ACTU welcomes action on EBA terminations

The ACTU has welcomed the commitment from Workplace Relations Minister Tony Burke to stop employers using the threat of EBA terminations as a bargaining tactic.

The practice of employers threatening to terminate existing agreements if workers refuse to sign on to a new EBA has exploded in recent years and has given employers immense power in the bargaining process.

This has occurred in universities, railways, factories, ports, airlines and hundreds of other workplaces across the country.

ACTU Secretary Sally McManus (pictured) said using the threat of termination as a bargaining tactic was unacceptable.

“The law was never intended to operate this way and this loophole is being used and abused by bad employers,” she said.

“Allowing employers to threaten massive cuts to pay and conditions unless workers sign on to a new EBA is not a fair process.

“We need to fix our broken bargaining system so that it produces the wage growth working people and the economy needs to get back on track. This is one of the issues that needs to be addressed.

“After a decade of inaction and neglect under the previous government it’s encouraging to see a government standing up for working people and doing what is needed to get wage growth moving again.”

Authorised by Sally Dennis, General Secretary, The State School Teachers' Union of W.A.
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