
From: Peter Cattach
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2015 1:00 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.

I was one of the 20000 staff who lost their jobs and livelihood stripped away under the unfair legislation introduced by the Newman LNP Government. I had worked for . I had contributed significantly clinically and organisationally over the years in areas which were largely the domain of . The loss of job security and consultation around change significantly impacted on me, My colleague and the serviced that I provided. The loss of my expertise within the workplace has lead to the wasting of many thousands of dollars thogh inefficient practice. The funds released by my forced retrenchement were used to create a higher level position for the person who was instrumental in me being forced out of the service of which I was once a proud member. The lack of transparency which the Newman/Bleije legislation enabled has cause untold damage to the integrity of the Public Sector. Not to mention the damage and that has occurred in people's lives. I am aware of several marriage and family breakdowns and more disturbingly suicides which can be directly attributed to the Newman/Bleije IR Laws. Public sector Employees need to be able to work in the best interest of the people who they serve, not spend their days looking over their shoulders if they don't subscribe to extreme ideologies of the government of the day.

I like the majority of my colleagues could not support a government who treated its workers and its public service with such contempt. My career may have been destroyed irretrievably but I will do everything within my power to ensure that no other worker has to suffer the pain, indignity and humiliation that I went through at the hands of the Newman governments IR laws.

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,

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