



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

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Dear Ms Jeffrey

**RE: Inquiry into Queensland's Workers Compensation Scheme**

The Printing Industries Association of Australia is the peak industry body for the printing and graphic arts industry, representing some 1500 businesses and nearly 30,000 employees nationally and nearly 300 Queensland business employing 6000 Queenslanders. The Association is an independent, member-based organisation, representing large, medium and small businesses. Membership covers all imaging and communication sectors, including print, prepress and design, publishing, distribution, software and hardware, paper and paper board, print consumables, packaging and flexible packaging, paper converting, binding and finishing, communication and media services

The Association recognises the vital role that a competitive business operating environment plays in building and sustaining the Queensland economy. Creating a strong business operating environment that allows local industries to compete globally is pivotal to the economic wellbeing of Queensland. Queensland's workers' compensation premiums are a central element in our State's efforts to keep our business operating environment competitive.

The Printing Industries Association of Australia supports the following recommendations put forward by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland (CCIQ):

- The State Government commit to the introduction of a Whole Person Impairment (WPI) threshold to accessing common law damages and a working party be established to determine the appropriate threshold level (0-15 per cent)
- Increased emphasis on injury prevention and harm-minimisation strategies in the workplace
- Recognition of efforts and investment by employers in workplace health and safety and injury prevention through lower WorkCover premiums
- Increased emphasis on worker accountability
- Specialist medical advice and documentation to be sought in relation to psychological 'stress' claims.
- Strengthening the requirements to prove an injury occurred in the workplace

Printing Industries  
Association of  
Australia

**QUEENSLAND REGION**

2/42 Finsbury St

Newmarket

QLD 4051

PO Box 229

Kelvin Grove BC

QLD 4059

Telephone

07 3356 0022

Fax

07 3356 0027

E-Mail

qld@printnet.com.au



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- Exclusion of the journey to and from work in claims for compensation
- Narrowing the definition of workplace 'injury' so that employment is 'the significant contributing factor' to the injury.

The Printing Industries Association of Australia strongly recommends the adoption of these recommendations as a further improvement to Queensland's workers compensation scheme. For information on any of these recommendations, please refer to CCIQ's submission to the Committee.

Yours sincerely



Neal McLary  
General Manager - Research and Development