



Senator Jacqui Lambie  
Senator for Tasmania

12 August 2015

The Hon. Tony Abbott  
Prime Minister  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister Abbott,

Thank you for your letter dated 12 August 2015 regarding the secret Heydon Report of the Royal Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption.

In the second reading speech of the Building and Construction Industry (Improving Productivity) Bill 2013 and Building and Construction Industry (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2013, I told the Chamber I would not be supporting this legislation under any circumstances.

I have since changed my position. In recent months I have undergone intensive consultation with key stakeholders and community members affected by this legislation and I have come to the decision I can conditionally support the legislation.

I have also written letters to the Royal Commissioner of the Royal Commission into Trade Union Governance and Corruption, John Heydon.

(Please find my latest letter to the Commissioner attached).

In response, Commissioner Heydon todate has refused to share with the Senators all the reports and information on criminal activities and corruption in Australian politics that he has received and/or drafted.

I believe these secret reports hold information vital for making an informed decision on the aforementioned legislation.

The Premiers of Australia do not have the privilege to vote in the Senate, yet they have been provided the opportunity to access these secret reports.

My three conditions are:

1. The government supports my call and takes immediate action to deregister the CFMEU.



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2. The government supports my call to release the Heydon Royal Commission secret corruption report to all Senators and facilitates that release under the usual security provisions used to protect witnesses' identities and physical safety.
3. And finally, the government supports my call for the release of the Hadgkiss secret corruption report to all Senators - and lobbies the Victorian government to allow that release under the usual security provisions used to protect witnesses identities and physical safety.

If the government could comply with these conditions, I would happily co-operate to ensure the above legislation passes the Senate.

You can understand, Prime Minister, why I am uncomfortable supporting the legislation before Commissioner Heydon delivers his final report, without these conditions being met.

This legislation is not without significant ramifications and all Senators voting on it *must* be fully informed.

Senators should be allowed to freely and fairly perform their duties representing their constituents especially when, as Commissioner Heydon stated in a letter to me, there are "grave threats to the power and authority of the Australian state".

I look forward to your favourable response.

Yours faithfully

Senator Jacqui Lambie  
Senator for Tasmania