Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 1

Submitted by: Consultative Committee for Work-related Fatalities and Serious Incidents

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Consultative Committee

for Work-Related Fatalities and Serious Incidents

Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation and other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024 Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee eetsc@parliament.gld.gov.au

10 May 2024

To the Education, Employment, Training and Skills Committee,

I am the Chair of the Consultative Committee for Work-Related Fatalities and Serious Incidents (also known as the Affected Persons Committee(Committee)) established under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*. More information about the committee is available here:

<u>Consultative Committee for Work-related Fatalities and Serious Incidents members | WorkSafe.qld.gov.au</u>.

The committee provides advice and recommendations to Minister Grace about the information and support needs of people impacted by work-related deaths, serious incidents, and illness. We are passionate about assisting other families going through the very difficult days, months, and years following the death of a family member or a family member sustaining a serious injury or illness.

I am writing this submission on behalf of the committee on the Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation and other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024 (Bill). As the committee chair, I firmly believe that the proposed amendments outlined in the Bill are integral to advancing the scheme for employees, and our committee fully supports its objectives.

We strongly support the following amendments and inclusion of the Bill:

- Clause 29, insertion of section 46B, Employer must give worker information statement.
 Our committee fully endorse this inclusion as we recognise that workers' are not au fait with their compensation and rehabilitation rights within the workplace this section will ensure workers are provided information to make an informed decision.
- Clause 34, new section 132AA, Insurer must give worker and employer information statement. Our committee fully endorse this inclusion as we recognise that workers' are not au fait with their compensation and rehabilitation rights within the workplace this section will ensure workers are provided information to make an informed decision.
- Clause 41, insertion of new ss 221(2) that requires an insurer to ensure a RRTW plan is in place within 10 business days. Our committee strongly endorses this inclusion for injured workers.
- Clause 46, new section 232AC, Minimising risk of psychological harm. Our committee strongly endorses this inclusion in advancing the wellbeing needs of the worker.

In summary, as a representative committee of affected families and seriously injured workers, our role in endorsing this amendment bill and the proposed changes aligns with our collective belief that this is an important step forward for Queensland workers.

If you have any queries in relation to this request, please do not hesitate to contact myself on , Secretariat Virginia Richardson or .

Yours faithfully,



This letter is sent on behalf of the Consultative Committee for Work-related Fatalities and Serious Incidents, by its secretariat in the Office of Industrial Relations. Any opinion expressed in this letter are those of the committee and do not represent the views of the Office of Industrial Relations or the State of Queensland. No liability for the contents of this letter is accepted.