

# ACTUS WORKPLACE LAWYERS

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## **IR reforms to be introduced in the second half of 2023**

In a [National Press Club Speech](#) on 1 February, Employment and Workplace Relations Minister Tony Burke MP outlined the issues that will be dealt with in workplace relations legislation to be introduced in the second half of 2023.

The issues that the Minister identified were:

- The Government's 'same job, same pay' policy;
- The definition of a 'casual employee';
- Employee-like workers, including those in the gig economy;
- Wage theft;
- Safety principles and minimum standards for long-haul drivers;
- A low-cost jurisdiction at the Fair Work Commission to deal with unfair contract disputes for independent contractors;
- Stronger protections against discrimination; and
- The dangers relating to silica dust.

The Government is currently consulting with industry groups and unions about the above issues.

For any strategic or operational assistance in influencing or preparing for the new laws, please contact **Stephen Smith**, Principal of Actus Workplace Lawyers on 0418 461 183 or Email: [stephen.smith@actuslawyers.com.au](mailto:stephen.smith@actuslawyers.com.au).