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Subject: My submission about the Industrial Relations (Restoring Fairness) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015

To: Members of the Finance and Administration Committee

I am employed in _____ and I wish to make a submission about the Industrial Relations (Restoring Fairness) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 because it will directly impact me, my family, my colleagues and the community.

As a result of the Industrial Relations (Fair Work Act Harmonisation No. 2) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2013 I lost many valuable conditions from my Industrial Award, and many provisions that could be bargained for in enterprise bargaining were removed from me and my colleagues. For example, protections about job security and consultation about workplace change were completely removed by this legislation of the Newman government.

The legislation introduced by the Newman government made it almost impossible to negotiate a better deal for workers because as soon as we agreed to bargain they took away our rights. What this has meant for my family is a delay in receiving any wage increases, it has jeopardised our ability to have job security and it has meant that I have had to bank leave in case I lose my current entitlements so that I can look after my children during school holidays.

I am by no means the worst affected because my EBA is still valid but I feel for those employees who have been pressured into bogus agreements because of this legislation. Local government employees have fought hard for our rights and we deserve to be able to negotiate them as we see fit.

The right to organise collectively to achieve better working rights and conditions is a basic human right. The Newman government undemocratically curtailed this right and as a result lost the 2015 Queensland election. At the election a majority of Queenslanders supported parties and candidates who advocated a restoration of these basic rights. Please respect the voice of Queenslanders and the rights of workers and vote to restore fairness by supporting this bill.

I urge the committee to recommend passage of this bill without delay to ensure that the rights of workers on local government are restored to them.

Yours sincerely

Belinda Jacklyn
