



Dominic Perrottet

Treasurer
Minister for Industrial Relations

Pru Goward

Minister for Family and Community Services
Minister for Social Housing
Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

MEDIA RELEASE

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10 DAYS PAID DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LEAVE FOR NSW PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES

The NSW Government will introduce 10 days of paid domestic and family violence leave per year for NSW public sector employees, including teachers, nurses and police from 1 January 2019.

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Pru Goward and Treasurer and Minister for Industrial Relations Dominic Perrottet said the NSW Government was ensuring victim-survivors of domestic violence had more resources and extra time to rebuild their lives.

“Paid work is critical in providing financial stability to people experiencing domestic and family violence, which is why the NSW Government is introducing this important reform to leave entitlements,” Ms Goward said.

“Employees may now use domestic violence leave to seek safe housing; attend related medical and legal appointments or organise alternative care and schooling arrangements for their children and will not have to exhaust all other forms of leave beforehand.”

Ms Goward said the new leave entitlement is yet another way the NSW Government continues to support victims of domestic violence, with NSW the only state in Australia to record a significant reduction in assault rates from 2008 to 2016.

Mr Perrottet said at present NSW public service employees experiencing domestic and family violence can take up to five days paid special leave per calendar year, but only after other leave entitlements have been exhausted.

“This change means you no longer need to exhaust your other leave first and will provide additional support and options for people most in need,” Mr Perrottet said.

“The introduction of an entitlement to 10 days paid leave acknowledges the significant and costly impact of domestic violence on victims and employers.”

The policy will come into effect with a Premier’s Memorandum on New Year’s Day.

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