

***Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation and Other
Legislation Amendment Bill 2015 and Workers' Compensation
and Rehabilitation (Protecting Firefighters) Amendment Bill
2015***

Relating to rural fire brigade member / volunteer fire fighter

Division 3 Amendments commencing on introduction

Insertion on new ch1, pt 4, div 6, sdiv 3B

36D Presumption of injury 1(c)

and **36E Deciding number of years**

COMMENT

150 exposure incidents is unfairly random – so is any time period based on a number of incidents since one such incident could be a half hour extinguishing of a small highway roadside fire and another, a five-day, 12 hour per day, fighting a wildfire in and bordering a national park, such as the week-long wildfire at Ballandeen/ Girraween National Park in 2014 - both as single incidents.

Surely a more equitable method of relating volunteer work to the work of a paid firefighter could be devised. Whatever method is determined, it must be seen to be based on sound medical and firefighting experience and evidence.

Peter Burton

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