INQUIRY INTO PRIVATISATION OF BUS SERVICES

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 4 March 2022

Partially Confidential

Bus privatisation can only been seen as a cynical exercise by the current government to reduce its costs by allowing their mates (Private Bus operators) to introduce new awards, eroding the current wages of STA bus operators, and allowing reduced services to the people who really need them. This in turn allows the private bus operators to add more profits to their businesses to the detriment of the general community.

This is totally against what is one of a government's main responsibility which is to look out for and assist the poorer and more needy people of the community.

Bus operators are by no means highly paid now and to reduce their wages and conditions is immoral even if current wages/conditions are kept for two years.

One of the reasons I chose to work for the STA is because they treated their workforce more as people than how people are often treated in private enterprise. ie more like a servant or slave than an actual human being who has a life outside work. This is from personal experience.

Old STA bus operators don't have the opportunity to be employed by a company that has similar conditions as their aren't any. How would parliamentarians like to be told that they are being privitased and this will mean they are going to receive reduced wages and conditions, including reduced superannuation payouts, in the future.

This exercise by the current government is a kick in the guts to a dedicated and hard working group of people who have shown their loyalty to the people of this state, especially over the last two years during the COVID pandenic.