



# MINORITY CAUCUS

## PARLIAMENT OF GHANA

Parliament House – Accra (Ghana)

11<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **PRESS STATEMENT ON STRIKING NURSES: NURSES DEMAND FAIR PAY, PRESIDENCY TAKES C2.7 BILLION**

No nurse in Ghana must be forced to choose between taking care of themselves and putting their patients first. Unfortunately, that is how far we have pushed our nurses today. The Conditions of Service agreement between nurses and the Government of Ghana (their employer) was reached and signed in May 2024, and government must simply honour this fiduciary duty.

It is sad that nurses continue to see the failure of our country's healthcare system improve their dignity every time they sign in to work. As the nurses always say, this isn't something they want to be doing, they want to be at the bedside providing care for the vulnerable who seek relief. Yet, the Government seem to want to pitch these overworked and undervalued essential workers against the public as seen in the irresponsible comment by the health minister that leadership of nurses' union have fled the country to avoid engagement, how reprehensible.

The National Labor Act establishes workers' right to strike as a protected activity, and employees cannot be silenced for striking, as seen in the conduct of this government and its assignees in varied forms.

It is instructive to note that every Ghanaian worker deserves to be treated with dignity and respect on the job. When employers (in this case the Government) fail to keep their end of that bargain, workers also have the right to strike for fair and safe working conditions.

It is clear that this government is using its power to retaliate against workers and go after them, forcing workers to decide whether to fight for their dignity in the workplace or health care of others. This government promised to take care of our nurses and made significant promises to them; it cannot renege now.

No one should be punished for standing up for better working conditions. The government has an obligation to fulfil – no excuses whatsoever. If you want to renew the public’s faith in our political system, the government must simply get to work and implement this 2024 agreement for our hardworking nurses.

Our nurses have made it clear that they are not on strike for their wages – they are fighting for the ability to have some say over their professional benefits. Our hard-working nurses on strike presently deserve to be treated like the health care heroes they are especially as their compatriots have fled for better opportunities. That means fair and reasonable benefits

Everything in their agreement is equally important to the patients they serve, and government must know this.

The Presidency’s compensation budget jumped from GH¢327 million in 2024 to GH¢2.7 billion under this NDC government. Cutting that excess could easily cover nurses’ fair demands. It’s about priorities.

The NDC Government must respect this basic principle and get an amicable solution immediately to restore sanity into our healthcare environment.

**SIGNED**

**FRANK ASIEDU BEKOE, MP SUHUM,  
DEPUTY RANKING - COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT, LABOUR  
RELATIONS AND PENSIONS**