

18 May 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 submit:

- The medical workforce needs to be valued not ignored.
- There are employment warnings to doctors not to come and work in Queensland from a range of Australian and international medical colleges and professional associations. These remain in place due to the unfair contracts.
- A huge number of senior doctors were willing to and contemplated retiring early, leaving Queensland or leaving public medicine; many did or reduced their public hours.
- For those who have remained there has been a huge loss of trust in their employer.
- HHSs have stopped consulting properly with clinicians and their unions.
- The system has become an increasingly top down with a command and control structure to the detriment of the system
- Junior doctors have been deeply concerned about the future viability of their training programs.
- Urgent action from government is required to restore the relationship between public doctors and the health system, ensure Qld can recruit and retain the best doctors and that doctors are once again given the freedom to provide the best care possible

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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