

From: Matthew Chesher <matthew.chesher@meaa.org>
Sent: Monday, 29 June 2020 5:05 PM
To: AMOD <AMOD@fwc.gov.au>
Cc: Tanya de Almeida <tanya.dealmeida@meaa.org>; Andrew Crowley <andrew.crowley@meaa.org>; Neill Jones <neill.jones@meaa.org>; Kelly Wood <kelly.wood@meaa.org>; Paul Murphy <paul.murphy@meaa.org>; Paul Davies <paul.davies@meaa.org>; Erin Madeley <erin.madeley@meaa.org>
Subject: Pandemic Leave Provisions

Dear Associate,

MEAA refer to the Fair Work Commission's 23 June 2020 Statement concerning the continuation of Schedule X provisions in modern awards that provide for:

- an entitlement to unpaid 'pandemic leave'; and
- the flexibility to take twice as much annual leave at half pay

MEAA respectfully request that these provisions continue in force for at least a further three months for the following awards:

Broadcasting, Recorded Entertainment and Cinemas Award 2010
Journalists Published Media Award 2010
Live Performance Award 2010

MEAA regret that we have come late to the Commission's 23 June Statement. In consequence, we have been unable to discuss a position to extend these provisions (or otherwise) with employer representatives.

In the time available, MEAA can only seek the Commission's indulgence to continue Schedule X provisions.

The live performance, recorded entertainment and media sectors have been significantly impacted by COVID-19. At the time of this email, live performance and film/television production in Australia remains at a standstill.

The media sector, especially in regional and remote areas, is largely shuttered, with up to two thousand employees remaining stood down, in what is on track to be the greatest single year of disruption to the media sector since the Global Financial Crisis.

In these circumstances, MEAA is not confident that the utility of Schedule X has in any way been exhausted in the sectors covered by the above awards.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Chesher

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