

The Productivity Commission Inquiry into Paid Maternity Leave

To ensure the nation has sufficient workers it is essential that women are employed and are properly paid.

Women have always worked but their contribution to the national economy has mostly been ignored. Without women in the nursing and teaching professions the nation would be unable to continue as a first world nation.

The nation also depends on the contribution women make in other industries including agriculture, retail and the financial industries

Paid Maternity Leave is necessary to retain women employees particularly as the age of workers is increasing with the consequent imminent retirement of the baby boomer generation.

Paid Maternity Leave should be available to all women who are in the paid workforce in Australia.

It should comprise 14 weeks Government subsidised payment at Minimum wage levels with employer contributions negotiated by unions or individual mothers.

Paid Maternity Leave can be compared with the fact that employers are required to contribute to an employee's retirement by way of superannuation and the Government contributes with tax benefits. The Government Paid Maternity Leave should be adjusted for casual and part time workers and depend on the tax return of self employed workers

Yours sincerely
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