



Media release

Thursday 6 January 2014

Penalty rates report card released

The Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (SA Branch) has released its report card on penalty rates ahead of the March 15 State Election, after receiving positive responses from most major parties and independents.

In January the ANMF (SA Branch) wrote to each party and independent asking for their position on penalty rates, collective bargaining and working conditions for its members.

Adj Assoc Professor Elizabeth Dabars, CEO ANMF (SA Branch), said South Australian nurses, midwives and personal care assistants deserved clear commitments from candidates in the lead up to March's state election.

"Penalty rates provide much needed compensation for professionals working challenging and antisocial hours."

"Any move to cut penalty rates only further punishes workers who already pay a high price for giving up time on weekends and public holidays to serve the community."

The only party that did not respond was the Nick Xenophon Group, whose ticket is headed by John Darley MLC.

Adj Assoc Professor Dabars added the ANMF (SA Branch) has this morning received a verbal commitment from the Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations, Iain Evans, that penalty rates would be safe under a State Liberal Government

"Given the South Australian Liberals are potentially at odds with their Federal counterparts on this issue, this verbal commitment is both timely and significant."

The ANMF (SA Branch) has also written to the South Australian Liberals' to confirm their position.

The full penalty rates report, including responses, is available here:
<http://www.anmfsa.org.au/state-election/your-penalty-rates/>