

Members of the Commission

- I wish to simply add my support for paid maternity leave. I suggest that the funding of this leave is essentially a national responsibility, hence it could reasonably come from general taxation. However, a model similar to the superannuation fund would also be acceptable, as long as there is not an unbreakable link between income and level of funding - in other words, a low paid female worker should get support at least equal to that person's average earnings, which may not equal the contribution made by employer plus employee.
- I would also support some form of income supplement for a 'home maker' (in other words, a person not formally 'employed', and also not seeking work, so technically not 'unemployed'.)
- Rather than means test the payment, it should be available to all mothers, but added to taxable income - this would mean that higher income earners could actually receive less than some with lower incomes - but these are the very people who most need the support.

Jim Paton
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