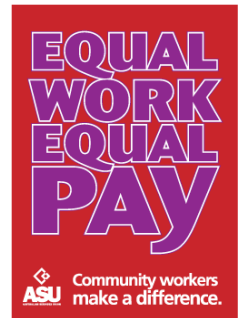


TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF VICTORIA

The Petition of certain citizens of the State of Victoria draws to the attention of the Legislative Council the current and serious workforce crisis in the 'not for profit' community sector.

The community sector offers support to those most vulnerable in our community and provides services that are central in addressing disadvantage. The sector is an essential part of our community 'safety net', working to reduce the worst effects of poverty, social exclusion, violence and inequality. To ensure that our community is able to access adequate and appropriate services, the community sector **must** be able to recruit and retain a skilled, dedicated and stable workforce. The sector is increasingly unable to do this, as the wages and conditions of these workers fall further and further behind other sectors. For example, full time qualified community workers earn on average \$15000.00 less than the average wage in Australia.



In 2010, the Australian Services Union will be running an Equal Remuneration case in the Fair Work Australia Tribunal to increase the rates of pay for community sector workers to that of comparable workers. For too long the work in this sector has been undervalued and unrecognised – this cannot continue. Now is also the time for proper funding of the community sector.

Your Petitioners therefore request that the Victorian Government support the community sector by committing to properly funding the pay increase that will result from the ASU's Equal Remuneration Case.

NAME (Please print name)	SIGNATURE (Petitioner must sign his/her name)	ADDRESS (Please write full address)
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Authorised and printed by: Brian Parkinson, Secretary, Australian Services Union
Signed petitions may be returned to
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