VOTE YES for improved pay, conditions and workloads

ANF’s application to Fair Work Australia for a protected action ballot has been approved. All ANF members must return a YES vote as soon as they receive their ballot paper.

A YES vote will strengthen nurses’ and Community Care Aides’ (CCAs) collective bargaining ability in the RDNS/ANF EBA negotiations that commenced in 2011.

By voting YES, you are not voting to take industrial action. You are ONLY voting to have the legal right to take industrial action at a later time. Industrial action will ONLY be determined at a statewide members meeting.

VOTE YES ✅
WHEN YOU RECEIVE YOUR AEC BALLOT
YOU MUST VOTE YES

HOW TO VOTE YES

You will receive your ballot from the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) on or around 17 May 2012. Fill it in exactly as shown below. Do not place on this paper any mark or writing that may identify you.

QUESTION FOR VOTERS
Do you, for the purpose of supporting or advancing claims in relation to the proposed enterprise agreement with your employer, authorise all the following forms of industrial action (as described under the heading Forms of Proposed Industrial Action below)?

TO BE ENGAGED IN SEPARATELY OR CONCURRENTLY: FORMS OF PROPOSED INDUSTRIAL ACTION (each form of action will be dot pointed here)

YES ☑️ NO ☐

Step 1 Tick the YES Box
Step 2 Place the ballot paper in the Declaration Envelope and seal it
Step 3 Sign your name on the back of the Declaration Envelope
Sign 4 Place the Declaration Envelope in the Reply Paid Envelope
Step 5 Post the Reply Paid Envelope ASAP

RDNS Nurses ● Community Care Aides

Respect our work.

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Authors:ed by L Fitzpatrick, Secretary, Australian Nursing Federation (Victorian Branch), May 2012
PROTECTED ACTION BALLOTS
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is a Protected Action Ballot?

Taking industrial action during bargaining for a new enterprise agreement is part of the bargaining system of the Fair Work Act 2009 ("the Act"). Taking "protected" industrial action means that the action is entirely lawful and members taking the action are protected from the employer suing them, sacking them or otherwise victimising them.

To take protected industrial action, the ANF must first apply to Fair Work Australia seeking approval to conduct a Protected Action Ballot. Fair Work Australia has approved the issuing of the ballot.

This is a ballot of ANF members working for RDNS to determine whether ANF members support the taking of specified forms of industrial action. This is conducted by the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) as a postal ballot.

Why is it so important to vote in the Protected Action Ballot?

Before taking protected industrial action, the ANF must hold a ballot of its members to ensure members support the industrial action (a Protected Action Ballot).

All members of the ANF should vote in the Protected Action Ballot. For the ballot to be successful a majority of members on the Ballot roll must vote and vote YES. So it is important for all members to vote.

Why is it so important to vote YES to the question in the Protected Action Ballot?

The ballot has a single question seeking members’ support for different types of industrial action. It is important that all members vote YES to the question.

The ballot must be supported by a majority of members who participate in the ballot. It is therefore important that all members vote YES, and that you encourage all members to vote.

Do I have to actually take all the action?

If you vote YES to the ballot questions it does not mean that you will actually have to take all of the actions set out in the questions. You may only be asked to take action that is relevant to your area of work.

If you vote YES you are simply approving the possibility of taking action and being legally protected.

You are not being asked if you will take the action: you are being asked if you approve the ANF organising such action.

If you vote ‘YES’ in this ballot, you are only voting YES to allowing ANF members to take legally protected action at a later time. Any decision to take action will ONLY be determined after a statewide ANF RDNS members meeting.