

“NATIONAL REVIEW OF NURSING EDUCATION 2002”

122. Mr M.F. BOARD to the Minister for Health:

I thank the minister for that answer. I have a supplementary question. Three specific recommendations were critical to nursing in Western Australia -

- (a) paying nurses for competencies achieved through professional development;
- (b) expanding opportunities for enrolled nurses through the Minister for Employment and Training; and -

Point of Order

Mr M. McGOWAN: The convention for supplementary questions is that they be asked without preamble and be to the point. The opposition spokesman on health's question is infringing on that convention, as is the case regularly when opposition members ask supplementary questions.

The SPEAKER: The member for Rockingham is correct about the convention for supplementary questions. I am sure the member for Murdoch is bringing his single supplementary question to a conclusion.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr M.F. BOARD: Is the minister aware of the first two points to which I referred?

Mr R.C. Kucera: Yes.

Mr M.F. BOARD: The question continues -

- (c) support for student nurse employment.

The SPEAKER: I ask the member to address the first part of that supplementary question.

Mr R.C. KUCERA replied:

Thank you, Mr Speaker. If the member for Murdoch had taken the time to read the enterprise bargaining agreement, he would know that the first aspects are covered. The Government supports the Australian Nursing Federation and the recommendation concerning student nurses.

Mr M.F. Board interjected.

Mr R.C. KUCERA: The member should listen. At this time, the law precludes us from employing student nurses in any role other than as patient care assistants. We are more than happy to do that as a matter of immediacy.