



The Hon Richard Kenneth Robert Alston
Head of Mission
Australia House
Strand
London WC2B 4LA

Dear Mr Alston

Industrial relations law in Australia

We are writing to express our opposition to your Government's intention to introduce repressive new industrial relations legislation, which will dramatically reduce the rights of workers to union representation, collective bargaining, minimum employment standards and protection from unfair dismissal.

The radical deregulation of the Australian labour market, as proposed by your Government will have a detrimental impact upon the Australian economy and living standards of the most vulnerable workers in the "*Lucky Country*".

We are especially concerned about the effects of restricting an employee's right to pursue an *unjustified dismissal* claim in a workplace with less than 100 employees as well as the raising of the probation period from three to six months. Surely this proposal breaches the conventions of the International Labour Organisation and most certainly compromises the rights of workers everywhere. This will allow smaller employers to exert a free rein over their employees.

As a union with many Australian radiographer members we deplore any attempt to undermine the rights and freedoms of all workers. We urge you to reconsider these proposals, the sum effect of which, should they go ahead, will be the creation of a working poor in Australia.

Yours sincerely

Warren Town
Director of Industrial Relations
Society of Radiographers