

Equal Pay for Nurses

Dr BROAD question to MINISTER for HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH and WELLBEING

A number of Braddon constituents have raised with me the issue of nurses being paid less than Allied Health Professionals for doing the same job. The Tasmanian Industrial Commission case of Chamley versus the Minister Administering the *State Service Act 2000* ruled that nurses must be paid the same as Allied Health Professionals for doing the same job by applying the multidisciplinary allowance set out in the Nurses and Midwives Heads of Agreement from 2010.

The Industrial Commission decision is binding and the EBA is binding, yet other nurses are still being underpaid compared to their Allied Health Professional colleagues and there's been no offer of back pay. Disappointingly, the Health department still provides incorrect information to nurses when these underpayments are questioned. Furthermore, identical positions are still being advertised on Seek, with ads for nurses being offered less pay than ads for Allied Health Professionals. Same job, same pay -