continue.

The ANF remains focussed on settling the dispute and taking all possible steps to avoid any escalation in action.

A further Statewide mass meeting is now scheduled for Wednesday 30 November at 2.00 pm at Festival Hall. Members will be required to swipe their membership cards for admission to the meeting and doors will open at 12.30pm to assist with this process.