



**TWU**  
Carrying Australia

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

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 put a spotlight on Qantas, other aviation companies and the government for their response to the pandemic which has left workers bearing the brunt of the crisis in aviation.

The Senate's backing of workers heaps additional pressure on Qantas to reverse its callous decision to outsource 2,500 workers.

This is a great achievement that shows what we can do when we stand strong together.

But the fight does not end here. Now is more important than ever to keep the pressure on.

## SUBMIT YOUR VIDEO: 100 YEARS OF QANTAS

Thank you to everyone that has submitted a video saying 'We are the spirit of Australia'. We need more workers to do this so that we can mark 100 years of Qantas properly – with the people who've made Qantas what it is today.

**Simply film yourself or get someone else to film you saying:**

- Your name
- How long you've worked at Qantas
- What job you do/have done
- Say the line: "We are the spirit of Australia"

Email your video to [media@twu.com.au](mailto:media@twu.com.au) or send it to your organiser by Wednesday.

## 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](http://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

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## 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.