

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA supports <i>Insourcing Bill</i> to end outsourcing of essential government services
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) welcomes and supports the *Insourcing Bill*, a Private Member's Bill currently before Parliament, which seeks to end outsourcing of essential government services and restore the capacity, integrity, and accountability of the state.

The *Bill* compels organs of state to directly employ workers who provide regularly required services such as security, cleaning, gardening, maintenance, catering, IT, administration, and certain health-related functions, rather than outsourcing them to private contractors. Where direct employment is not feasible, state entities would have to obtain formal exemptions based on clearly defined criteria. The PSA supports this approach as outsourcing has historically undermined labour rights and led to deteriorating conditions for thousands of workers across the public sector. Tender-driven outsourcing has become a breeding ground for corruption, inflated pricing, and non-delivery of services, weakening the state's ability to fulfil its constitutional mandate.

Insourcing is aligned with long-standing resolutions of governing parties to rebuild the state's internal capacity and eliminate exploitative contracting practices. Subsequently, the *Bill* addresses administrative and service-delivery failures stemming from excessive outsourcing and weak procurement oversight. South Africa's annual public procurement budget of R1 trillion continues to attract criminal and corrupt elements, exploiting loopholes in supply-chain processes, especially in municipalities and state-owned enterprises. This has contributed significantly to state capture, service-delivery failures, and the hollowing out of public institutions. The *Bill* presents a clear opportunity to save scarce public resources currently lost to inflated tenders and repeated contracting failures, improve service delivery, particularly in health, safety, and other vital public sectors affected by under capacity and corruption. It will end the exploitation of outsourced workers who are denied stable employment, benefits, and career development opportunities. Trust in the public service will be rebuilt by ensuring that essential services are delivered by accountable, properly employed personnel.

The *Insourcing Bill* marks a turning point for South Africa's public administration. It provides a concrete, legislative mechanism to reverse decades of corrosive outsourcing practices, restore dignity to workers, and ensure that the state can effectively serve the people.

The PSA urges all parties represented in Parliament to prioritise this legislation and expedite its passage. The PSA further calls on the Government of National Unity and the Presidency to commit to signing the *Bill* into law once passed, as it aligns with national goals to strengthen service delivery, protect vulnerable workers, and rebuild ethical governance across the public sector.

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