



20 April 2018

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee  
Department of the Senate  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

By Email: [fadt.sen@aph.gov.au](mailto:fadt.sen@aph.gov.au)

Dear Senate Committee

**Re: Inquiry into the proposed Comprehensive and Progressive  
Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP-11)**

The ANMF welcomes the opportunity to provide a brief statement in relation to the Committee's inquiry and examination of TPP-11.

The ANMF is Australia's largest national union and professional nursing and midwifery organisation. In collaboration with the ANMF's eight state and territory branches, we represent the professional, industrial and political interests of almost 270,000 nurses, midwives and carers across the country. Our members work in the public and private health, aged care and disability sectors across a wide variety of urban, rural and remote locations. Through our work with members we aim to strengthen the contribution of nursing and midwifery to improving Australia's health and aged care systems, and the health of our national and global communities.

The ANMF supports the submission of the Australian Fair Trade and Investment Network (AFTINET) and the broad conclusion that the costs of the TPP-11 outweigh the claimed benefits.

We are concerned that there has been no independent review or studies conducted on the impact of the TPP and welcome the Senate inquiry that can address questions relating to the public interest and assess whether the implementing legislation should be passed.

The ANMF is concerned about the lack of transparency with the process and outcomes that work against our democratic rights. For example the special rights afforded to foreign investors to sue governments over changes to domestic laws and restrictions on the ability of governments to regulate in the public interest particularly in regard to essential services like health education, social services and energy.

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**ANMF Journals**

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We are also very concerned that the temporary labour provisions open the door to further exploitation of temporary migrant workers and are not subject to labour market testing to establish whether there are Australian workers available.

We urge the Inquiry to give full consideration to the AFTINET submission and recommend against the implementing legislation.

Yours sincerely

Annie Butler  
Acting Federal Secretary  
Australian Nursing & Midwifery Federation