

## 90 Days Bill Rallies and Events Send Message to National

*Workers braved the cold in Wellington yesterday to protest National's Get-the-sack-in-90-days employment Bill.*

The rally, organised by the EPMU, attracted over 1,000 workers from several unions.

In Dunedin 80 protesters gathered outside National MP Katherine Rich's office, and there were rallies and leafleting in Nelson, Hamilton and Auckland also.

CTU president Ross Wilson addressed the rally and said that the Bill's sponsor Wayne Mapp was misleading for calling it a 'probationary employment' Bill.

"Genuine probationary employment raises a reasonable expectation of continuing employment," he said. "National's Bill would strip all working New Zealanders of their legal rights for the first 90 days of their new job."

"That is not probation - it is a new second class of disposable worker."

The next stage in the campaign is a rally in Christchurch tomorrow (Saturday), from 12 noon, meeting at Victoria Square, cnr Colombo and Armagh Streets.

Postcards to MPs from several unions are continuing to be sent, with a large stack sent away after yesterday's activities in Hamilton.

The Employment Relations (Probationary Employment) Amendment Bill passed its first

reading in Parliament in March, and is before the Transport and Industrial Relations select committee, which is also hearing evidence on the Bill to end youth rates for 16 and 17 year olds.



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*As National goes on the lookout for things 'cool', the PSA reminds them that fair employment laws are a good start.*

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Labour, the Progressive party and the Greens opposed National's Bill at first reading, but it passed with the support of United Future, New Zealand First and three Maori party MPs.

The CTU will lead off the select committee oral submissions this coming Thursday.

### **Widespread Concern with National's Bill - Survey**

Meanwhile a survey released by the Engineering Printing and Manufacturing Union on the eve of the rally showed that most working New Zealanders think National's Bill will make it easier for bosses to get rid of people at will.

The independent research, carried out by ConsumerLink for the EPMU, polled 500 people.

Of the 284 respondents aged 15+ employed either part-time or fulltime, 81 per cent said that they thought if the bill was passed into law it would make it easier for employers to get rid of people for no good reason.

Sixty-three per cent said it would make life very difficult for people learning a new job, with just 22 per cent saying it would make it easier to find a job.

# CTU Calendar of Events

*Listed as Event, Date/Time, Venue, Contact*

## **Unions Local**

Unions Northland  
Tue July 25, 5pm.  
TUC, 7 First Ave, Whangarei  
gparsloe@seafarers.org.nz

Unions Manawatu  
Fri July 28, 3pm.  
PSA House, 41-47 King St,  
Palmerston North  
john.shennan@psa.org.nz

## **Other Events & Campaigns**

**SuperSizeMyPay.Com - Akld**  
McFight Night – Every Friday  
Night. 5-6.30pm.  
Pt Chev McDonalds, Gt Nth  
Rd, Auckland (09) 845-2132,  
help@unite.org.nz

**Motivate the members -  
Articulate your message!  
Learn the skills at “Talking  
Union”**  
– a Wellington Union Toast-  
masters group  
Meets at the NZCTU twice a  
month  
Contact kimw@nzctu.org.nz

**SuperSizeMyPay.Com -  
Wgtn**  
Fri Aug 4 - Picket, McDonalds  
Manners Mall. 4pm.  
Ph: 385 2529, kathryn@unite.  
org.nz

**Death (and love) in Gaza,  
homage to a young activist,  
based on the life and writings  
of Rachel Corrie and other  
Internationalists.**

BATS Theatre, Wellington,  
July 25 to August 5, Tues to  
Sat, 7.00pm. Bookings 802  
4175

**Working Women’s Resource  
Centre Mid Winter Christ-  
mas get together and dinner.**

Fri July 28, 5.30pm-8pm.  
Trades Hall, 147 Great North  
Road, Akld. \$5.00 per person  
09 379 7906, wwrc@ihug.  
co.nz

**90 Days No Rights Bill -  
Rally**

Weds August 23, 12:30pm  
Aotea Square, Auckland.

## **CTU Meetings, Training**

Youth Union Movement Akld  
Fri July 21, 5.30pm  
Trades Hall, 147 Gt Nth Road  
erinp@nzctu.org.nz

ACC Partnership Programme  
Training For Union Repre-  
sentatives: Stage 1.

Thur 27 July, 9am-4pm.  
Te Wananga O Aotearoa,  
Dinsdale Road, Rotorua.  
thomasw@nzctu.org.nz

Gilda Chacon - visiting trade  
unionist from Havana, Cuba.

*Auckland:*

Mon July 24, 4-7pm  
Trades Hall, 147 Gt Nth Road  
linda.holt@psa.org.nz, 027-  
2713572

*Wellington:*

Thur July 27, 1pm  
CTU, Lv 7, 178 Willis St.

Unions at Work: Cross Union  
Delegate Seminar

Tue Aug 22, 9.00am – 4.30pm  
Invercargill – venue to be  
advised. karen@nzctu.org.nz  
before 1 Aug.

***If you have any information about upcoming CTU events please contact:  
Sam Huggard - (04) 802 3817, email: samh@nzctu.org.nz***