



UNITED FIREFIGHTERS UNION OF AUSTRALIA  
UNION OF EMPLOYEES QUEENSLAND

Monday 13 May 2013

The Research Director  
Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
Brisbane Qld 4000

*Delivered via email.*

Dear Research Director

**Re: Industrial Relations (Transparency and Accountability of Industrial Organisations) and Other Acts Amendment Bill 2013**

I refer to the above Bill and submit the following comments on behalf of members of the United Firefighters' Union of Australia, Union of Employees Queensland (UFUQ).

**Reporting of employees' wages:**

The UFUQ is an industrial organisation that provides trade union coverage to Permanent and Auxiliary Firefighters in the State of Queensland. As such our membership, whilst always very high in density, is drawn from a fixed number of employees of the State of Queensland.

The fixed number of members means that the UFUQ has a very simple, flat structure of officials and employees. We are a small union, with just one paid elected official and up to 7 employees, including part time staff working less than three days a week.

As such, the Bill as proposed would require UFUQ to report the personal information of our administrative support staff and their wages. This would even capture casual office administrative employees used to assist the office from time to time.

UFUQ does not consider that a requirement to report the personal details and wages of casual administrative staff assists in achieving any of the policy objectives of the Bill as stated in the Explanatory Notes at page one.

UFUQ therefore submit that the Bill is amended to remove the requirement for industrial organisations to report a register of the remuneration of their employees.

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ABN 97 709 271 604

In the alternative, if the object is to record "highly paid" officials or employees, then at the very least a threshold minimum annual salary might be prescribed. These considerations would limit the need to report what would otherwise be expected to be private details of employees who, by any objective measure are not "highly paid".

**Other matters:**

UFUQ is affiliated with the Queensland Council of Unions and have conveyed our concerns about other aspects of the bill to them. We refer you to the QCU submissions in relation to our other concerns.

Please do not hesitate to contact me on 0738440366 if I can be of any further assistance.

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'John Oliver', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

John Oliver  
State Secretary  
United Firefighters' Union Australia, Union of Employees Queensland