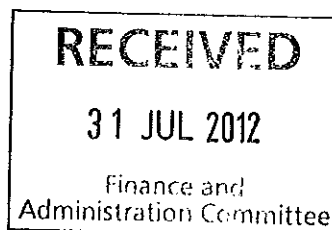


23 July 2012

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The Research Director
Finance and Administration Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000



Dear Sir

REVIEW OF THE QUEENSLAND WORKERS COMPENSATION SCHEME

I am writing with respect to the proposed review of the Queensland Workers Compensation Scheme. I suffered a psychological injury in the course of my employment. As a result of that injury I have been permanently precluded from returning to my former employment.

Workcover Queensland assessed my injury and I was offered a small amount of lump sum compensation. The amount of compensation I was offered was woefully inadequate considering I had an ongoing need for psychological treatment and had been unable to return to my employment.

Accordingly I obtained some advices and pursued a negligence claim against my employer. I think it is important to point out that my injury was caused due to the negligence of my employer and the lack of proper training and instruction.

As a result of successfully bringing that common law claim I received an amount of lump sum damages that has allowed me to fund ongoing psychiatric treatment and medication. The money will also allow me to undertake occupational retraining so I can re-enter the workforce at some stage in the future.

I understand one of the proposals being put to the government is to restrict access to injured workers in accessing common law damages. I would strongly submit that the government not change the current system that is in place. I have been advised that it is one of the best working systems in Australia and that the legislation under which Workcover operates is supposed to benefit both injured workers as well as employers.

I think by restricting access to damages injured workers such as myself would be severely disadvantaged and I would have an ongoing requirement to either continue with workers compensation payments or Centrelink benefits.

Yours Faithfully


Ann Bassett

Cc: Mr Bruce Young
Member for Keppel
PO Box 1611
Yeppoon Qld 470