

Submission
No 177

**INQUIRY INTO VETERINARY WORKFORCE SHORTAGE
IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

I believe there is a lack of interest in people joining the veterinary industry as the wages are quite low - it doesn't work out for people to study years as nurses to earn 20 something dollars an hour, even worse for vets, studying 4-6 years to earn \$40 an hour. I'm a vet nurse and could earn the same working at a supermarket, all my colleagues could earn double they do with half the qualifications. It's hard to find people that are passionate about working in the animal industry regardless of the pay, especially considering the stress this industry puts you through. No one wants to go into an industry to earn minimum wage and then go through the stress of horrible clients and dying animals. It's very hard because this industry relies entirely on what clients pay. therefore clients pay a high amount because we have to charge so much to keep everything running in the clinic and to pay wages. Not saying this all comes down to money but a lot of it does, not just for staff but for customers, no one wants to pay the price, and we're the ones to deal with the issues because of it. It's a difficult situation in this cost of living crisis, no one wants to raise prices, but why should employees be harassed and bullied for it when it's out of our control. No one has respect for vets or our expertise. I don't think anyone wants to enter this industry of such a high stress level when you earn minimum wage