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In association with the Australian Nursing and Midwifery
Federation QNMU Branch

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All correspondence must be sent to secretary@qnmu.org.au

8 September 2017

Stephen Palethorpe
Committee Secretary
Senate Education and Employment Committees
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

By Email: eec.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Mr Palethorpe,

Re: Inquiry into Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment (Ensuring Integrity) Bill 2017 (the Bill)

The Queensland Nurses and Midwives' Union (QNMU) thanks the Senate Education and Employment Committees for the opportunity to participate in the Ensuring Integrity Amendment inquiry. The QNMU has concerns that the Bill is relying on unproven findings from the Final Report of the highly politicised Royal Commission into the Trade Union Governance and Corruption.

The QNMU writes to advise that we fully support the submissions of the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation (ANMF) and the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU).

The QNMU supports evidence-based policy and models which facilitate the democratic functioning of unions. The rights of people to decide who leads their union and how their union operates is fundamental to the democratic work of unions.

This Bill will provide further barriers to working people from exercising their rights as union members and participating in the governance of their union, including the setting of priorities and having a say on policy matters.

Further, the Bill violates International Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions on Freedom of Association.

The QNMU does not support the Bill and recommends it to be rejected in its entirety.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Deborah Twigg, QNMU Research and Policy Assistant

Yours sincerely,

Beth Mohle
Secretary