



Huw Irranca-Davies MS
Chair
Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee
Senedd Cymru

SeneddLJC@senedd.wales

8 September 2022

Dear Chair

Trade Union (Wales) Act 2017

Thank you for your letter dated 21 July enclosing your letter to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

The Conduct of Employment Agencies and Employment Businesses (Amendment) Regulations 2022 will have no direct impact on the Trade Union (Wales) Act 2017. However, as you are aware, the Explanatory Memorandum restates the UK Government's longstanding hostile position in relation to the Trade Union (Wales) Act 2017 and its abhorrent aspiration to remove the Act "when parliamentary time allows".

We have made it clear to the UK Government that such a move would be utterly unacceptable, and widely interpreted in Wales as fundamentally disrespectful both to devolution and to legislation passed by the Senedd Cymru. We will continue to use the opportunities presented through the Inter-Governmental Relations arrangements, including at the Inter-Ministerial Standing Committee meetings, to raise this and other issues.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Mark.Drakeford@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Mark.Drakeford@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

We believe imposing tighter restrictions on trade unions is highly regressive and will do nothing to enrich the lives of working people or to improve the overall industrial relations environment. In Wales, we work in social partnership and in a spirit of collaboration and mutual respect – we will continue to work in this way.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Drakeford". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

MARK DRAKEFORD