



# AUSTRALIAN HOTELS ASSOCIATION

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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# Government intervention needed to resolve damaging Qantas dispute

The Australian Hotels Association says the ongoing dispute is impacting on the broader tourism and hospitality industry and the Government must exercise its powers under the Fair Work Act to intervene.

“This dispute is showing no signs of ending. We have seen threats made about disruptions to Christmas holiday travel, and a warning that industrial action could continue for another 18 months”, said AHA National CEO Des Crowe.

“The prospect of cancelled flights and lengthy airport delays is having an impact on people’s willingness to travel. The longer this action continues, the more people are going to put off holidays or business travel, and the more potential international visitors will look at other destinations besides Australia.

“Hotels, and indeed other sectors of the tourism industry, are the collateral damage in this dispute. Industrial action does not only affect Qantas but the many thousands of smaller businesses who rely on travel and tourist spending.

“Already our members are feeling the impact from the cuts to Qantas services with many enduring significant drops in room occupancy. With the Melbourne Cup Carnival beginning next week, time has run out for the parties to reach agreement. It would be regrettable if hotels were forced to stand down workers as a result of continued disruption to air travel.

“It is in the national economic interest for the Government to intervene using its powers under the Fair Work Act to prevent further damage being done to the tourism industry.”

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