



Delegates' stump speech

Your election campaign messaging toolkit

Manufacturing Jobs for Australia

We have a federal election sometime between March and May this year. This is a moment for the AMWU to keep pressure on the government to deliver secure and unionised manufacturing jobs right now.

We want our members at the centre and our delegates leading – we've done a bit of the work for you.

1. Read over the attached stump speech and either put it in your own words or take it as written
2. Practice the speech and think about how you will run the meeting
3. Call a union meeting and educate our members on our wins and the union's key priorities
4. Move the resolution, and seek support and endorsement
5. Report back to your union organiser if you need any assistance



Introduction

I would like to start by welcoming everyone to our union meeting. The AMWU is the union that represents workers across our industry, and we aim on our site to be 100% union.

If you're not a member of the AMWU, I encourage you to join and be part of a strong rank-and-file union that wins for its members.

Come and see me after the meeting and I can show you how to join.

We have called a meeting today at **[name of workplace/ department]** so that I can communicate to you the same message that AMWU workplaces across the country are also hearing.

Our union has been working hard over the last couple of years to deliver an industrial, political, and social agenda that furthers the interests of workers.

This agenda has been led by rank-and-file members like us. We have won new laws, new rights, and new conditions.

With the momentum that we have, it is important that the union continues to push for better outcomes that deliver for us here on the job and makes our lives better overall. We haven't finished winning for our members.

Primary message

I will mention a few of the wins that our union has achieved through organising and activism on the job, through the decision-making forums of the union, and by rank-and-file members like us putting pressure on Labor politicians to deliver for us.

There is a federal election happening in just a few months' time, and it's only right that we want and expect a government that is going to be acting in our interests.

Our union engages with the Labor Party for one primary reason – to get better outcomes for our members.

Our union cannot stop pushing to make things better and we must not rest on our laurels.

There is more we need to win. As members, we have a say in what that agenda will be for the next couple of years.

Information

We've won changes that give us more power for workers and make it easier for union delegates to do our job.

We've won new laws such as legislation that commits almost \$38 billion to grow and support local manufacturing jobs, industrial manslaughter laws, and criminalising wage theft.

We've won new rights for workers such as new delegates rights, the rights for casuals to convert to permanent, and multi-employer bargaining.

We've won new conditions that all workers now have such as 'same job, same pay', 10 days of paid family and domestic violence leave, and limits on fixed term contracts. These are just some of the wins that we were able to achieve through our union.

But the job isn't finished. There is more work that we need to do, and our union needs to do, for us to be satisfied that this government is living up to the ambition that we have for what a good Labor government would deliver for us, as workers. At a minimum, we expect this government to have a plan for how they're going to fix the cost-of-living crisis that we are struggling with every single day when we pay our bills.

We want leadership addressing the housing crisis so that every worker can afford to live in a place where they feel safe and secure, and to have a place to call home. And we expect Labor to be delivering on the ground the manufacturing jobs that they promised us during the last election campaign. It's not enough that politicians give speeches. We expect them to hear what workers have to say, and then be working tirelessly to deliver it – so that we all get a benefit from Labor being in government, not just the politicians.

Request

So I want to move a resolution today and get your support for it.

Resolution

This meeting of AMWU members at [insert workplace] notes the report from our delegates on the wins to the laws, to our rights, and to our working conditions that we have achieved as union members. While these wins are significant, and should be celebrated, there is more work to be done.

We endorse the following priorities of the union in support of the national agenda:

- *Implement a Secure Australian Jobs Code that includes a requirement for union agreements*
- *Prescribe procurement policies that maximise local content requirements through the whole supply chain*
- *Create a tripartite Manufacturing Competitiveness Council*
- *Provide a single entry point for accessing capital investment to get projects off the ground*
- *Invest in training centres of excellence and deliver nationally accredited, portable qualifications for manufacturing workers*
- *Keep apprentices on the tools and enforce minimum ratios of apprentices to tradespeople on publicly funded projects*

We call upon the AMWU at our National Delegates' Training Days to provide the opportunity for rank-and-file delegates to develop a plan to implement and bed down the new laws, new rights, and new conditions we have won for workers across our industries.

Further, we call upon the union to require any political candidate who seeks our support to sign a commitment that they support our agenda, including that they will support and vote for our asks in all forums.

1. I move the resolution.

- Can I get a seconder for the resolution?
- Are there any speakers?

2. I'll put the resolution to a vote.

- All those in favour?
- All those against?

3. I declare the resolution carried.

Exit

I want to thank all the union members who came along to the meeting today. The most important part in being part of the union is participating in meetings just like this. This is workplace democracy. We get to participate, we get to listen to each other, and we get to make decisions that are in our collective interests.

More importantly, we can get further involved in these campaigns. If you're not a member, the best time to join is today. Come and see me now, and I'll help you to sign up. We will keep you updated and will convene further meetings to discuss how this is progressing.

Thank you. Meeting closed.