

UNITED VOICE QLD

ABN: 69 844 574 256

Gary Bullock Branch Secretary

27 Peel Street
South Brisbane
PO Box 3948
South Brisbane BC 4101

www.unitedvoice.org.au
www.memberassist.org.au

Rev Swan Branch President

Tel. (07) 3291 4600

Fax (07) 3291 4699

Toll free 1800 065 885
Award, EBA & general enquiries



Ref: KB:mf
22 March 2013

Mr Michael Crandon MP
Chair
Finance and Administration Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Via email: fac@parliament.qld.gov.au

231



Dear Mr Crandon,

Re: Inquiry into the operation of Queensland's workers compensation scheme

United Voice, Industrial Union of Employees, Queensland (United Voice), refers to your correspondence dated 27 February 2013 and makes this submission to the Finance and Administration Committee (FAC) in response to the proposal put forward by Q-COMP titled *Reducing red tape for Employers*.

United Voice strongly supports and endorses the recommendations that are put forward for submission by the Queensland Council of Unions (QCU).

We wish to reiterate the following key points:

- The existing Queensland scheme encourages early reporting of injuries in order for early intervention to be commenced in a timely manner;
- There are a number of risks in placing the onus on the employer to maintain a register (or recording of injuries) rather than having a centralised model.
- Risks include poor record keeping procedures; delays in payments; and breaches of privacy; additional record keeping costs for employers.
- Increased compliance requirements for the state to ensure employers meet obligations.
- WorkCover should continue to determine the validity of a claim and pay appropriate payments (not the employer), which ensure employees are not placed at disadvantage from an employer who is not aware of following proper processes.

Please contact Senior Industrial Officer, Ms Kylie Badke on (07) 3291 4619 should you want to discuss any aspect of this submission further. All correspondence should be addressed to PO Box 3948, South Brisbane BC, Qld, 4101.

Yours Sincerely,

Gary Bullock
Branch Secretary