

Modernising Work Health and Safety Laws in Western Australia

Submission by the Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees' Association of Western Australia

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Attention: Acting Director General
Safety Regulation
By email: WHSreform@dmirs.wa.gov.au

Enquiries [REDACTED]

31 August 2018

Dear Acting Director General,

RE: Modernising work health and safety laws in WA

The Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees' Association (SDA) is one of Australia's largest trade unions and has over 20,000 members working primarily in retail, fast food and warehousing in Western Australia.

Please find, attached, our submission on modernising Western Australia's work health & safety laws.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed review.

If you have any questions, please contact Mitchell Goff, Industrial Officer, at the WA branch of the SDA by email at [REDACTED] or by phone on [REDACTED].

Yours Sincerely

Peter O'Keeffe
Secretary

SDA Western Australia

**THE UNION FOR
WORKERS IN
RETAIL.
FAST FOOD.
WAREHOUSING.**

All correspondence to be addressed to the General Secretary

The Shop, Distributive and Allied Employees' Association of Western Australia

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31 August 2018

By Email: WHSreform@dmirs.wa.gov.au

SUBMISSION ON MODERNISING WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY LAWS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The WA branch of the SDA represents workers in retail, fast food and warehousing. We are one of the largest trade unions in the state and have more than 20,000 members.

We welcome the opportunity to provide feedback in respect of *Modernising Work Health and Safety Laws in Western Australia*.

We further note that the *Occupational Safety and Health Act* is more than 30 years old, that the *Occupational Safety and Health Regulations* are more than 20 years old and both are in need of significant updating to bring it in line with advancements at law in other states of Australia.

Like other affiliate unions of UnionsWA, the SDA supports strong, consistent and harmonised WHS legislation in Australia and welcomes, in particular, the adoption of the *PCBU* language and its intent to capture non-traditional work relationships.

We want to ensure, however, that this does not come at the expense of superior protections at law in Western Australia.

We concur with the submission of UnionsWA that model Work, Health and Safety (WHS) legislation is a minimum and should not proceed with any changes that diminish the standards set in the model legislation.

We concur with all substantive submissions made by UnionsWA.