



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **WORKCHOICES AMENDMENTS WILL REDUCE UNNECESSARY COMPLIANCE BURDEN**

**Statement by Heather Ridout  
Chief Executive Australian Industry Group**

“Ai Group is pleased that the Government has addressed some important regulatory issues associated with the implementation of the WorkChoices package which were causing concern for employers and imposing an unnecessary compliance burden.

“Over the past few months Ai Group has been in dialogue with the Government seeking changes to the Workplace Relations Act and Regulations on some key concerns,” Mrs Ridout said.

“Under the announced amendments:

- The hours of work record-keeping requirements have been significantly relaxed as sought by Ai Group;
- Personal/carer’s leave will now be payable at the basic periodic rate of pay – the same as for annual leave - as proposed by Ai Group; and
- Overtime (regular or otherwise) will now be removed from the accrual formula for annual and personal/carer’s leave as proposed by Ai Group.

“It’s likely that the majority of businesses have not been compliant with the WorkChoices legislation given problems which existed in the above areas.

“The announced amendments address in a practical and fair way the problems which Ai Group has raised and the Government’s decision will be widely welcomed,” Mrs Ridout said.

**Further Comment:**

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