

3 September 2014

Glenn Lazarus  
Senator  
PO Box 6100  
Senate  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
via admin@PalmerUnited.com

Dear Senator Lazarus,

On behalf of the Queensland business community, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland (CCIQ) writes to you to express our strong support for the *Fair Work Amendment Bill 2014*.

CCIQ welcomes the more business- friendly approach encapsulated in the *Fair Work Amendment Bill 2014* and considers it a good indication of the Federal Government's willingness to take on board the concerns of small and medium businesses with respect to the Fair Work regime.

Specifically, CCIQ wishes to highlight its support for the following amendments:

- The implementation of the Expert Panel's recommendation that employees do not accrue annual leave while absent from work and in receipt of workers' compensation payments;
- Amendments to ensure annual leave loading is not payable on termination of employment unless a modern award or enterprise agreement expressly provides to that effect;
- The amendment of a number of provisions in relation to flexibility in modern awards and enterprise agreements; and
- The incorporation of recommendations to tighten the union right of entry framework.

CCIQ stresses to the Federal Government that workplace relations reform must go further than those matters addressed by the Bill, but unreservedly expresses support for the majority of amendments put forward. CCIQ believes the *Fair Work Amendment Bill 2014* is a positive step towards ensuring greater employer flexibility in the workplace and looks forward to providing extensive recommendations on behalf of Queensland SMEs to the Productivity Commission's review of workplace relations.

In light of the above, CCIQ stresses the timely importance of passage of the Bill and seeks your support accordingly.

Yours sincerely



Nick Behrens  
**General Manager – Advocacy**