## INQUIRY INTO 2018 REVIEW OF THE WORKERS COMPENSATION SCHEME

**Organisation:** Shop Distributive and Allied Employees Association NSW

**Date Received:** 15 June 2018



15 June 2018

Director
Public Works Committee
C/O Mr Alex Cobb
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000

By Email: law@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Cobb,

## RE: NSW LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL'S LAW AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE 2018 REVIEW OF THE WORKERS COMPENSATION SCHEME

The Shop Distributive and Allied Employees' Association, New South Wales Branch ("the SDA") welcome this opportunity to make a submission on the review of the Workers Compensation Scheme (NSW). The SDA represents the interests of more than 70,000 retail, fast food, warehouse, distribution and pharmaceutical manufacturing employees throughout New South Wales.

The SDA submits that all current decision making mechanisms under the Workers Compensation Scheme should be made by the one tribunal. This includes Work Capacity Decisions including merit review and procedural review; powers to determine rights for weekly payments; and return to work decisions.

The SDA submits that ILARS funding for Work Capacity Decisions must be increased to align with the current funding for disputes. The funding should include disbursements as the costs involved in obtaining medical evidence for an injured worker are onerous.

The SDA submits that if a consolidated tribunal is created that assessment of Whole Person Impairment for both motor vehicle accident and workers compensation claims should be conducted using the same edition of the AMA *Guides to the Evaluation of Permanent Impairment* and that should be the 5<sup>th</sup> edition.

Should you have any queries regarding these submissions, please contact Industrial Officer Monica Rose at the Union's Sydney office on

Yours faithfully,

Bernie Smith
BRANCH SECRETARY-TREASURER

**Branch Secretary**Bernie Smith

