



MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Mines and Metals Association

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Time for Senate to pass Safe Work legislation

The *Safe Work Australia Bill 2008* will again be subject to Senate parliamentary review this week.

As with industrial relations legislation, removing OHS duplication and overlap and various inconsistencies between states remains vitally important.

'Harmonisation of national OHS legislation will improve OHS outcomes in Australia, reduce the regulatory burden for business and enhance Australia's productivity performance', Mr Knott Chief Executive of the Australian Mines and Metals Association (AMMA) said today.

AMMA calls on the Senate to pass by the *Safe Work Bill 2008* without further delay.

AMMA has been a strong advocate for one set of national IR and OHS laws for decades now.

'Having consistent laws via simple, understandable and balanced national OHS legislation would reduce unnecessary business compliance costs and complexities. This is more important than ever given the global financial crisis and other associated challenges with running businesses in Australia today', he said.

'While AMMA supported a number of the amendments moved by the Senate relating to representation on Safe Work Australia, the representation issue should not of itself be allowed to stifle progress towards much needed uniform OHS legislation in this country', Mr Knott said.

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