



The voice of Victorian workers since 1856

VICTORIAN TRADES HALL COUNCIL

The Secretary
Senate Education and Employment Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

8 September 2017

Dear Committee,

**RE: SUBMISSION TO THE INQUIRY INTO THE FAIR WORK (REGISTERED ORGANISATIONS)
AMENDMENT (ENSURING INTEGRITY) BILL 2017 [PROVISIONS]**

On behalf of the Victorian Trades Hall Council (VTHC), I thank you for the opportunity to make a submission into this important inquiry. VTHC is the peak body for unions in Victoria. VTHC represents 41 unions and 430,000 workers. These workers are members of unions that reach into every industry in the state, both in the public and private sectors.

VTHC and its affiliated unions have campaigned for and won a range of important rights and entitlements for Victorian workers, including the eight-hour day and occupational health and safety (OHS) protections. VTHC will continue to campaign tirelessly for the rights and entitlements of workers in Victoria, no matter their employer, workplace or employment status. In this vein, we urge the committee to reject the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment (Ensuring Integrity) Bill 2017*.

This submission is intended to be read in full support for Australian Council of Trade Unions' (ACTU) position. VTHC believes the bill violates International Labour Organisation conventions, but more importantly removes the fundamental democratic right of workers to choose how their union operates. This intervention is a step too far, and VTHC again strongly urges the Committee to reject this bill.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Danae Bosler

LUKE HILAKARI
Secretary

Thank you for your consideration.

DAVID CRAGG
Assistant Secretary

Yours Sincerely,

**VICTORIAN TRADES
HALL COUNCIL**

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