

To: Stuart Wright

Subject: cost savings from front line health

Hello Stuart,

Let me introduce myself, my name is Nicole Madden. I am a graduate nurse at the LGH, my contract finishes on the 28th January 2012. Stuart, I read your email address in an Examiner newspaper article.

Stuart, I am not one for emailing strangers and voicing my opinion electronically. But I am one of hundreds of nurses, whether it be newly qualified or a nurse with years of experience feeling like a pawn in a political game.

Stuart I started my degree in 2009 along with approximately 240 fellow undergraduates. I estimate that ninety percent of the undergraduate nurses were receiving benefits from the government. I am sure that you are aware that the government contribute approximately \$20,000.00 towards HECS fees. My calculations are that this cost the Government and the people of Tasmania approximately \$4800000.00. In addition to this cost, I would estimate that ninety percent of the undergraduate nurses receive Austudy or an equivalent, therefore, my estimate cost of the Government and the people of Tasmania is \$9000.00 per year times three years of study equalling \$6480000.00.00.

Stuart, in addition to this, when undergraduates are offered specialty positions in areas such as Operating Suites it costs the people of Tasmania an estimated \$100,000.00 due to the required off the job training and being placed supernumery for six months. Therefore, let's add up the cost...\$11380000.00...remember this is a varying estimate...Stuart...this concerns me greatly. I have managed to obtain PART-TIME work in a local nursing home. I am one of the lucky nurses, I managed to obtain a small amount of hours outside of the DHHS before the next newly graduated nurses enter the work force. Keeping in mind that I have been nursing since February, but shortly many of the post-graduate nurses will be competing against extremely experienced nurses. How much is this going to cost the Government and the people of Tasmania when we are lining up requesting more financial Government assistance when we are unemployed. In addition, how can the Government continue to allow such LARGE numbers of nursing students to enter University at such a cost...with minimal job prospect at the end? Thanks Nikki Madden