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**From:** Donald Pitchford  
**Sent:** Sunday, 17 May 2015 5:47 PM  
**To:** Finance and Administration Committee  
**Subject:** SMO Contracts

Dear Minister of Health,

The previous government made it hard for me as \_\_\_\_\_ to maintain staff numbers  
as a result of the hamfisted approach to the medical workforce of the

The two most productive staff members in my department alone chose to go and work in the private sector, rather than accept being bullied into signing a contract which they felt was unfair and disrespectful and they felt they could not sign. Campbell Newman deserved to lose the election and more specifically his seat and to our relief has been removed from the political arena in Queensland.

Newman however has left a nasty legacy that we now respectfully request be corrected and that the current legislation be overturned. We look to you and the ALP to address the issues that have caused our profession much distress last year.

Individual contracts for the medical profession smacks of a hidden agenda and lacks transparency and we therefore request that the collective negotiation framework needs to be restored and the HIGC (high income guarantee contract) provisions need to be abolished.” The recruiting and retention of valued staff members will be much simpler if they feel secure in the work that they do.

Please be assured that eliminating the distrust and antagonism between management and the medical profession may ensure an increase in efficiency which in turn would lead to better outcomes for both the patients and for the budget.

Your consideration in this matter and in anticipation is greatly appreciated

Your sincerely

Donald Pitchford