



Department of Consumer  
and Employment Protection  
Government of Western Australia

## Labour Relations

Your Ref:  
Our Ref: WC/0003/2000#2  
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### CIRCULAR TO DEPARTMENTS AND AUTHORITIES NO. 38 OF 2001 **DISCRIMINATION AGAINST UNION REPRESENTATIVES**

Recently, the Minister of Consumer and Employment Protection has become aware of several allegations of discrimination against employees because of their role as union representatives.

The Government's labour relations policies recognise and support the role of trade unions and the rights of employees to be members, and to represent their colleagues as duly appointed officers or union delegates. Additionally, it is an offence under the Industrial Relations Act 1979 for employees to be treated less favourably because they are members or officers of a union.

Chief Executives should ensure all staff are aware of the Government's policy and the legislative issues surrounding this form of discrimination.

**JEFF RADISICH  
ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
LABOUR RELATIONS**

27 December 2001