



TWU
Carrying Australia

AVIATION UPDATE

NOVEMBER 2020

SENATE BACKS AVIATION WORKERS

Yesterday was a momentous day. Following strong campaigning from TWU members, the Senate passed two important motions in support of aviation workers:

1. A motion to set up a Senate Inquiry into the crisis in aviation and its survival following the pandemic
2. A motion to condemn Qantas and call a halt to the outsourcing of 2,500 workers

Congratulations to each and every worker for strong campaigning over several months. Your stories, protests, and calls to politicians are working. Well done to the delegation of TWU members that returned to Parliament House yesterday to meet politicians and ensure their support for aviation workers.

These two motions will force the government to answer for its refusal to pay Dnata and SNP workers JobKeeper or intervene in the Virgin administration, and will put a spotlight on Qantas for their appalling response to the pandemic which has left workers bearing the brunt of the crisis in aviation.

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE STAND STRONG TOGETHER.

We must continue to keep the pressure on, as there is still much to fight for.

Dnata and SNP workers are still excluded from JobKeeper, and those receiving the wage subsidy will see this support end in March. Thousands of Qantas workers are still fighting for their jobs, and at Virgin we've strengthened our resolve to hold the new owners to account.

Now is the moment to keep the spotlight on aviation.

NATIONAL PROTESTS

Join our national days of action starting **Monday 16th November** to call for AviationKeeper; an expansion and extension of government support for aviation workers beyond March, right up until our industry recovers.

Your branch will be in touch with action details and other ways to get involved.

TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER.
JOIN NOW FOR A BETTER FUTURE.

www.twu.com.au/join

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THE SENATE MOTIONS IN FULL:

SENATE INQUIRY INTO AVIATION

Senators Sterle and Sheldon:

To move—That the following matter be referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee for inquiry and report by 31 March 2021:

The future of Australia's aviation sector, in the context of COVID-19 and conditions post-pandemic, having particular regard to:

- (a) the importance of Australia's aviation sector in supporting the economic and social wellbeing of all Australians;
- (b) the immediate and long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic response on all aspects of the Australian aviation sector;
- (c) the immediate and long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic response on all sectors that rely on aviation (e.g. tourism);
- (d) the adequacy of government industry support and procurement and programs for the social and economic well-being of workers for all sections of the aviation industry to survive the downturn caused by the pandemic;
- (e) the immediate and long-term employment landscape within Australia's aviation sector;
- (f) what policy and practical measures would be required to assist the industry to recover in the medium term; and
- (g) any related matters

MOTION TO CONDEMN QANTAS OUTSOURCING

Senators Sheldon, Gallacher, Sterle, Bilyk and Patrick:

To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) on 29 March 2020 the Prime Minister announced that JobKeeper 'is about keeping the connection between the employer and the employee and keeping people in their jobs', and
 - (ii) on 21 July 2020 Qantas Chief Executive Officer Alan Joyce said to the Australian Financial Review that the extension of JobKeeper was 'fantastic for our people and provides them with certainty';
- (b) further notes that despite receiving over \$500 million in taxpayer support, including JobKeeper payments to keep employees connected to the company, Qantas intends to outsource 2,500 ramp, ground and cleaning staff and replace them with outsourced, cheaper labour;
- (c) recognises that:
 - (i) the work of these 2,500 employees is still being carried out and will likely now be done on lower rates and conditions,
 - (ii) Qantas has used the pandemic as cover to implement a long-term plan to further outsource labour, and
 - (iii) standards in safety and security will be lowered if Qantas outsources its entire ground operations;
- (d) calls on Qantas to reverse its decision to outsource the jobs of the 2,500 hardworking Australians; and
- (e) calls on the Federal Government to develop a national aviation plan.