

From: [Chris Sims](#)
To: [Finance and Administration Committee](#)
Subject: My submission on the Industrial Relations (Restoring Fairness) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015
Date: Friday, 15 May 2015 6:40:53 AM

To: Members of the Finance and Administration Committee

I write to make a submission on the Industrial Relations (Restoring Fairness) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015.

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

The Newman LNP government was elected in 2012 having made clear promises to respect rights at work and the collective bargaining framework. The government broke these commitments and removed protections for job security as well as many other basic rights, amending legislation often late at night with no warning. Thousands of workers and their families in Queensland suffered as a result of the removal of these protections, which directly caused the loss of over 20,000 jobs in the last three years. I personally know people who lost their jobs and struggled to maintain their family's daily living standards.

At my workplace, we were lucky not to lose permanent positions; however, many temporary workers that had been in place for so long, due to the Newman LNP government's policies, were let go, creating even more work for those "lucky" enough to keep their jobs. We weren't allowed to fill vacant positions that we did have and still our workload increased. Our resources were stretched to well beyond fair limits - often more than twice the workload that our organisation's resources had been modelled on - but as loyal public servants we worked even harder so the Queenslanders that needed our services were not disadvantaged. We provide valuable services even in an under-resourced environment and we deserve fair conditions and our basic human rights as workers for this great state guaranteed.

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 for workers and for a restoration of certainty in our state and local government services.

Please respect the voice of Queenslanders and the rights of workers and vote to restore fairness by supporting this bill.

Yours sincerely

Chris Sims

