Shahar Helel P O Box 216 INNALOO WA 6918

Friday 23 May 2008

Inquiry into Paid Maternity, Paternity and Parental Leave Productivity Commission GPO Box 1428 CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

To the Productivity Commission,

Maternity and Other Long Term Leave Accrual Across the Workforce as a Solution

This is a great idea for equalising the future of the Australian Workforce and could certainly take a lot of pressure off employers in selecting the best employee for the job, without having to be concerned over an employees stage of life or family development.

Australian awards could be increased to allow for six weeks paid annual leave, with two of these weeks for accrual of up to a single period not exceeding twelve weeks. This increase and flexibility in annual leave could be used to replace maternity and prolonged medical leave. It would be good for the old, the young, those in further education and the disabled.

This kind of equality means that employees will not have to give up the right to a family and personal commitments and employers will not be under so much pressure when meeting equal opportunity requirements.

Yours sincerely,

Shahar Helel