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MEDIA RELEASE

VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT'S CORRUPT MOVE TO SHUT DOWN RED UNION

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Just months out from the Victorian state election, Labor Premier Ben Carroll has sensationally moved to shut down unions which refuse to fund Labor political campaigning.

The government announced it has introduced legislation, the *Associations Incorporation Reform Amendment Bill 2026*, which will outlaw the Red Union from operating in the state of Victoria.

The Red Union has risen to prominence in recent years, and now represents tens of thousands of frontline workers across the country – offering an apolitical and affordable alternative to Labor Party-aligned unions.

Red Union Spokesman and the National Secretary of the TPAA, Edward Schuller, said the move is a blatant attack on freedom of association and will be fought by hundreds of thousands of workers across the state.

“They are doing this for one reason: we don’t fund the Labor Party. That’s why Premier Carroll and his Government want to shut us down.”

“The Red Union provides a better, more affordable and more responsive service to our members, and that’s hurting the Labor Party’s unions significantly. Workers are leaving them in droves to join the Red Union.”

“The Labor Party and Victorian Trades Hall know their monopoly on the working class is slipping away, so they have to resort to this. They can’t let workers have the freedom to choose their union, because they are increasingly choosing us. Nurses, teachers, doctors and police officers are all voting with their feet.”

In their latest media release, the Government claims the Red Union is ‘fake’ and a ‘scam’, despite the fact their associations are currently negotiating several enterprise agreements, including the ongoing teachers’ agreements – led by the Teachers Professional Association of Australia (TPAA).

“This Soviet-style move to ban unions the government doesn’t approve of is completely antithetical to our right to freely associate as Australians. This Labor Government is banning workers from organising to advocate for their industrial interests - they can no longer claim to represent the working class.”

“This is also a mini omnibus bill which is designed to wedge its opponents by adding in a component to supposedly address hate groups. The government is lumping frontline workers in with terrorists.”

“Our discussions with the Opposition and the crossbench indicate strongly that this will be defeated. They aren’t falling for Labor’s pathetic political tactics. They see this bill for what it is - an attack on workers.”

“We will fight like hell to restore workers’ rights and kill this bill.”

The bill is set to be debated in the Victorian Parliament early next week.

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