



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

12 April 2002

The Secretary
Senate Employment, Workplace Relations, Small Business
and Education Legislation Committee
Parliament of Australia
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Sir

INQUIRY INTO WORKPLACE RELATIONS BILLS 2002

The Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Western Australia (CCI) wishes to make the following submission concerning the Bills set out below.

- *Workplace Relations Amendment (Genuine Bargaining) Bill 2002*
- *Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Dismissal) Bill 2002*
- *Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Termination) Bill 2002*
- *Workplace Relations Amendment (Secret Ballots for Protected Action) Bill 2002*
- *Workplace Relations Amendment (Prohibition of Compulsory Union Fees) Bill 2002*

CCI has a membership of 5000 employers across all industry sectors of whom approximately 80% are smaller employers with less than 15 employees.

CCI supports all of the above Bills as necessary but minor improvements to the existing *Workplace Relations Act 1996*.

The Committee will recall that when the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* was originally passed by the Senate it was at the time rightly characterised as being an evolutionary piece of legislation rather than revolutionary.

Some six years later it is clearly now necessary that a number of problem areas are resolved and the Act amended to address a range of issues that have evolved since the Act was originally passed.

The Bills currently being considered by the Senate Committee do no more than that and as such should receive the support of all parties in the Senate.

The Australian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ACCI) has developed and provided a detailed submission to the Senate Committee on these Bills and CCI supports this submission.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce Williams', written over a horizontal line.

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