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Lauga pledges to protect workers’ rights

More frontline inspectors will fight wage theft and weed out dodgy labour hire providers doing the wrong thing by Central Queensland workers.

The Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany said the Palaszczuk Government’s pledge to employ eight additional frontline inspectors would move to strengthen workers’ rights and stop wage theft.

Ms Lauga said $6.1 million would be invested over the next four years to boost the Labour Hire Licensing Compliance Unit, allowing it to pursue targeted campaigns in a broader range of sectors and location.

“Queensland’s plan for economic recovery is about creating good secure jobs,” Ms Lauga said.

“The Palaszczuk Labor Government wants Queenslanders in jobs that support them and their families and give them confidence for their future.

“We have led the way in strengthening laws to ensure workers are protected by introducing Australia’s first labour hire licensing laws which have been incredibly successful since 2018.

“We have seen firsthand the good work these inspectors do in ensuring local horticulture workers are protected and that there is a level playing field for all businesses in Keppel and Central Queensland.

“And now we will expand our resources to ensure that a wider section of workers are being protected.

“Labor will always be in the corner of the worker, including mine workers. We always have and always will fight for a fair day’s pay for a fair day’s work.
“That is why we set up the Labour Hire Licensing Compliance Unit with eight frontline inspectors to protect workers and those businesses doing the right thing.

“More than 500 labour hire providers have been weeded out for failing to meet their legal obligations and there have been seven successful prosecutions of labour hire companies and directors through the courts.

“Now, with an additional eight frontline inspectors, we are casting a wider net across new sectors and locations.”

ENDS

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