

31 July, 2015

Research Director

Finance and Administration Committee

Parliament House

George Street

BRISBANE

fac@parliament.qld.gov.au

The ALP has introduced a bill with a clause that will discriminate against Rural Volunteer Firefighters.

While paid firies will receive lifetime workers compensation coverage for cancer and will have to attend **only one** fire to be eligible, Rural Volunteers will have to attend **150** fires in five years to be eligible and will have only a ten year window in which they can apply for compensation – a statute of limitation?

This is blatant discrimination against Queensland's 36,000 Volunteer Firefighters.

A fire is a fire and does not discriminate. Any firefighter can be affected and end up with cancer.

Paid Staff, whether Auxiliary or fulltime firefighters have access to **negative pressure face masks.-PPE** (a Work Place, Health & Safety directive).

Rural Fire Volunteers have to make do with a P2 dust mask.(Is this because we as volunteers are more dispensable??)

Why is this PPE available to Urban Staff but not Rural Fire Service Volunteers?

Not only is ALP discriminating, this is a downright insult to hardworking Volunteers, who give up their time, leaving their properties/ jobs to serve Emergency Response Teams in their area.

Cameron Millar

Moodewarra Rural Fire Brigade

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]