6 March 2020

Wage theft to become a criminal offence

Workers in Central Queensland who have not been paid, or have been underpaid, will have legal backing to recoup their losses under new legislation.

The Palaszczuk Government will soon introduce legislation to make wage theft a criminal offence.

The Member for Keppel and Assistant Education Minister Brittany Lauga said amendments to the state Criminal Code will be introduced to tackle wage theft head-on, following a Queensland Parliamentary inquiry.

“Our wage theft inquiry found that almost one in four Queensland workers is not receiving the pay they are entitled to,” Ms Lauga said.

“Wage theft is taking around $1.2 billion out of workers’ wages each year and more than $1 billion from workers’ superannuation.

“Enough is enough.”

More on wage theft is available at www.oir.qld.gov.au/industrial-relations/wage-theft

ENDS
Contact John 0400787037