



# **Jillian Skinner MP**

## **Minister for Health**

## **Minister for Medical Research**

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### **STATEMENT**

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Wednesday, 24 July 2013

#### **NURSES STRIKE**

As Minister for Health, I deeply respect and value the commitment and care which the state's 47,500-plus nurses and midwives give patients and their families each and every day.

As part of the NSW Government's commitment to improving patient care, we are expanding our nursing and midwifery workforce.

I'm proud we have met and exceeded our promise to increase frontline nursing staff across NSW, with more than 4,000 extra nurses and midwives recruited since the election.

The NSW Government is also ensuring wages for nurses and midwives keep pace with other public sector employees. The Government has supported a 2.5 per cent wage increase (including a compulsory superannuation increase) for nurses and midwives across the state, backdated to 1 July 2013.

The NSW Government has applied to the Industrial Relations Commission to ensure that nurses and midwives working in our public health system receive this pay rise.

Nurses and midwives have my full support as they deliver quality, timely care for patients in hospitals and health services across the state.