

**Submission
No 280**

INQUIRY INTO NSW WORKERS COMPENSATION SCHEME

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 17/05/2012

Partially Confidential

My name is I am a 34 yr old traffic controller from the Canterbury area of Sydney.

I suffered an ankle injury whilst on a construction site in the Sydney CBD in October 2011. My story of the current workers compensation is somewhat of a negative one that in May 2012 just prior to the end of my 26 week payments my insurance have now declined liability for my accident which have now left me in a state of stress and depression and having result in claiming Centrelink payments which will hardly cover my rent each week.

The insurer now says the reason my claim is denied is because I had an epileptic episode. I have no medical history or diagnosis as epilepsy! Guess it's just s reason to stop my payments.....everything is on hold now - no money, no treatment, and no help at home. All stopped while I get a solicitor (who I can ill afford) to sort thru the Paperwork maze to get my claim reinstated.

As a result of my injury my marriage has now broken down due my incapacity to carry out basic daily household tasks such as housework and meet our financial commitments, so my daily life has changed for the worse.

If the current Government proposal to make changes to the current workers compensation goes ahead it will not just affect me but my fellow injured workers into a world of poverty more than under the current scheme.

After the 26 weeks some of us would be left with approximately \$60 per week to live on and pay for our medications with the insurance companies are not quick to reimburse you. One of my current medications costs \$105 per prescription how am I supposed to afford to pay for that as well as feed myself and pay my bills with what is left over.

If we are to change our current system then we must ensure it is to a scheme that is supportive rather one that starves us back to work to maintain basic daily living needs.

Injured workers are hurting now! We need your support to make sure we get the treatment we need and get back to work safely and successfully