



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY
12th Assembly

Petition

Registration No.	36
Title	Support the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment (Fire-Fighters) Bill 2013
Presented on	27 March 2013
Presented by	Mr Gunner (Member for Fannie Bay)
Referred to	Minister for Business (Hon Dave Tollner MLA)
Date referred	27 March 2014
Response due	27 August 2014
Response received	14 May 2014
Response presented	14 May 2014

Petition

To:

Hon Adam Graham Giles MLA, Chief Minister CLP Northern Territory

Hon David William Tollner MLA, Deputy Chief Minister

It is an indictment on any government that fails to protect its constituents. Firefighters have committed to being there for everyone in their darkest moments. Isn't it our duty to ensure we are there for theirs? Support this Bill, make it retrospective and don't delay. They need this NOW.

Support the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Amendment (Fire-Fighters) Bill 2013 and give firefighters the support they deserve.

Response

The Northern Territory Government acknowledges that our firefighters may be exposed in their working life to a range of toxins, fumes and chemicals; and that there is evidence firefighters may be exposed to increased risk in contracting certain cancers due to extended exposure. Our firefighters unselfishly put themselves at personal risk in order to save lives and property and through this display of commitment and at times bravery, our firefighters are held in the highest regard by the people of the Northern Territory.

For many years prior to this Government, our firefighters have had to battle to gain compensation when they have contracted cancers that may be linked to some of the toxins they have been exposed to in their working lives. This will change.

The Northern Territory Government is committed to providing firefighters with faster access to compensation by introducing presumptive legislation that will provide a rebuttable presumption that certain specified cancers are deemed to be contracted in the course of employment.

The current review into our workers compensation is well advanced and it is Government's intention to include presumptive legislation as part of that review.