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Finance and Administration Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Wendel James Moloney.

I am writing to you as my submission to the inquiry by the Finance and Administration Committee into the Workers' Compensation Scheme in Queensland. Of particular concern to me is employees' access to claims for common law compensation when it can be demonstrated that the work related injury is as a result of the employer's negligence.

I suffered a work related injury in July of 2007. I applied for, and was successful in having my claim for Workers Compensation accepted. I continued to receive workers compensation under the statutory scheme until such time as my condition was considered to be "stable and stationary".

As my work related injury was caused by what was proven to be negligence on behalf of my employer I was able to file a claim for common law compensation as well. This ensured that I was properly compensated, not only for the immediate losses that I incurred, but also for future losses. This has meant that my family and I were not as financially disadvantaged as a result of my injury, as we otherwise would have been.

My injury resulted in me never being able to return to my trade. Over the course of approximately 2 and a half years that my case was running, I was unable to earn any overtime or allowances that go with the working away travel that my position required.

I was lucky that I lived and worked in Queensland as this meant that I was able to claim common law compensation against my employer and this has gone someway into protecting me and my family from the financial hardship that I would have suffered had that not been the case.

I urge the committee to ensure that all employees in Queensland continue to have access to common low compensation in circumstances where it can be shown that the workplace accident is as a result of the negligence of the employer.

Yours faithfully,

Wendel Moloney

3rd September 2012