

Maggie Lillith

From: michael chappell [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, 18 May 2015 9:56 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.

Since the Newman changes I have noticed a significant deterioration in staff morale and a significant problem with staff retention and recruitment. Many very talented staff have left the Queensland public service because of these changes. Personally I have reduced my hours in the public system because I feel it no longer provides the job security that it previously did. Many of these very talented senior doctors made significant sacrifices to work in the public system. Some could have earned twice as much working in the private system. If you want to retain the very best competent senior doctors then you should restore the basic working conditions (such as job security) for them and this can only be achieved by reversing the Newman changes (including the legislation pertaining to High-Income Senior Employees (Chapter 6A - IR Act))

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

Michael Chappell

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