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Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water

Labor-Green stunts hurting Tasmanian workers

The Labor-Greens stunt-show in parliament over the past two days has demonstrated nothing but contempt for Tasmanian workers.

Following their deliberate filibustering nine-hour debate last night, we are now urgently moving to ensure the Workplace Amendment Bill 2019 is put to a vote before we rise for Summer recess.

It is clear Labor and the Greens are in lockstep against protecting Tasmanian jobs and that they have no material amendments to provide, with deliberate distraction and off-topic, time-wasting exploits their only tactic.

Not only has Tasmanian Labor abandoned workers by partnering with the Greens to oppose our workplace protection laws, they have abandoned the values of their own party.

Labor governments across the country have backed similar legislation to protect workers' right to work without being threatened or impeded.

Only the Tasmanian Labor party are opposing these laws.

In response to repeated invasions of farms and other businesses:

- The Queensland Labor Government introduced legislation to double penalties for unlawful trespass on farm land;
- Federal Labor provided bipartisan support for the Morrison Government's tough new Commonwealth laws;
- The Labor-dominated Victorian Parliament is investigating the impact of animal rights activism on agriculture; and
- The Western Australian Labor Government is introducing a new offence of aggravated trespass with maximum penalties of a \$24,000 fine and imprisonment for two years – double the existing penalties.

The Hodgman majority Liberal Government supports the rights for peaceful protest and freedom of speech, but is committed to protecting all Tasmanians' right to work without being prevented from doing so - that's what our Workplaces Amendment Bill is really about.