

## **MODEL LETTER TO YOUR MP**

*Don't forget to include your full address as MPs need to know you are one of their constituents. It may have more impact if you write it by hand.*

.....MP  
House of Commons  
London SW1A 0AA

Dear .....MP

As one of your constituents I am writing to you to ask you to oppose the Trade Union Bill being put forward by the government.

As a package, the Bill threatens the right to strike.

The Bill suggests that employers should be able to employ inexperienced agency workers to cover for strikes. This could have a major impact on public safety, worsen public services, and will undermine the right to strike.

It will bring in major new restrictions on peaceful picketing and protests. This means that striking workers will have to tell their employer all their plans – including what they will post on Facebook – two weeks before the strike. This undermines traditional British civil liberties.

The Bill will make it harder for union reps in the public sector to do their job – negotiating with management, representing colleagues in disciplinary processes, maintaining health and safety, and getting union members into adult education, including basic skills and ESOL classes.

No-one wants to go on strike – and it's always a last resort, when faced with an employer who won't listen. Indeed, strikes are at an historic low. But threatening the right to strike means that workers won't be able to defend jobs or services, or stand up for safety and decency at work. It will tip the balance in the workplace too far in favour of the employer.

Please vote against the Bill. *[Insert as appropriate: I will be coming to the TUC's national lobby of Parliament on 2 November, when I hope to talk to you in person / I would be happy to talk to you further about my concerns]* The TUC can provide further briefing or information. Please contact Isobel Larkin at [ilarkin@tuc.org.uk](mailto:ilarkin@tuc.org.uk).

Yours sincerely,