

Question on Notice

No. 95

Asked on 5 May 2015

MR RYAN ASKED THE TREASURER, MINISTER FOR EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS AND MINISTER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PARTNERSHIPS (HON C PITT)—

QUESTION:

With reference to the Newman Government's unfair award modernisation framework, what is the Palaszczuk Government proposing to do in respect of creating new fairer industrial relations laws for Queensland workers, in particular those workers in the local government sector?

ANSWER:

On 7 May 2015, the Palaszczuk Government put fairness back into Queensland's industrial relations system by introducing the Industrial Relations (Restoring Fairness) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 (the Bill).

The Bill will abolish those aspects of the LNP's industrial relations regime that, if allowed to continue, would have irrevocably damaged the State's industrial relations system and undermined the Government's commitment for 'Restoring Fairness for Government Workers'.

The Bill includes urgent changes which start to repair the damage done by three years of the disgraceful LNP government's changes to the working conditions of many government workers.

The Newman Government's award modernisation framework prohibited the inclusion of long-standing, negotiated provisions in modern awards and new certified agreements, including the local government modern award and four local government agreements, made under that system.

The Bill ensures that into the future, modern awards provide fair and just employment conditions. The local government modern award (and the other nine public sector modern awards) will be reviewed and varied by the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission in light of the amended Act.