

**Submission
No 222**

INQUIRY INTO NSW WORKERS COMPENSATION SCHEME

Name: Mr Steve Barrett

Date received: 17/05/2012

Steve Barrett

Tuesday, May 22, 2012

The Hon Robert Borsak MLC
C/O Parliament House
Macquarie street SYDNEY N S W 2000

Dear sir,

I am writing to yourself over proposed changes to the Workers Compensation act trying to be introduced by the current State Government. It is quite clear to me that changes to be tabled are clearly to disadvantage new and old injured workers.

I worked in the Coal Mining industry for around thirty years, receiving many injuries some at the time from life threatening situations leaving me to be taken to hospital from the mine via ambulance. This was only one case where I have been left with permanent injuries from a very dangerous job underground.

From my understanding of the proposed changes to workers compensation > Reducing weekly payments > Reducing lump sum payments > Reducing workers compensation payments to families in the event of a death as a result of injuries sustained at work > another cheap shot to disrupt the cover with the "to & from" to work current entitlements.

My personal situation is that I was terminated from my employment due to injuries sustained at work. My situation was that I had a minimum of ten years with a change of Government Legislation extending my working life where I would be still employed, however I have not worked since this was over ten years ago. As I have set out above future direct costs from my service in a harsh industry may be at the cost of the writer. This is unfair.

I might mention these N S W Government Leaders who are attempting change to the Act, I might suggest to take a trip to the C F M E U Mining & Energy Division Union Head Quarters at Cessnock, slip over the road opposite have a counter lunch but before they leave cross back over the road and read the names of the in excess of one thousand miners who have lost their life in this industry. Not to mention the thousands carrying permanent and temporary injuries who face an uncertain future due to proposed changes now being forwarded by the current State Government.

Therefore I strongly wish to oppose the changes now being tabled.

Yours truly,

Steve Barrett. Supporter of the Fishers & Shooters Party.