

From: [Keith and Karen Ross](#)
To: [Finance and Administration Committee](#)
Subject: Presumptive Legislation Bill, Fire-fighters Cancer
Date: Monday, 3 August 2015 10:28:49 PM

Dear Sir, Madam,

I am writing to you as a member of the Rural Fire Service.

I have been in the QLD Rural Fire Service for five years.

I cannot believe that someone could come up with a figure of 150 fires being attended by a Rural Fire Fighter before he or she is covered by the Presumptive Legislation !!

Where did the figure of 150 fires come from?

Why are Urban and Auxiliary Fire Fighters covered after one fire , and Rural Fire fighters not?

A fire-fighter has just as much chance of inhaling toxic carcinogens on his first fire or any fire thereafter for that matter.

What the Government is saying is that you should be OK for your first 150 fires but after that figure things could be a bit hazardous to your health so we will cover you.

I have never heard so much rubbish in my life !!

For respiratory protection us Rural Fire Fighters are given cheap paper masks worth approx \$2.00 to protect our lungs from the products of combustion that we regularly face on the fire ground.

The Government is treating us like second rate citizens with the level of protection that they are providing us in carrying out our duties for the people of QLD, and now they are telling us we can attend 150 fires with little or no protection before they will cover us.

Can you imagine what would happen if a factory worker was supplied with a cheap paper mask to carry out work in a hazardous environment and OSH got onto the case ?

So why are Rural Fire Fighters different ?

The Government is taking us for granted ,and I think it is an insult to us ,the way we are being treated with this Presumptive Legislation.

We are worth a lot more than that !

Hopefully you will listen to my, and other peoples submissions and cover us from the time we attend one fire.

Thank You.

Regards

Keith Ross



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