

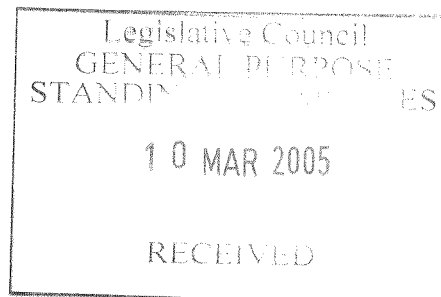
INQUIRY INTO PERSONAL INJURY COMPENSATION LEGISLATION

Organisation: Injuries Australia
Name: Mr George Cooper
Position:
Telephone:
Date Received: 10/03/2005

Subject:

Summary

THE REV THE HON GORDON MOYES MLC
GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 1
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
SYDNEY NSW 2000.



DEAR SIR,

THANK YOU FOR THE INVITATION TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE INQUIRY INTO PERSONAL INJURY COMPENSATION LEGISLATION. INJURIES AUSTRALIA WAS CONSTITUTED AS A NON-PROFIT COMPANY BY THE AMALGAMATION OF SEVERAL LONG ESTABLISHED COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS WHICH HAD BEEN FORMED TO ASSIST PEOPLE WHO HAD BEEN INJURED IN MOTOR TRAFFIC COLLISIONS, INJURED AT THEIR PLACE OF WORK AND THE RELATIVES OF THOSE KILLED IN THE WORK PLACE. WE BELIEVE THAT OUR COLLECTIVE MATCHLESS LONG TIME EXPERIENCES WHILST FIGHTING OUR WAY THROUGH A LEGAL AND BUEROCRATIC ALIEN WORLD, ARE PROOF THAT THE LEGISLATIVE CHANGES MADE TO PERSONAL INJURY LEGISLATION WERE FIRST, NOT NECESSARY, AND SECOND, DESIGNED TO BE DETROMENTAL TO THE HEALTH RECOVERY OF THE UNWILLINGLY INJURED BY DENYING GENUINELY NEEDED MEDICAL SERVICES AND DETROMENTAL TO THEIR FINANCES BY SHIFTING THE COSTS TO THE INJURED AND THE STATE HOSPITAL SYSTEM AWAY FROM THE INSURER. THE PROOF OF THIS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR THE COMMITTEES CONSIDERATION.

THIS COST SHIFTING IS PARTICULARLY VISCIOUS WHEN WE TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE ENORMOUS NUMBER OF INJURED WHO LOSE THEIR EMPLOYMENT AS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE INJURY. MANY REMAIN UNEMPLOYED AND UNEMPLOYABLE AND ARE RELIANT ON GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY HANDOUTS. THEIR MANY SKILLS ARE LOST TO THE STATES ECONOMY YET, WITH WORK INJURED PEOPLE, THE INSURERS ARE CONTRACTED AND PAID BY NSW GOVERNMENT WORKCOVER TO RETURN THEM TO EMPLOYMENT.

INJURIES AUSTRALIA IS WELL AWARE THAT MANY OF THE OTHER CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS INQUIRY WILL BE FROM INDIVIDUALS AND COMPANIES WHICH MAKE A VERY COMFORTABLE LIVING FROM DEATH AND INJURY ON OUR ROADS AND IN THE WORK PLACE AND ARE ONLY INVOLVED BECAUSE OF THE MONEY TO BE GAINED. THEY CAN PLEASE THEMSELVES WETHER TO BECOME INVOLVED OR NOT. INJURED PEOPLE ARE THE EXCEPTION---THEY HAVE NO CHOICE--- AND THEY ARE ALWAYS THE LOSERS AS WE WILL DEMONSTRATE IN OUR SUBMISSION. AS WELL, THE USUAL SPOKESPERSONS FOR THE LEGION OF EMPLOYER ORGANISATIONS WILL PREACH THE INSURERS FALSE MESSAGE THAT ALL INJURED EMPLOYEES ARE FRAUDS AND WORK PLACE DEATH AND INJURY IS NEVER THE FAULT OF "MANAGEMENT." AGAIN, FROM OUR PRACTICAL EXPERIENCES WE WILL DEMONSTRATE HOW WRONG THEY ARE.

SOME OF THE PARTICULAR POINTS OF REFERENCE LISTED IN YOUR LETTER ARE NOT SUBJECTS IN WHICH WE ARE EXPERIENCED BUT WE SHALL ENDEVOUR TO STAY WITHIN THE GUIDELINES AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. ONCE AGAIN, THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE AND WE ARE AVAILABLE SHOULD THE STANDING COMMITTEE CONSIDER THE VIEWS OF INJURED PEOPLE WORTHY OF A HEARING. GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR IMPORTANT WORK.

YOURS SINCERELY

GEORGE COOPER

7/03/2005
INJURIES AUSTRALIA
PO BOX 2091
GATESHEAD DELIVERY CENTRE
NSW 2290