



The Hon Natalie Hutchins MP

Minister for Local Government
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Associate to Vice President Hatcher
Fair Work Commission
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By email: amod@fwc.gov.au

Dear Associate

AM2016/36 BLOOD DONOR LEAVE

I refer to the above application to vary a number of awards to include leave to donate blood.

Blood donation is an important public service. At various times the Red Cross faces critical blood shortages and so everything possible should be done to make it easy for people to donate blood. I note that the average time it takes to donate blood is between one and two hours, not including the time it takes to get to and from a collection centre. It is therefore impractical for many workers to donate blood during work breaks. Donating blood before and after work will also impact on workers who have family responsibilities.

The Victorian Government is, of course, mindful of the potential impact that including a new type of leave could have on businesses. We believe that the application by the union in this case has been developed in a way that seeks to mitigate the impact on businesses.

The Victorian Government asks the Fair Work Commission in considering the union's application to take into account the need to encourage blood donation.

Yours sincerely

HON NATALIE HUTCHINS MP
Minister for Industrial Relations

Date:

6.6.17