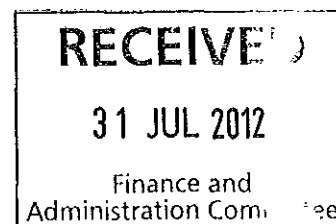


23 July 2012

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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**

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I have been advised that the Queensland Government is conducting a review of the workers compensation process and accessing common law damages.

I sustained an injury in the course of my employment resulting in chronic pain and the need for surgery. I applied for workers compensation benefits and once the Workcover doctor determined my injury was stable I was offered a lump sum payment.

That lump sum payment was based upon a work related impairment of 5%.

The injury resulted in a requirement for surgery and an inability to maintain my employment. My employment was terminated as a result of my injury.

I obtained legal advice and successfully brought a claim for common law damages against my employer. It was clear that my injury was sustained as a result of the negligence of my employer in not providing a safe system of work.

The amount of common law damages I have recovered have allowed me to seek ongoing treatment including the possibility of surgery and hopefully allow me to retrain in to some alternative lighter employment.

I understand one of the changes proposed to be considered by the committee is restricting an injured workers right to commence a negligence claim. If I had no entitlement for a negligence claim I would have had to either continue receiving workers compensation benefits until normal retirement age or access Centrelink payments.

It occurs to me that if there is a restriction on injured workers bringing common law actions there will be no incentive by the employer to maintain safe systems of work. That would clearly prejudice injured workers in Queensland.

Accordingly it is my submission that the committee do not alter the current workers compensation scheme.

Yours Faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Taylor', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Neil Taylor

Cc: Mr Roberto Cavallucci  
Member for Brisbane Central  
Unit 2, Hill House  
541 Boundary Street (Cnr Bradley Street)  
Spring Hill Qld 4000