

INQUIRY INTO MANDATORY DISEASE TESTING BILL 2020

Organisation: United Services Union

Date Received: 16 December 2020

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By your side



The Hon. Wes Fang MLC
Chair
Standing Committee on Law and Justice

Dear Chair,

CONTACT: Daniel Papps
REF: 20191126DPA01SYDMET

**INQUIRY INTO MANDATORY DISEASE TESTING BILL
2020**

Thank you for providing us with an opportunity to comment on the *Mandatory Disease Testing Bill 2020*.

As the largest local government Union in New South Wales, with members in each and every town in New South Wales, we have a keen interest in the provisions of this Bill.

We understand that the intent of the Bill is to establish a number of circumstances in which members of the public would be required to undertake blood testing where a worker (as defined by the Bill) comes into contact with the bodily fluids of a member of the public through that individuals deliberate action.

We support the intent of this Bill, as we consider it aimed at protecting the health and welfare of workers.

We are however concerned with what we see as the limited definition of workers covered by the Bill.

We represent many front-line local government workers who are routinely required to perform public-facing compliance functions such as local rangers, parking officers, and life-guards. These roles often bring our members into direct conflict with members of the public, increasing the risk of deliberate exposure to bodily fluids as contemplated by the Bill.

In such circumstances we would consider it appropriate to expand the definition of a worker in the Bill so as to afford our members the same protection as other workers in the Bill.

Should you wish to discuss any aspect of this submission please do not hesitate to contact Mr Daniel Papps.

Regards,

Graeme Kelly OAM
GENERAL SECRETARY

Per: Daniel Papps, Manager Industrial, Rules, Governance & Compliance

UNITED SERVICES UNION

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