

# Don't Be Bullied by your Job Agent!

As a Newstart recipient, you have rights.

However, Employment Agencies avoid informing you of these rights so they can force you to do **what makes them money**.

For this reason, it's important to get informed about your rights so you can **protect yourself** against money-hungry Employment Agencies.

**The Australian Unemployed Workers' Union** is here to help.

If your concerns are not addressed on this leaflet, call our National Advocacy Hotline on (03) 8394 5266 for free advice.

**Get Informed. Get Empowered. Join the AUWU**

*Please Note: If you would like to lodge an official complaint about your provider call the Department of Employment on 1800 805 260*



Australian  
Unemployed  
Workers'  
Union

## **BEING FORCED ONTO WORK FOR THE DOLE?**

If you do not want to Work for the Dole, inform your job agent that you would prefer to do another approved activity. These activities include voluntary work, part-time study or training. Additionally, if you earn an income that reduces your Newstart payment, by law you are ineligible for Work for the Dole

## **BEING THREATENED WITH A PENALTY?**

If you are being threatened with a penalty, you should always ask your job agent to provide official government documentation justifying this.

## **BEING PRESSURED TO SIGN A JOB PLAN?**

Under the law, you are not required to sign your job plan immediately. By law you can only be penalized after your second refusal to sign. This gives you the right to take your plan home and look it over carefully

## **WANT TO CHANGE EMPLOYMENT PROVIDERS?**

There are a number of situations where you can change Providers. For example if you change address, have a relationship breakdown with your agent, or believe you can be better serviced elsewhere, by law you can request to change providers. Ask us how!

**Contact**

*advocacy@unemployedworkersunion.com.au*  
*facebook/unemployedworkersunion*  
*(03) 8394 5266*