

FACT SHEET

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (COMMONWEALTH POWERS) BILL 2009

- This Bill will put in place the referral of industrial relation powers necessary for a single national system for the private sector. The Bill will also allow for the referral of industrial relations powers for the Local Government sector and the Community Sector but not the Public Sector which will continue under the aegis of the Tasmanian Industrial Commission.
- The Local Government Sector is currently under the Federal jurisdiction and the Community Sector is currently split depending on the constitutional form of the employer leading to uncertainty and potentially costly jurisdictional wrangles.
- All States and Territories with the exception of WA support the referral of powers.
- The benefits of referral include Contemporary employment conditions and arrangements for employees and employers, equity within Tasmania, and between Tasmania and other states, improved efficiency and the economic benefits that flow from the elimination of duplication from within the private sector industrial relations and clarity concerning federal coverage for the community services sector and local government.
- A significant education program will ensure all employers and employees are informed of the changes prior to its implementation on 1 January 2010.