## Our rights are under attack...

The Conservative Government are undertaking the biggest attack on working people's rights in over 100 years—taking our rights back to the Victorian era.

The 2015 Trade Union Bill, currently going through the House of Lords, seeks to fundamentally change the ability of workers and their unions to shape their workplace and secure real and meaningful improvements in their pay and conditions of employment.

## Before a strike is lawful, the government intends to:-

Set a 50% turnout threshold on all industrial action ballots, including ballot for action short of a strike...

Set a further 40% 'yes vote' turnout threshold for many public sector workers (effectively setting an 80% 'yes' vote threshold to make the strike lawful)...

## The Trade Union Bill also includes:-

Unreasonable timelines for unions to give notice of industrial action...

Strict limits on how long a ballot mandate can remain in place...

The use of agency workers to replace striking workers...



Published by: CWU Midlands Region—December 2015

The Trade Union Bill is being peddled by a government of which half its Cabinet Ministers would not have been elected to Parliament if the same election rules for unions had been applied to them in last May's general election.

Trade Unions benefit all workers, not just union members. Reductions in working hours, holiday pay entitlement, equal pay for women and much more were achieved for all workers because of the actions of trade unions.

Even the International Monetary Fund (IMF)—no champions of unions—has conceded that the decline in trade union influence has resulted in reduced living standards for middle and low income workers.

For more information on the Trade Union Bill and what its about and means for you, visit: http://www.tuc.org.uk/tubill



The absence of the 'Right to Strike' leaves you with the right to beg...