
From: Dr Louise Seymour
Sent: Sunday, 17 May 2015 10:54 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.

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.

I write to you because of the detrimental effect the medical contracts have had on my workplace morale. The contracts make what should be simple arrangements complex and unsatisfactory leading to workplace disputes over things such as on call rosters which used to be straightforward and democratic. We are now in the position of some people working on call shifts that others get paid for with no mechanism to rectify this.

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

Yours sincerely

Dr Louise Seymour