STANDING COMMITTEE ON LAW AND JUSTICE

MEDIA RELEASE

UPPER HOUSE COMMITTEE TABLES REPORT INTO PROPOSED CHANGES TO LIABILITY AND ENTITLEMENTS FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL INJURY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 23rd MAY 2025

The Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Law and Justice has released its report into proposed changes to liability and entitlements for psychological injury in New South Wales. The inquiry was referred to the committee by the Hon. Daniel Mookhey MLC, Treasurer of NSW, on 8 May 2025. The inquiry considered proposed changes contained within the Exposure Draft of the Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Bill 2025.

The committee received 62 submissions and held a public hearing on Friday 16 May 2025. Witnesses who gave evidence at the hearing included the Treasurer, the Hon. Sophie Cotsis MP, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Work Health and Safety, union representatives, a peak employer body, legal experts, insurance providers, psychiatrists, mental health organisations, government agencies, community service organisations, and individuals with workers' compensation experience.

Chair of the committee, the Hon. Greg Donnelly MLC said: 'Due to the short timeframe, it was important that the committee secure as much detailed evidence as possible from stakeholders with respect to the provisions of the Exposure Draft. We therefore acknowledge the efforts of all stakeholders to, as thoroughly as possible in the circumstances, meaningfully contribute to the inquiry with short notice and are grateful to those who were able to provide a submission to the inquiry and give evidence at the hearing on Friday 16 May 2025'.

The Chair continued: 'Due to the short timeline the committee was unable to examine in detail, or provide thorough analysis of, the Exposure Draft and evidence received, however within the report, we have referred the evidence to the Government, and to the Legislative Council, so that the evidence can be reviewed and considered when the Workers Compensation Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 is prepared and introduced'.

The committee's report and other inquiry documents can be found on the inquiry's website.

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