

The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Employment and Workplace Relations

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MEDIA ALERT

Inquiry into aspects of Australian workers' compensation schemes

Public Hearing - Wednesday 25 September, Canberra

The House Employment and Workplace Relations Committee is inquiring into Australian workers' compensation schemes, with special regard to fraud, safety records, claims profiles and rehabilitation programs.

The Committee commenced its schedule of hearings in Canberra on 18 September, hearing from Comcare. The first interstate hearing will be held in Sydney on 18 October, 2002. Other hearings will follow in major capital cities in October and November.

PUBLIC HEARING

WHO: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations WHEN: Wednesday 25 September 11.00am - 12 noon WHERE: Committee Room 1R2, Parliament House, Canberra

Transcripts of evidence from these hearings and submissions are available at the Committee's website at: www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ewr/index.htm

Background

Occupational safety and workers compensation can impact on all of us. What leads to good safety records across industries and within an industry? How can we ensure appropriate outcomes for injured workers and their families in a system that is fair to all? We also want to know about the suitability, effectiveness and benefits of rehabilitation programs.

Workers' compensation schemes support the injured worker in a variety of ways. Australia-wide these schemes involve billions of dollars. We need to look at what factors contribute to the incidence of fraud and non-compliance so that the community does not have to bear this additional cost.

Contact details

For comment: Mrs De-Anne Kelly, Chair, 02 6277 4702

For further information about the hearing: Cheryl Scarlett, Inquiry Secretary, Committee Secretariat, 02 6277 4561.