
From: Bonny Bryen
Sent: Saturday, 16 May 2015 10:10 AM
To: Finance and Administration Committee
Subject: My submission on the Industrial Relations (Restoring Fairness) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015

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.

I witnessed the loss of valuable, experienced and skilled allied health professional leave the as their wages and conditions were eroded or removed. Where positions were recruited to experienced professional were mostly replaced by inexperienced personal often being urged to work beyond their scope of practice. I witnessed the impact of job insecurity and atmosphere of fear and intimidation had on colleagues and their ability to provide safe, appropriate, professional services to the public. By July 2014, I too made the decision to resign rather than work in professionally unsafe work environment created by the LNP legislative changes.

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.

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

Bonny Bryen