

THE AUSTRALASIAN MEAT INDUSTRY EMPLOYEES' UNION

(Queensland Branch)

ABN 68 929 349 791

Holidays & Other Legislation
Amendment Bill 2012
Submission 005



Branch Secretary
BRIAN CRAWFORD

Level 1, 39 Lytton Road, East Brisbane Qld 4169, Australia
Telephone: (07) 3217 3766
Facsimile: (07) 3217 4462
Email: admin@amieuqld.asn.au
Website: <http://qld.amieu.net>

24 August 2012

Research Director
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane Qld 4000
lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Sir

RE: moving the Labour Day public holiday to the second half of the calendar year

The Australasian Meat Industry Employees' Union (AMIEU) is the trade union which represents employees in the meat industry – including meat processing, smallgoods, poultry and meat retail sectors.

The AMIEU makes no apology for representing the interest of its workers and does not share the view to move the Labour Day public holiday to the second half of the calendar year.

Origins

The first Labour Day parade was held in Melbourne on 21 April 1856.

Labour Day was first celebrated in Barcaldine, Queensland on 1 May 1891.

Brisbane held its first May day march on 1 May 1893.

Queensland Labour Day became a public holiday in 1901.

Labour Day is intricately connected with May Day.

Rockhampton: 110 Campbell Street
Rockhampton Q 4700
Telephone: (07) 4922 4336
Facsimile: (07) 4922 5984
Email: paul@amieuqld.asn.au

Regional Office

National Significance

Labour Day celebrates the social, industrial and political achievements of the labour movement such as the minimum wage, 38 hour week, annual leave, through to maternity leave.

Labour Day celebrates the campaigning success of Unions for better working conditions and treatment of workers.

The Labour Day annual procession continues to provide unionists with a place to show their collective spirit.

The Labour Day public holiday celebrates workers' rights across this state reminding us of the accomplishments made by the Unions on behalf of the workers.

Finally, it is insulting to treat working class traditions as if their important dates matter less to adherents of other events celebrated by public holidays such as the Christian community for Easter and our Veterans for ANZAC Day.

AMIEU submits that the Labour Day public holiday continue to be held on the first Monday in May.

Should you have any enquiries in relation to this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



BRIAN CRAWFORD
QUEENSLAND BRANCH SECRETARY
A.M.I.E.U.