Ref: ML; ml  
2 November, 2019

Christmas Eve Part-Day Public Holiday Consultation  
Office of Industrial Relations  
GPO Box 69  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

By email: publichol@oir.qld.gov.au

To whom it may concern,

United Voice welcomes the opportunity to comment on the creation of a new part day public holiday on Christmas Eve.

United Voice represents workers across the public and private sectors who deliver essential services across the state no matter what day of the year.

United Voice supports the creation of a part-day public holiday on Christmas Eve. We particularly note that this change has no impact on the vast majority of workers, and so the burden of working Christmas Eve is limited to a few, and that this proposal provides significant benefits to those workers.

The creation of a part-day public holiday will have two primary benefits for our members – the ability to reasonably refuse work on the night before Christmas, and for those that choose to work, appropriate compensation in return for electing to work what most Queenslanders would agree are unsociable hours.

Aside from the importance of Christmas within the Christian community, Christmas is undoubtedly a widely celebrated secular holiday, of which Christmas Eve is an important part.

Providing choice to workers and appropriate compensation for those that elect to work seems like an appropriate response by Government to shifts towards a 24/7 economy, we look forward to the introduction of this sensible and well-founded reform.

Yours sincerely

Gary Bullock  
Branch Secretary