



28th of September 2017

Committee Secretary
Senate Economics Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Secretary

Inquiry into the Treasury Laws Amendment (Improving Accountability and Member Outcomes in Superannuation Measures No. 2) Bill 2017

Unions Tasmania is the peak body representing 50,000 union members across Tasmania. We have 26 affiliated unions and speak on behalf of workers in all industries, across the public and private sectors.

We are writing to you in support of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) submission to the above inquiry. We are deeply concerned that the proposed legislation will have an adverse impact on the operation of Industry Super in Australia.

Unions Tasmania is a sponsoring organisation of Tasplan and our affiliated members have a vested interest in the success of this fund and indeed, all industry superannuation funds.

Tasplan is a large Tasmanian industry fund with 165,000 members and \$7.6 billion in funds under management. It is itself a significant employer of local Tasmanians, employing approximately 150 workers. It also invests to support the jobs of Tasmanians such as the decision in June 2016 to invest \$5 million dollars in the successful Tasmanian agribusiness, TasFoods Limited (ASX: TFL) and infrastructure investment in Tasmania's airports.

Unions Tasmania and our affiliate members all have a stake in the viability and ongoing success of Australia's superannuation system.

For around 30 years, superannuation has been an industrial matter that workers and their unions have negotiated collectively. Our workplace relations system is based upon worker's rights to collectively negotiate and this legislation seeks to strip those rights away.

Tasmanian Unions negotiate industrial outcomes to suit the industry that they represent. By negotiating a collective fund, unions can make sure the Superannuation Guarantee is complied with. We also firmly believe that this practice assists good employers by relieving administrative burden.



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Submission 6

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Unions Tasmania believes the risk of unscrupulous employers manipulating choice of fund arrangements outside of collective bargaining could clearly lead to easier avoidance of paying the Superannuation Guarantee. But, if a single fund applies at a vulnerable workplace, the ability to verify that superannuation payments are indeed being paid – at the legislatively required level – is much easier to monitor and workers will not lose out.

Unions Tasmania thanks the Committee for considering our submission and welcomes any opportunity to comment further.

Yours Sincerely,



Jessica Munday
Secretary
Unions Tasmania