

FEDERAL PARLIAMENT CONSIDERS STATE PUBLIC SECTOR ISSUES

Federal government protects outsourced state government workers' conditions

The Senate has passed the Federal Government's "Fair Work Amendment (Transfer of Business) Bill".

The new legislation protects state government employees' employment conditions when there is a transfer of business from a state employer to a Fair Work system employer.

The legislation is the federal government's reaction to the recent Queensland sweeping public sector job cuts and the potential for cost cutting contractors to win state government work by undercutting wages and fair employment standards.

Hopefully, our members won't need this specific protection, but the legislative changes are a welcome protection for thousands of Queensland public sector workers and a disincentive for outsourcing state public sector jobs to the cheapest bidder.

Bandt Bill adjourned

As I previously advised I have written to every federal MP asking them to support Adam Bandt's bill for an inquiry into state public sector employees' rights at work.

Adam Bandt MP moved his bill on 26 November 2012 and it was seconded by Bob Katter MP. The debate on the bill has been adjourned.

I will report back as soon as there is any progress.

Below is the link of the Commonwealth parliament Hansard, which records the moving and seconding of the Bill and the first part of the debate.

<http://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=Id%3A%22chamber%2Fhansard%2Fc94905e2-4370-462f-b408-d06e0d0a5c8e%2F0262%22>

To read the debate, follow the steps below:-

1. Hold control down and click on link above
2. Once opened, on the left hand side, scroll down till you see 'Private Members' Business – 'State Public Sector Employees' and click on the links below to each MP (Bandt, Katter, etc) for each contribution.

John Oliver
State Secretary