

Anna Watson MP

Member for Shellharbour

Protecting Jobs. Protecting Services



Dear Comrade,

I write to you on this occasion, united in a common cause.

Disgusted by a callous act of bastardry by the O'Farrell Government, against tens of thousands of public sector workers to strip them of their wages and conditions.

Even after more than 12,000 public (and private) sector workers rallied outside of Parliament House on Wednesday 15th June imploring the Government to back down from this Bill, the legislation was passed through the Legislative Assembly on Thursday 16th June 2011.

I, together with my Labor Colleagues, joined the assembled rally in a display of defiant solidarity, for all workers across NSW.

The debate on this issue was particularly passionate. So much so, that the Government used a parliamentary procedure (not seen in over 100 years) to shut down debate in the Upper House, and which was controversially debated in the Lower House well into the evening of Wednesday 15th June.

As a former Union Organiser, I know first-hand how hard these workers will be hit by the effect of such changes to the Industrial Relations Laws, and which the ACTU have revealed could possibly be in breach of International Law and the obligation to respect human rights, including labour rights.

As a member of the Labor Government *and* a friend of the worker, I will remain steadfast and committed to the protection of wages and conditions for every member of the NSW workforce.

Please find enclosed a copy of my speech from this debate in support of your members, for your information and/or circulation.

Yours in Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna Watson".

Anna Watson MP
Member for Shellharbour

