PUTTING QUEENSLANDERS FIRST

State Platform 2017
Conference Motions
Conference Motions

STATE PLATFORM 2017

The Queensland Branch of the Australian Labor Party
as carried at State Conference 28-29 July 2017
Townsville Entertainment and Convention Centre

AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY
QUEENSLAND BRANCH

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Conference Motions

Policy Amendments are changes to the text of the State Platform.

Conference Motions are calls to action between one State Conference and the next. Conference Motions do not alter the text of State Platform.

For Queensland Labor, at State Conference, Policy Amendments were previously identified by the prefix PA (which is now the suffix A – for Amendment). Conference Motions were previously identified by the prefix CM (which is now the suffix R – for Resolution).

During the preparation for State Conference 2017, some Policy Amendments (A) were initially indelibly coded as Conference Motions (R) and vice versa. The items below (regardless of whether they end in A or R) are Conference Motions carried by vote of State Conference 2017.

ID #: 066A
Title: North Queensland Stadium Local Content
Mover: Rohan Webb
Seconder: Jessame Tibbitts

That Queensland Labor commits to setting a minimum local content requirement for materials and employment in connection with the building of the Townsville Stadium.

We note and applaud the Palaszczuk Government’s commitment to local content by targeting 80% of hours for construction on Townsville Stadium to be performed by locals and 80% of the Stadium’s value to be spent on local subcontractors, manufacturers and suppliers.

ID #: 261A
Title: Fair Work Commission
Mover: John Campbell
Seconder: Rosemary Hume

This Conference calls upon Federal Labor to legislate that, if the Fair Work Commission reduces wages and/or penalty rates for workers, that those presiding on the Commission who choose to reduce wages should first have their wages reduced by the same percentage so as they can fully understand the effects of such decisions.

ID #: 314A
Title: Federal Fixed Four-Year Terms
Mover: Jo Briskey
Seconder: Sean Leader

That this Conference calls upon Federal Labor Government to commit to implementing 4-year fixed terms for the Commonwealth Parliament after the next Federal Election.
ID #: 439A
Title: Queensland Rail Infrastructure
Mover: Rohan Webb
Seconder: Charis Mullen

This Conference commits Queensland Labor to building all future trains and rail infrastructure in Queensland.

ID #: 449A
Title: Migrant Workers
Mover: Sasha Marin
Seconder: Imogen Beynon

Conference recognises the economic and social value of migrants to Australia as well as recognising the importance of safeguarding the welfare of migrant workers.

Every worker is entitled to the protection of all Australian workplace laws, regardless of where they come from and this includes the right to join a union.

We condemn any attempt to divide workers on any basis: including their country of origin, visa status, ethnicity, language or gender. This includes negative discourse on migrant workers which encourages and promotes xenophobia.

Unity is strength, and racist divisive discourse undermines all of us and diminishes our collective power.

ID #: 467A
Title: Community Development Program (CDP)
Mover: Lara Watson
Seconder: Amanda Dewey

Conference calls on the Queensland State Government to assist the trade union movement and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples working under the Community Development Program (CDP) to explore how the Government can support bringing an end to the current CDP, which is discriminatory and exploits Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander workers.

ID #: 524R
Title: Channel Country Rivers and Cooper Creek
Mover: Gillian Pechey
Seconder: Peter Casey

Noting Labor’s existing commitment to “introduce legislation to protect river systems which are currently in almost-unchanged condition or with high ecological values in the Channel Country, Cape York, the Gulf and other parts of Queensland” and, also, the election commitment by the Palaszczuk Government to “work with traditional owners, stakeholders and communities to legislate protections for Queensland’s pristine rivers from large scale industrial operations”,...
Conference urges the Government to take immediate steps to implement pristine rivers protections so as to acquit the commitment in this term of government.

**ID #: 551A**

**Title:** Recognition of Palestine  
**Mover:** Wendy Turner  
**Seconder:** Duncan Pegg

**PREAMBLE**

In view of the following:

- it is now approaching 50 years since Israel occupied the Palestinian West Bank in 1967;
- the Israeli Government’s continued defiance of international law by spreading illegal settlements on the West Bank;
- the continued demolition of Palestinian homes and villages;
- violence directed at Palestinians by Israeli settlers;
- increased arrests and detention of Palestinian children in Military Detention;
- the continued siege of Gaza;
- the present Israeli Government being the most conservative in the country’s history;
- 60% of the current Israeli Cabinet have expressed opposition to the establishment of a Palestinian State;
- the world community repeatedly endorsing a two-state solution;
- recognition of Palestine by 138 of 193 nation states;
- the Obama Administration’s conclusion that Israel has deliberately obstructed negotiations toward a two-state solution;
- there was no American veto of UN Resolution 2334 which was upheld 14 to 1;
- the Israeli Parliament’s reprehensible actions in enacting retroactive legislation legalising the building of 4000 settlements on private Palestinian land;
- the Trump Administration’s retreat from a two-state solution; and
- former Prime Ministers Bob Hawke and Kevin Rudd and Foreign Ministers Bob Carr and Gareth Evans endorsed the need for Australian to join 138 other nations and recognise Palestine;
- the results from a 2017 Roy Morgan Poll show 73% of Australians want Palestine recognised as an independent state

**MOTION**

then this State Conference:

1. Supports the recognition and right of Israel and Palestine to exist
within secure internationally recognised borders; and

2. Reaffirms the decision of the 2016 ALP State Conference:

That the next Federal Labor Government will immediately recognise the state of Palestine.

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**ID #: 603A**

**Title:** A Just Transition for Queensland

**Mover:** Stuart Traill

**Seconder:** Lara Watson

**PREAMBLE**

Queensland Labor is committed to strong action on climate change action while ensuring a just transition to low carbon societies.

With the rapid growth of renewable deployment and ever-changing energy technology, the transition of our energy sector and communities is already underway –

the risk is that failing to plan and manage the transition appropriately could have negative impacts on communities and society, particularly in those areas that are most dependent on the technologies and industries that will be directly impacted by a shift away from fossil fuels.

In South Australia, the sudden closure of Alinta’s operations in Port Augusta illustrates the inadequacy of an unplanned transition away from coal-fired power, and people in areas with high unemployment, including regional towns with coal-fired power plants such as Victoria’s La Trobe Valley, have been neglected by multiple governments and companies over many decades.

In Queensland, we support a fairer and more sustainable future for all and are prepared to hold ourselves to a higher standard. We want our communities that will be impacted by the energy transition to flourish, not just survive.

Whether Queensland’s fleet of coal-fired power stations will or should be shut down over the next 5 years, 15 years, or over 30 years, one thing is clear - the foundations of an equitable and fair future must be put in place today if affected workers and communities are to thrive through the transition.

Queensland Labor is committed to ensuring a fair and equitable transition to a low carbon economy that capitalises on our abundant natural renewable resources that should see us become the Just Transition capital of the world.

A well-planned transition also requires a stable policy framework that enables business to plan for the future with confidence and Queensland Labor believes that the best way to ensure a Just Transition is for a nationally coordinated and funded plan to be developed and overseen by an independent Just Transition Authority.

Therefore, Queensland Labor calls on the Australian Government should adopt approaches that ensure the transition to a net zero emissions economy is well-managed, opportunities are captured, and the impacts on communities and industries that are most at risk are fully addressed.
Investment by the Australian Government with oversight by an independent Just Transition statutory authority with responsibility for planning, education and re-training is essential if new industry and employment opportunities are to be realised.

The Authority will have responsibility for ensuring that the jobs created as part of the transition are secure, decent jobs that reflect appropriate industry standards and conditions.

Queensland’s transition to a clean energy economy provides opportunities for new sustainable and decent employment not only in the energy sector, but in transport, construction, agriculture and the services industry.

With forward planning and investment in our regions, low carbon industries and workforce, we can create a more prosperous and diversified economy.

**MOTION**

Queensland Labor calls on the Queensland Government use its position as a leader in energy and climate action to prioritise driving the development of an aggressive Just Transition agenda with the Australian Government to:

- establish an independent expert panel inclusive of all stakeholders to establish a just transition plan, including a framework for implementation, by 2018;
- raise ambition and realise job potential associated with effective Just Transition;
- work with states and territories to develop a national framework to transition to a low carbon economy in a fair and just way.

**ID #: 604A**

**Title:** Queensland Resource Industry Plan

**Mover:** Stuart Traill

**Seconder:** Lara Watson

Queensland is rich in resources and this has underpinned the competitive advantage of many Queensland industries over several generations, but mismanagement of resources and the role they play in the economy, particularly by the private sector, in combination with misguided federal government incentives including around taxation treatment, has seen what should be a boon for the economy turn into what is currently a jobs crisis in many sectors.

While Queensland Labor congratulates the Queensland Government for legislating to ensure Sustainable Resource Communities through strong action on fly in, fly out practices – more must be done.

This Conference endorses the creation of an industry plan for Queensland’s resource based industries including minerals, agriculture, energy and transport with a focus on how this can benefit Queensland regional communities in an environmentally sustainable manner.

Queensland Labor calls for the establishment of a task-force made up of government, unions and stakeholders to examine Queensland’s resource base and consider options and opportunities for job creation through development of the base along with greater and more efficient utilisation in the economy.
The task-force will be charged with the development of an industry plan.

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**ID #: 613A**

**Title:** Labor for Choice Queensland  
**Mover:** Jo Briskey  
**Seconder:** Sam Pidgeon

**LABOR FOR CHOICEQUEENSLAND**

Labor for Choice is a movement within the Australian Labor Party to ensure abortion is safe, legal and accessible across Australia.

1. **Organisation**
   
   1.1 The name of the organisation is ‘Labor for Choice Queensland’.
   
   1.2 Labor for Choice Queensland is a voluntary not-for-profit association of the Australian Labor Party (Queensland Branch).

2. **Objectives**

   Labor for Choice Queensland objectives are:

   2.1 To serve as an information base for party members on the state of reproductive health laws in Queensland and the campaign for reform.
   
   2.2 To provide ongoing engagement to ensure that steps continue to be taken to deliver on the Queensland Government’s commitment to bring forward a Bill to Queensland Parliament to decriminalise abortion in the next term of Government.
   
   2.3 To provide a support network and campaign base for elected representatives, to aid them in discussing reproductive health reform with their community and to combat anti-choice campaigning.

3. **Membership**

   3.1 Membership is open to all financial members of the Australian Labor Party (Queensland Branch) who support the objectives of the Association and either:
   
   3.1.1 Indicate to the Australian Labor Party (Queensland Branch) their interest to be a member of the Association; or
   
   3.1.2 Submit a membership application to the Secretary.
   
   3.2 Membership of the Association shall cease when a member is no longer a current financial member of the Australian Labor Party or submits their resignation in writing to the President or Secretary.
   
   3.3 All members of the Association shall have the right to:
   
   3.3.1 Receive notice of at least 7 days of general meetings and the business to be transacted at those meetings, as well as receive a copy of the minutes of the general meetings;
   
   3.3.2 Nominate for, and vote in, all relevant elections conducted by and for the Association;
3.3.3 Submit items for business to be transacted at general meetings;
3.3.4 Attend, speak and vote at all general meetings of the Association; and
3.3.5 Obtain copies of documents and records of the Association.

4. Structure

4.1 A Patron, who shall encourage, support and promote the objectives of the Association and shall be:

4.1.1 A member of the State Parliamentary Labor Party, a member of the Queensland Federal Parliamentary Labor Party or an affiliated Union.

4.2 The Executive who shall:

4.2.1 Lead the strategic campaign planning and execution to ensure the delivery of the Association objectives;
4.2.2 Engage with relevant internal stakeholders and third parties where beneficial to advance the objectives of the Association.

4.3 The Executive shall be made up of:

4.3.1 A President, who shall have the following duties:

• Act as chairperson at all meetings of the Association;
• Act as official spokesperson and chief office bearer of the Association;

4.3.2 Two Vice Presidents, who shall have the following duties:

• Perform the duties of the President in their absence;

4.3.3 A Secretary/Treasurer, who shall have the following duties:

• Undertake duties necessary for the efficient conduct of the administrative and financial affairs, including keeping necessary records and responsibility for correspondence and reporting matters;
• Ensure all necessary meetings of the Association are conducted;
• Maintain a register of current members;

4.3.4 Five General Executive Members, who shall have the following duties:

• Support the President, Vice Presidents and Secretary/Treasurer to fulfil the requirements of their roles as necessary.

5. Rules

5.1 Labor for Choice Queensland shall operate under the administrative, meeting and financial requirements of Labor Associations in accordance with the Rules of the Australian Labor Party (Queensland Branch).

5.2 Labor for Choice Queensland shall meet at least quarterly and will
hold at least 2 events/forums each year.

5.3 At the Annual General Meeting:

5.3.1 One member of the Executive shall be nominated by and from Queensland Labor Women’s Network.

5.3.2 The Labor for Choice Patron and all other members of the Executive shall be elected by the membership of Labor for Choice Queensland.

5.3.3 At least 2 members of the executive shall be an eligible Branch Member in Regional Area as defined by the Rules of the Australian Labor Party (Queensland Branch).

5.3.4 At least 1 member shall be under 26 years of age.

5.3.5 The annual accounts shall be received and approved.

5.3.6 The rules may be amended for the endorsement of the Administrative Committee.

NOTES

215 members of the Australian Labor Party (Queensland Branch) have signed the Labor Association application form (see AR16) to indicate their agreement to join Labor for Choice Queensland, and their eligibility has been confirmed by the Party’s Membership Officer as current financial members.

INTERIM EXECUTIVE

Patron: Senator Claire Moore
President: Jo Briskey
Vice-President: Sam Pidgeon
Vice-President: Sarah Mawhinney
Secretary/Treasurer: Nita Green

Executive Members:

1. Jo Justo
2. Megan Hinchliffe
3. Dr Carole Ford
4. Jess Tibbitts
5. Stephanie Kameric

These members of the Australian Labor Party (Queensland Branch) have agreed to take on the responsibilities as the Interim Executive of Labor for Choice Queensland and have endorsed the proposed rules and statement of objectives provided with the Application for Establishment of Labor Association.

The first annual general meeting of the Association will be held within 2 months of the formation of this association.
**MOTION**

That this Conference congratulates the Palaszczuk Government’s commitment to bring forward a Bill to the Queensland Parliament to decriminalise abortion in the next term of Government, based on the recommendations of the Queensland Law Reform Commission.

While there is significant support for this move within the Party and in the wider Queensland community, this Conference recognises that there will be a concerted campaign from anti-choice groups, as further steps are taken to decriminalise abortion and implement an appropriate health framework that enshrines reproductive autonomy.

Accordingly, this Conference endorses the establishment of Labor for Choice Queensland: a Labor Association for Queensland Labor members who will support the campaign for safe, legal, accessible and affordable abortion.

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**ID #: 614A**

**Title:** Intrastate Shipping  
**Mover:** David Greene  
**Seconder:** Bob Carnegie

This Conference calls on the Government to commit to establishing a parliamentary inquiry into intrastate shipping within the next Parliament, in accordance with paragraph 4.60 of the Platform.

*(NOTE: Appears as paragraph 4.67 in State Platform 2017.)*

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**ID #: 616R**

**Title:** Indigenous Youth Suicide  
**Mover:** Scott Anderson  
**Seconder:** Lara Watson

That this Conference calls upon both Queensland Labor and Australian Labor:

(i) to consider declaring the Indigenous suicide rate a State and National Health Emergency; and

(ii) to commit to taking drastic measures at all levels of government to address the fact that 50% of Australian suicides come from the Indigenous community which only makes up 3% of the total population.

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**ID #: 618R**

**Title:** New Acland Stage 3 Coal Mine Proposal  
**Mover:** Daniel Goodman  
**Seconder:** Stephen Baker

Conference notes the importance of the coal industry in the Surat Basin, which supports mining and ancillary jobs in the Toowoomba region, rail jobs in haulage and stevedoring jobs at the Port of Brisbane.
Conference notes that many hundreds of jobs would be lost if this industry cannot continue to develop.

Conference notes the proposed New Acland Stage 3 coal mine proposal and the many jobs that it would sustain as well as the new jobs that would be created in construction.

Conference supports the Queensland Government’s commitment to allow legal proceedings to run their proper course and follow statutory approval processes, but urges the government to fully explore mechanisms that would allow this project to proceed.

**ID #: 624R**

**Title:** Special Trade Prosecutor  
**Mover:** Zac Beers  
**Seconder:** Jon Persley

Too many foreign multinationals are rorting our trade laws and getting away with it.

The practice of dumping by overseas countries is of particular concern to Australian steel and aluminium manufacturers. Dumping occurs when countries dump products beneath their worth in an effort to harm their competitors.

This practice has decimated our aluminium and steel industry with employment falling by over 50 per cent over the past ten years.

This is not fair trade, it is cheating.

A Special Trade Prosecutor is needed to crack down on these repeat offenders.

The Special Trade Prosecutor will have the ability to crack down on these dodgy foreign imports by doing the following:

- Banning repeat offenders – countries who continue to cheat our trade laws will finally face consequences.
- Impose interim duties and tariffs on imports, while the Special Trade Prosecutor and Anti-Dumping Commission investigate.
- Oversee the duties and tariffs program and benchmark them against other comparable nations.

**ACTION**

- This Conference praises the AWU, AMWU and CFMEU for continuing to take a strong stance on dodgy foreign imports.
- Supports the creation of a Special Trade Prosecutor to crack down on these dodgy imports.
ID #: 625R
Title: Queensland Working Women’s Service
Mover: Jo Briskey
Seconder: Sean Leader

That the Queensland State Government provide the Queensland Working Women’s Service (QWWS) with viable continued funding to do their essential work for Queensland Working Women, promoting gender equality and fairness in the workplace, to meet the growing demand of Queensland Women throughout the state for this vital service which has operated for 23 years.

ID #: 627A
Title: Insecure Work
Mover: Murray Watt
Seconder: Imogen Beynon

Conference notes the explosion in insecure work that has occurred as a result of policies of, and inaction by, the Turnbull Government, especially in regional Queensland.

Current Federal laws make it too easy for employers to replace permanent employment with contract, casual, labour hire and other forms of insecure employment.

Conference calls on the Turnbull Government to follow the lead of the Federal Opposition and the Palaszczuk Government, in protecting Queenslanders’ working conditions, by legislating to license labour hire operators, cracking down on sham contracting and casual arrangements, and providing legal protection for subcontractors from companies who exploit workers as their business model.

ID #: 628A
Title: One Nation
Mover: Nino Lalic
Seconder: Murray Watt

Conference condemns One Nation for continuing to sell out working people with their support for the Turnbull Government’s harsh agenda.

Since taking their seats in the Senate twelve months ago, One Nation have hurt Queensland families through supporting Turnbull’s cuts to the pension, supporting the anti-worker ABCC and wanting to slash ABC funding which will have a substantial impact on regional Queensland.

Conference notes that One Nation have voted with the Turnbull Government repeatedly on contentious legislation.

Conference reaffirms that Queensland Labor will continue to preference Pauline Hanson last.
ID #: 629A  
Title: Support for a Strong, Effective Federal Public Service  
Mover: Amy Smith  
Seconder: Elida Faith

**BACKGROUND**

**BUDGET**

State Conference recognises the important role of the federal public service in providing critical services, employment opportunities and the resulting economic support in regional centres and cities across Queensland.

State Conference notes that Coalition Government attacks on the Commonwealth public sector have caused not only massive job losses but have also driven agencies such as Centrelink into crisis, resulting in the robo-debt debacle and in 36 million phone calls to Centrelink being unanswered last year.

Despite these problems, in the 2017-18 Federal Budget the Turnbull Government doubled down on their attack on their own workforce and on the public services we all rely on by cutting almost 1100 more jobs from the Department of Human Services (which includes Centrelink) and by commencing the process of privatising social security by creating an outsourced call centre.

Centrelink is clearly in crisis, and our community urgently needs more investment in these vital services to the Australian community.

The most recent 1,100 job cuts in the Federal Budget will drive service standards down even further, and the move to outsource Centrelink call centres is an alarming move towards the privatisation of the social security system.

The Federal Government, under Abbott and Turnbull is now spending a staggering estimated $500 million a year on Labour Hire provision of Government services.

**ROBO DEBT**

State Conference condemns the ideological attack on welfare recipients by the issuing of auto generated Centrelink debt notices to the most vulnerable in our community.

The Department of Human Services which oversees the robo-debt system has already seen a cut of 5000 jobs, and this system has been developed to minimise human oversight.

As a result of this system, there have been large amounts of customers being issued with debt notices that they either don’t owe or only owe a fraction of and the onus is on them to prove they have done nothing wrong.

Despite these well documented errors with this system, the government has announced a further cut of 1100 staff, rather than fixing the root causes of this debacle.

**OUTSOURCING, CASUALISATION AND LABOUR HIRE**

State Conference recognises the importance of secure and regular work, and the role that government plays in ensuring this.
State Conference is concerned at the use of outsourcing, casualisation and labour hire arrangements to replace the loss of permanent employment in the Australian Public Service.

Like many other sectors of the economy, the only thing ‘casual’ about the workforce composition in agencies like Centrelink is the status of the employment on offer.

With 40% of workers across Australia now casual we are seeing generations of workers who have never had access to paid leave or economic security.

There is no economic or industrial justification for the transference of so much financial risk from employers to workers. It must stop.

Despite increased community demand for quality services the federal public service has seen unprecedented growth in casualised, labour hire and insecure workers undertaking permanent work.

The reduction of permanent employment in favour of casual and other forms of insecure work has seen a detrimental impact on community access to public services, reduced the ability of insecure workers to fully participate in the economic life of their communities and an erosion of job security for all APS workers.

REGIONAL JOBS

State Conference recognises the importance of creating and maintaining government services in regional areas as a way to ensure that vital government services are provided to those communities and that secure employment is kept in those communities.

The loss of public sector jobs in regional communities has a significant negative impact on local economies. Service delivery agencies such as DHS and the ATO have been cutting jobs from existing regional locations for some years.

Over the last four years over 900 APS jobs have been cut from Queensland.

Too frequently cutting regional jobs and closing regional offices is seen as a quick cost cutting measure. For example, in 2014 200 ATO jobs were cut from Townsville and regional offices in Mackay, Rockhampton and Cairns.

MOTION

This State Conference:

▶ Acknowledges the Federal Labor Party’s commitment at the last Federal Election to lift service standards for the Australian community by converting casual jobs at DHS into permanent jobs.

▶ Calls on Federal Labor to continue working with the CPSU to improve vital service delivery and public service provision to our community.

▶ Condemns the Turnbull Government for its ongoing attacks on its own workforce and on the vital public services that we all rely on.

▶ Calls on the Federal Government to maintain and increase public sector employment in regional areas.

▶ Calls on the Federal Government to end the use of labour hire arrangements to displace permanent APS employment.
Calls on the Federal Labor Party to work with the CPSU to restore the hundreds APS jobs that have been cut by successive Federal Governments, in particular across North Queensland.

**ID #: 630A**

**Title:** Retaining World-Class Science in Queensland  
**Mover:** Amy Smith  
**Seconder:** Elida Faith

**BACKGROUND**

Queensland benefits from world class public sector science.

The work of CSIRO and other public sector science organisations directly benefit the Queensland community, improving how we respond to a changing climate, promoting renewable and clean energy solutions, work towards cheaper and accessible technology for families, farmers and the health sector.

The Liberal National Government’s attacks on the integrity of science and the independence of public sector science organisations threatening this important work.

In addition to the Government’s failure to respect and support public sector science, Malcolm Turnbull and his ministers are raiding CSIRO of the funding it needs to continue critical research.

Under the Liberal National Government:

- More than 1300 jobs have been lost from the CSIRO – that’s 1 in 5 scientists sacked;
- World class climate research has been destroyed;
- Critical science capabilities have been undermined, like Ocean and Climate research, Food safety science, and urban water and systems research;
- Australia’s great international science reputation is being demolished;
- Australia can’t innovate, or prepare for the future, without funding CSIRO and public sector science.

Yet scientists in public sector organisations, like the CSIRO, are paid between 10% and 20% less than their counterparts in the private sector and universities.

The attacks on public sector scientists’ wages and conditions, as evidenced by the Government’s Bargaining Policy, coupled with the attacks on the integrity of science and independence of our public sector science organisations.

Federal Labor has an important role to play in standing up for public sector science and these scientists.

This is demonstrated by Federal Labor’s work to deliver $800 million in funding for ARENA, thereby saving ARENA’s role as the cornerstone of Australia’s renewable energy and saving CSIRO jobs.
MOTION

Queensland Labor condemns the Federal Liberal Government’s approach to public sector science which is having broad ranging deleterious effects on science and renewable energy research in Queensland.

Queensland Labor condemns the Federal Liberal Government in its inaction to call out climate sceptics and those who denigrate science and the knowledge sector.

This Conference calls on Federal Labor to develop a strategy to support the funding of jobs and research in renewable energy, as well as scientists’ salaries, attraction and retention of jobs across Queensland, including in regional areas such as Cairns and Townsville.

ID #: 631A
Title: Fairer Bargaining System for Workers
Mover: Amy Smith
Seconder: Elida Faith

State Conference condemns the Federal Government for its ideological attack on their own workforce which now spans three years.

The Federal Government, through its bargaining framework, has sought to cut employees’ rights and conditions, while also forcing employees to accept below inflation pay rises.

The Federal Government’s attack on its own employees fails to recognise the important work these employees undertake serving the Australian community.

It also demonstrates the disdain in which the Abbott/Turnbull Governments hold working people.

State Conference recognises that government employees play a critical role in serving the Australian community and, like other employees, should be treated fairly and with respect by their employer and able to maintain their employment rights and conditions.

State Conference recognises that inadequacies within the Fair Work Act allow intractable employers with an ideological agenda frustrate genuine bargaining and threaten the rights and conditions of employees.

State Conference acknowledges that it is important that the Fair Work Act provide workers with a level playing field when dealing with employers in bargaining. Accordingly, State Conference calls on Federal Labor to work with unions to improve the Fair Work Act by:

▶ Amending the bargaining provisions of the Fair Work Act to establish a better legislative system for workers in bargaining, that provides for genuine bargaining processes and allows for effective action to be taken against recalcitrant employers; and

▶ Amending the industrial action provisions of the Fair Work Act to ensure workers’ rights to take protected industrial action are protected and not subject to excessive restrictions that currently apply.
ID #: 632A
Title: Removal of Bonded ACM (Asbestos-Containing Material)
Mover: Andrew Ramsay
Seconder: Michael Ravbar

MOTION
We call on the Queensland Government to urgently remove Public Health Regulation 2005 – Division 1 Asbestos Regulation 2E

“Removal of bonded ACM

(1) A person must not remove a quantity of bonded ACM of more than 10m2 unless the person holds a certificate under this section that is in effect and obtained under arrangements approved or established by the chief executive.

Maximum penalty – 100 penalty units

(2) To remove any doubt, it is declared that if more than 1 person is removing the bonded ACM mentioned in subsection (1), subsection (1) applies to each of the persons.

(3) For subsection (1), the chief executive may approve or establish arrangements under which a person may obtain a certificate after completing training satisfactory to the chief executive in competencies decided by the chief executive.

Examples –

1. The chief executive approves a particular statement of attainment of an RTO as a certificate under this section.

2. The chief executive establishes an interactive training course on the Internet that issues certificates under this section to persons who successfully complete the course.

(4) A certificate is in effect for a period fixed under arrangements mentioned in subsection (3).”

and Regulation XXX of Work Health and Safety Regulations relating to the ability to remove 10sqm of asbestos without using a licenced professional.

We make this request due to the misuse and abuse of this clause.

COMMENTARY
I (Andrew Ramsay) am a member/Director of the Asbestos Disease Support Society (ADSS) who hold awareness stalls at the Brisbane Home Show and other similar events.

I assist on these stalls. It overwhelms me the ignorance of the general public despite huge campaigns over the past few years, of the dangers of being exposed to dust containing asbestos fibres.

The majority of people doing home renovations who know they have asbestos containing materials in their house do not use proper protection, nor do they do a proper clean up, hence putting not only their families but the general community at risk as this dust becomes airborne.
Furthermore, people are not removing just 10 sq m, they may remove 10sq m at a time each day for a week. They are unaware that they need to get a licence to remove more than 10 square metres.

They just go in gung-ho and remove a lot more as there is no perceive repercussions.

As indicated, they do not clean up properly, they have not isolated the area and the dust becomes airborne.

Furthermore, in most instances, they do not dispose of the product correctly as, unless they have a licenced removalist come in and remove it there is nowhere for it to go as Councils do not accept asbestos waste.

One exposure to asbestos can potentially lead to someone being diagnosed with an asbestos-related disease.

These are insidious diseases with no cure. Community members being diagnosed with disease are becoming younger – in their 20s. It is no longer an old person’s disease.

It is our belief that the only safe way to remove asbestos is to have an accredited licensed removalist do the work (see amendment to 4.37) who has been appropriately trained and is able to dispose of the asbestos waste appropriately.

Given Section 7.23 Housing Chapter – Labor Beliefs - that continually refers to safe, secure and sustainable housing, we recommend this motion to you.

(NOTE: Appears as paragraphs 4.37 and 7.23 in State Platform 2017.)

ID #: 636A
Title: We Won’t Wait - Domestic Violence
Mover: Jenny Thomas
Seconder: Ros McLennan

PREAMBLE

1. A woman is killed almost every week in Australia as a result of domestic violence. Domestic violence is the leading cause of death, disability and illness among women aged 15 – 44 years. Higher than blood pressure or smoking.

2. More than 800,000 (one in six) women workers experience some form of violence in their home.

3. DV Connect respond to 4000 calls each month relating to domestic violence.

4. It is important that a person living with domestic violence keeps their job to maintain economic independence. However, there are occasions times when they are required to take time off work or have some flexibility in their working arrangements especially when they are leaving a violent partner.

5. Women affected by domestic violence are more likely to change their job more often, miss out on promotions, resign or be terminated; and more likely to be bullied at work.

6. For many women affected by domestic violence, the workplace
is the only place where they feel safe. Secure paid work and the resulting financial independence it provides is critical in enabling a worker, especially those with children to leave an abusive relationship.

7. Paid domestic violence leave provides women with the time and support to attend court hearings, provide evidence to police, find somewhere safe to live, find a new school for their children and access support services.

**MOTION**

Queensland Labor recognises that many people living with violence resign, or are terminated from their jobs because they need to take time off work to deal with injuries to themselves or their children, or to attend appointments with counsellors, police and courts or because the perpetrator of violence will not allow them to leave the house.

Workers also need to take time off work when trying to organise their escape from violence.

Queensland Labor will support workers experiencing violence by:

1. Supporting the Queensland Unions campaign We Won’t Wait, for a minimum 10 days paid domestic violence leave as a universal entitlement for all workers.

2. Calling on a future Federal Labor Government to legislate for a minimum 10 days paid domestic violence leave to be included in the National Employment Standards.

**ID #: 637A**

**Title:** Adani's Carmichael Mine Project

**Mover:** Evan Moorhead

**Seconder:** Sean Leader

Queensland Labor supports the transition to a low carbon economy.

Our commitment to 50% renewable energy by 2030 and to zero net emissions by 2050 will see Queensland contribute to reducing carbon emissions.

Queensland Labor recognises that the resources sector will continue to be a vital part of the Queensland economy, providing jobs and economic investment, particularly in regional Queensland.

Labor is the only Party that can ensure a transition to a low carbon economy, while providing fair and secure jobs for Queenslanders across the State.

The Carmichael mine project will bring much needed jobs to regional Queensland, as the Queensland Government invests in new industries biofuels, renewable energy generation and defence manufacturing.

The Carmichael mine project will also see investment in Australian steelmaking, construction materials and services and invest in local employment, with a commitment to not using 457 visas on the project.
Conference notes that Adani’s Carmichael mine project has been subject to a rigorous scientific assessment and has been approved in accordance with the statutory requirements at State and Commonwealth laws.

Queensland’s rigorous statutory approval process added more than 200 new conditions on the project including protecting the Great Barrier Reef from dredge spoil dumping.

The Palaszczuk Labor Government has delivered on its election commitment by ensuring that the project proponent will pay all royalties, including interest on any deferred amount,

and ensuring that the Queensland Government won’t accept or account for any financial assistance that the Federal Government’s NAIF gives to Adani through its Consolidated Revenue, or through any other departmental or agency account.

**ID #: 638A**

**Title:** Black Lung White Lies

**Mover:** Mitch Hughes  

**Seconder:** Jacqui Collie

The Coal Workers’ Pneumoconiosis (CWP) Select Committee of the Queensland Parliament issued a report titled “Black Lung, White Lies”. This report made 68 recommendations to ensure significant reform to protect the health and safety of coal worker in Queensland.

This Conference supports these 68 recommendations.

This Conference calls upon the Palaszczuk Government to implement a legislative response developed with affected Unions and the Coal Mining Health and Safety Advisory Committee in light of this report that will include:

1. Ensuring that the reading of chest x-rays is done to the ILO classifications for Pneumoconiosis, including the use of B-Readers;
2. Ensure that any Board formed as part of the recommendations will include representatives nominated by the appropriate Unions.

**ID #: 640A**

**Title:** Human Rights Legislation

**Mover:** Julie-Ann Campbell  

**Seconder:** Sean Leader

That this Conference acknowledges and applauds the announcement made by Premier Palaszczuk to delegates at the October 2016 State Conference, that the Queensland Labor Government will legislate a Human Rights Act, modelled on Victoria’s Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act, as reflected in Clause 8.47 of the Labor Policy Platform.

This Conference calls upon the Palaszczuk Labor Government to enact the promised Queensland Human Rights legislation as a matter of urgency.

(NOTE: Appears as paragraphs 8.54 in State Platform 2017.)
ID #: 641A
Title: A Stronger Townsville with Secure Jobs
Mover: Cathy O’Toole
Seconder: Kyle Walker

With the general unemployment rate at over 11%, the youth unemployment rate at over 20% and a significant ex-service personnel and veteran unemployment challenge, there is an urgent need for action to create secure job opportunities and help provide relevant training and/or transferable skill mapping for unemployed people including, young people, transitioning workers and ex-defence personnel and veterans.

Townsville is the largest Defence presence in Australia and as such is well placed and has the capacity to be a critical defence maintenance hub for Northern Australia, which will deliver significant secure job opportunities.

This Conference calls on a Labor Federal Labor Government to:

▶ identify optimal regional locations to locate Federal departmental centres or hubs;
▶ implement an apprenticeship/skill set training scheme for young people, targeting the unemployed, considering defence industries, community and health services such as aged care;
▶ investigate using underutilised RAAF bases to where appropriate provide free/low cost accommodation for apprentices, particularly from low socio-economic backgrounds;
▶ assess the top 20% of 457 visas issued to ascertain the skills in demand, with a view to promoting local people to attain those skills;
▶ commit to a maintenance hub being established in Townsville to service Defence units in Northern Australia;
▶ develop a ‘visionary, comprehensive and coordinated regional engagement plan’ to refocus our Defence engagement back into the Asia Pacific region building on the Singapore Deal.

SUPPORTING THE TOWNSVILLE COMMUNITY

As a regional city, Townsville residents often have difficulty accessing services; therefore, this Conference calls on the Queensland Government to:

work with the community on Magnetic Island to review facilities and services to ensure that women and children escaping family and domestic violence can seek refuge and be supported in their community, using the range of tools available;

work with the community to ensure that the facilities and services available to women and children escaping family and domestic violence on Palm Island are being effectively utilized and all services will be culturally appropriate and aligned with community specified needs;

ensure that the Cooler Schools Program has an adequate permanent replacement and maintenance funding budget.

The Conference calls on Federal Labor to:
► develop a comprehensive short, medium and long-term water supply plan for all populations centres in Northern Australia that currently support populations in excess of 100,000 people;

► work with State and Local Government to ensure that the City of Townsville has a plan and funds to deliver a long term, cost-effective water security solution from the existing Burdekin Falls Dam within its next term of government;

► work with the state and local government to deliver a comprehensive long-term plan for alternative energy sources that will put downward pressure on power costs;

► commit to achieving the full roll-out of Labor’s quality NBN for regional, rural and remote communities and to remove the unfair NBN tax;

► commit to the power distribution lines in urban cyclone prone areas being placed underground within the next 10 years.

ID #: 643A
Title: An Accessible State Conference
Mover: Jo Briskey
Seconder: Sean Leader

That this Conference:

(i) recognises and congratulates both the work of Labor Enabled and the commitment of the Queensland Branch of the Australian Labor Party to the principles of social justice;

(ii) notes the dedicated efforts made to ensure the 2017 Queensland Labor Conference in Townsville was more accessible to Delegates and Observers; and

(iii) commits all future State Labor Conferences to be fully accessible for all people and that the Queensland ALP undertakes all necessary steps to ensure all delegates and observers can participate to their full extent including but, not limited to, live captioning.

ID #: 644A
Title: City of Brisbane Act
Mover: Rod Harding
Seconder: Sean Leader

This Conference calls on Labor in Government to review the City of Brisbane Act to improve transparency and accountability, give all Councillors equal access to information held by the Administration and appropriately staff the Opposition so it may hold the Administration to account.
ID #: 645A
Title: Protect Penalty Rates
Mover: Sharron Caddie
Seconder: Justin Power

Conference condemns the decision of the Fair Work Commission to cut penalty rates for workers in the hospitality, retail, fast food industries and pharmacy; and for inviting Clubs Australia to make further submissions to enable award penalty rates to be cut for workers in Clubs.

We condemn the Federal Liberal National Coalition and those cross-bench MPs who called for cuts to penalty rates, who set up a productivity commission and refuse to support a Labor Party Bill that would have protected penalty rates.

These cuts will have a devastating effect on workers and their families, leaving some out of pocket by up to $6,000 per year.

This is a pay cut that they can’t afford and don’t deserve. The cuts come at a time of low wage growth and rising inequality. Workers need a pay rise, not a pay cut.

The cuts will also have a terrible impact on communities right across Queensland. In regional and rural Queensland, close to 62,500 workers and their families will lose more than $146 million.

Almost $64 million will disappear completely from those communities leading to job loss in businesses that rely on local spending.

We know that the cuts to penalty rates so far are simply the thin end of the wedge.

Penalty rates recognise the precious hours that people give up with family, friends and in their community on weekends. Devaluing this time in one industry will inevitably lead to attacks on penalty rates in other industries.

In light of the above:

▶ Conference acknowledges and applauds the commitment of the Federal Labor Party to restore the penalty rates of every single worker affected by this cut and to change the law to protect the take-home pay of working Australians into the future within 100 days of being elected to Government. We seek such a commitment to become part of the ALP National Platform.

▶ Conference also acknowledges and applauds the Palaszczuk Government’s commitment to protect the penalty rates of State and Local Government workers.

▶ Taking into consideration the negative impact of penalty rate cuts on workers and their families, on our communities and on the broader economy, we call on employer organisations to desist from any activity in the political or industrial arena that will threaten penalty rates.

▶ Conference calls on employers to do the right thing by workers and refuse to pass on cuts to penalty rates and calls on the State Government to support those employers that make this commitment.

▶ We call on all workers to join their union and join the fight to protect penalty rates.
We call on all members of the Palaszczuk Government to publicly support and commit to actively promote the ongoing campaign of the Union movement to protect existing penalty rates and to pressure organisations or venues to restore penalty rates where they have been cut.

Conference also makes this commitment.

**ID #: 646A**

**Title:** Clubs Australia  
**Mover:** Sharron Caddie  
**Seconder:** Jeanette Temperley

This Conference condemns the expansion of the attack on the pay of weekend workers through Clubs Australia’s submission yesterday to abolish the Clubs Awards.

**ID #: 647A**

**Title:** Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre  
**Mover:** Sharron Caddie  
**Seconder:** Jeanette Temperley

This Conference condemns GEO for their approach to correctional officer safety at Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre.

We condemn their actions to lock out staff, raising safety concerns, and their attempt to push through a second-rate enterprise agreement that fails to address officer safety.

We call on Labor to assist with resolution of the current dispute and, should GEO fail to behave in a responsible manner, call on government to return the operation of the Centre to government hands.

**ID #: 648A**

**Title:** Cairns Conference  
**Moved:** Bronwyn Hodgkins  
**Seconded:** Rene Williams

That the 2021 ALP State Conference be held in Cairns.

AMENDED

**Moved:** Evan Moorhead  
**Seconded:** Jon Persley

That the 2018 State Conference be held in Brisbane at a time to be determined by the Administrative Committee following the State Election; and that that Conference consider the location of the 2021 State Conference.