



Media Release

IR: Pause for thought required

One of Australia's largest national peak family organisations today called upon Federal Parliamentarians to devote increased time for the voices of ordinary Australians, especially the most vulnerable, to be heard on the Federal Government's proposed Industrial Relations measures.

According to Families Australia the enormity of the proposed changes require extensive public consultation and discussion.

'Because the measures are so far-reaching, it is vital that Australians carefully consider the potential impacts, especially for society's most vulnerable, for family wellbeing, and for work and family balance', said Families Australia Chief Executive Officer Brian Babington.

'Ordinary Australians need time to consider and have their say about the planned changes. Feedback is that many families find it a challenge to assess the proposed changes. Getting their perspectives will undoubtedly help get the law right', he said.

'Australia's families are diverse and they have a wide variety of needs. Those needs should be carefully considered before finalising the IR package. Moreover, it is important to canvas the views of Australia's community and family organisations.'

The Federal Government introduced its proposed industrial relations legislation into the Parliament earlier today. It is expected to pass the House of Representatives by the end of next week and be followed by a five day Senate inquiry, sitting in Canberra only.

Families Australia is Australia's peak body national not-for-profit organisation specifically concerned with family-related issues.

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