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24 March 2016

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

By E-MAIL: rrat.sen@aph.gov.au

**Re: Senate Inquiry and report in regards to the Transport Security
Amendment (Serious or Organised Crime) Bill 2016 [Provisions]**

The Australian Services Union welcomes the opportunity to participate in the Senate Inquiry into the Transport Security Amendment (Serious or Organised Crime) Bill 2016 [Provisions].

For your consideration please find attached the following two submissions the ASU has made to past government inquiries:

- ASU Submission to *Parliamentary Joint Committee Adequacy of aviation and maritime security measures*, 6 November 2009 [2009 submission]
- ASU Submission to *Fed Govt Dept of Infrastructure & Regional Development - Inquiry into Aviation and Maritime Transport Security Education and Training in Australia*, 30 September 2014 [2014 submission]

Whilst we do not oppose the Bill in its current form we are concerned the Bill fails to address several issues and recommendations we have made in the past, namely:

- The necessity for more detailed and ongoing education and training about border security for employees to help identify suspicious behaviour [2014 submission, para 11a].
- The need for clear communication channels between management and employees to assist employees to report suspicious behaviour [2014 submission, para 11b].
- A need to review the 2 year ASIC Card renewal requirement to ascertain whether it is effective, and whether a longer time period can be safely established [2014 submission, para 26b].
- Our members have advised not all cargo is scanned by x-ray due to staff shortages, time constraints and a lack of experienced cargo handlers [2009 submission, para 27b]. For example recently at Perth Domestic freight the x-ray machine was removed and now security is limited to (very) occasional swabs.

We would be pleased if the Committee would take these issues and recommendations into consideration prior to assent of the Bill.

Yours faithfully

Linda White
ASSISTANT NATIONAL SECRETARY

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