



Angelo Di Cristo
Head of Department – Finance
UNI Global Union

Senator Jacqui Lambie
Senator for Tasmania
PO Box 6100
Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600 / Australia
senator.lambie@aph.gov.au

Nyon, 13 November 2019

Calling on the Australian Senate to reject the *Ensuring Integrity Bill*

Dear Senator Lambie,

I write on behalf of the UNI Global Union Finance sector representing over 3 million union members from 150 unions world-wide, to express our deep concern about the *Fair Work (Registered Organisations) Amendment (Ensuring Integrity) Bill 2019* currently before the Australian Senate. We believe this legislation will not only detrimentally impact Australian workers but will have a negative impact on the struggle for workers' rights globally.

Please note that the Finance Sector Union of Australia is affiliated to our global union.

This extreme bill will undermine workplace safety, make it harder for workers to get pay increases and be represented in the workplace. We believe that *Ensuring Integrity* is undemocratic and is an attack on the rights of working people in Australia to join, run and be represented by the union of their choice. This bill allows not just government ministers the ability to take action in court to have a union shut down and to have union officers disqualified, but any person with a 'sufficient interest' – a category that could include employers. It would see elected union leaders disqualified and unions deregistered and shut down for acting in the interest of their members.

The *Ensuring Integrity Bill* violates the International Labour Organisation's *Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention (No. 87)* and the *Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention (No. 98)*. If a democratic country like Australia can pass such draconian laws, it sets a bad precedent and is detrimental to the struggle for workers' rights globally.

As such, we call on the Australian Senate to respect international labour law and reject the *Ensuring Integrity Bill*. I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'ADCR', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Angelo Di Cristo
Head of UNI Finance Global Union