

## Finance and Administration Committee

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 31 July 2015 12:20 PM  
**To:** Finance and Administration Committee  
**Subject:** Rural fire fighters

Good afternoon, i am writing on behalf of my brigade (gemfields rural) and we are very disappointed in the article that was in our local paper (CQ News) regarding rural volunteers need to attend 150 fires over a 5 year period to receive workers comp. Many brigades would not attend that many fires in that time and we all feel that we should be covered from day one. We do not have the protection our paid counter parts have (like BA or respirators that have filtered canisters attached) we only have dust masks which don't filter out anything which i have no doubt will only cause problems down the track medically. We all have jobs, businesses and lively hoods we leave if we get a callout because we care for our community, we don't do it for glory or recognition even though we know that we will be paying the price in lost wages, income etc. Why should we be discriminated against because we don't get paid for caring for our community, if it was not for all the volunteers that cover about 95% of this state, Qld would be a black charred mess so please have some respect for us as we are working for you.

Yours truly

Terrie Hetherington Secretary, fire fighter and fire warden.