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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.

In my workplace the legislation has caused me to lose 1 week of annual leave and locality allowance for living in a remote area of Queensland.

The impact of this for me has been less money in my fortnightly pay that went someway towards contributing to the much higher cost of living in a remote area. To shop at the local general store can easily add hundreds of dollars more to the grocery shopping on a weekly basis. Much time is taken up in travel to attend the most basic of services such as dentists, doctors, supermarkets and high schools. We are forced to take annual leave over the Christmas/New Year break. This then leaves 3 weeks annual leave. This does not leave much time for a relaxing family holiday when annual leave has to be taken to travel for essential services that are easily available and accessible in the cities.

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


Juliet Jones
