

Corrective Services (Emerging Technologies and Security) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022

Submission No: 14
Submitted by: The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments: See attachment
Submitter Comments:

12 January 2022

Mr Rob Hansen
Committee Secretary
Education, Employment and Training Committee
Queensland Parliament
By online submission

Dear Mr Hansen,

Re: Submissions on the Corrective Services (Emerging Technologies and Security) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022

The Australian Workers' Union of Employees ("AWUEQ") thanks the Education, Employment and Training Committee ("Committee") for the opportunity to provide submissions on the Corrective Services (Emerging Technologies and Security) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2022 ("Bill").

These submissions are made because of our concerns of the potential effects of the legislation on workers in youth justice. The AWUEQ has an interest in this matter due to its coverage of workers in youth detention.

Specifically, we are concerned about clause 301D, which empowers the chief executive to appoint detention centre employees under this legislation and not under the *Public Service Act 2008* (Qld) ("PSA").

Employees engaged to work in youth detention centres are currently engaged under the PSA. The Explanatory Notes for the Bill relevantly states:

The Bill extends the range of staffing options for youth detention centres during a declared emergency (such as an epidemic or a flood event) by:

- Enabling the chief executive to appoint appropriately qualified persons who are not public service employees as temporary detention centre employees, to provide assistance at a youth detention centre in the event that the established youth justice workforce is impacted by the emergency (the preference will be for public service employees, ensuring the Public Service Act 2008 and the Public Service Code of Conduct apply, but this may not always be possible).

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No compelling explanation is given to justify the chief executive to be empowered to hire staff for a temporary detention centre on conditions not provided for under the PSA. We oppose the Bill in its current format accordingly.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns about these submissions.

Kind regards,



Stacey Schinnerl

Secretary of The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland

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The Australian Workers' Union of Employees, Queensland.
The Australian Workers' Union, Queensland Branch.

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