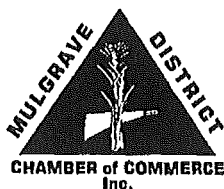
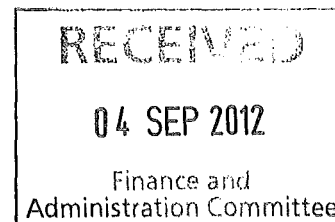


Mulgrave & District Chamber of Commerce Inc.



President: Brett Moller
 Past President: Daryl Cutuli
 Secretary: Paul Campbell
 Treasurer: Carol Coutts

PO Box 200
 GORDONVALE Q 4865



3 September 2012

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

Dear Ms Jeffrey

RE: INQUIRY INTO QUEENSLAND'S WORKERS COMPENSATION SCHEME

The Mulgrave District Chamber of Commerce Inc ('the Chamber') represents local businesses and industries in the Gordonvale region.


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

The Chamber 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 faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brett Moller', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brett Moller
President, Mulgrave District Chamber of Commerce Inc