

ACTU EXECUTIVE

WEDNESDAY 29TH JULY, 2020

RESOLUTION

COVID19 WA Border Restrictions impact on Maritime and Resource workers

The ACTU acknowledges the significant impact current WA border closures and restrictions are having on Maritime and Resource workers, both onshore and offshore.

Workers are unable to access Western Australia without exemptions, and the new exemption criteria in WA makes that process almost impossible to transit between work and home.

The ACTU recognises that quarantine, isolation, and job precariousness is having a harmful effect on Maritime and Resource Industry workers' mental and physical health. As these are dangerous industries, workers must maintain best practice fatigue management and the disturbance to regular work processes and the welfare of workers in the resource industry makes that challenging.

The inflexibility in the exemption framework for accessing worksites has the real potential to shut down parts of the maritime and onshore and offshore resources industry. Western Australia and Federal governments must recognise that the maritime and resource industries are of national significance and that skilled maritime and resource workers across Australia are essential to trade and economic sustainability of Western Australia.

The ACTU calls for the creation of exemption and travel corridors that ensures the health and safety of workers and contains less severe restrictions to facilitate the movement of workers in these industries.

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