



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL ISSUES

INQUIRY INTO THE IMPACT OF THE COMMONWEALTH WORKCHOICES LEGISLATION

INVITATION TO REGISTER INTEREST IN ATTENDING PUBLIC FORUM IN WOLLONGONG

NSW Parliament's Social Issues Committee is inviting members of the public to attend a regional forum in Wollongong, to have their say on the new WorkChoices industrial relations laws.

As part of its inquiry into the impact of the Commonwealth Government's WorkChoices legislation, the Committee is hosting a public forum from **11:15 on Thursday 27 July 2006** at Wollongong Council Chambers, 41 Burelli Street, Wollongong. Participants will be asked to state their views to the Committee on the effects of the legislation, for example, its impact on:

- workers' rights and bargaining power
- employers, especially small business
- injured workers
- disadvantaged groups such as women, people from culturally and linguistically backgrounds and people with disabilities
- work and family balance
- rural and regional communities.

Members of the public are invited to register their interest in participating in the forum. **If you are interested in participating you must pre-register with the Social Issues Committee secretariat by Tuesday, 25 July 2006, at the contact details below.** Depending on the number of people who register, a ballot may be held to allocate the time available. It is important to the Committee that people with a range of views participate in this significant event. If you wish to attend but not to speak, it is still necessary to register. **All participants who have pre-registered with the secretariat are requested to arrive at the hearing on Thursday 27 July 2006 at 11.15 am, in order to confirm their registration.**

At the end of the inquiry the Committee will report to the Parliament with recommendations for government action. The opinions stated at the public forum will feed into the Committee's report and recommendations.

To express your interest in attending or participating in the Wollongong and South Coast forum on WorkChoices, or for further information, please telephone the Social Issues Committee secretariat on (02) 9230 2193, email socialissues@parliament.nsw.gov.au, or go to the Committee's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/socialissues.