



# Media Release

## Senator Mathias Cormann *Shadow Minister for Employment Participation, Apprenticeships and Training*

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### **Award modernisation discourages youth employment!**

The Rudd Labor Government doesn't think that two hours work for a young person is worth bothering about, Shadow Minister for Employment Participation, Apprenticeships and Training Mathias Cormann said today.

"Reports in the media confirm that young people who work less than three hours a day in after-school jobs might face the sack due to Award Modernisation," Senator Cormann said

"Under these new laws any young person working in an after-school job must work a minimum of three hours a day.

"These young people are in school or training and they cannot all cope with that many hours of work after a day's study.

"This is a terrible law, considering these after school jobs are where young people gain their first bit of work experience and training.

"Just this week the government promised \$43.3 million to keep the older Australians in the work force.

"Now we have the ludicrous situation where young people want to work but the government through the Modern Awards is saying they can't work two hours a day.

"Award Modernisation is affecting people all over the country, in all sectors and is causing major industrial disputes.

"Now we see these archaic laws are threatening the jobs and future employment of vulnerable young job seekers," Senator Cormann said

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