



Thursday, 20 July 2012

MEDIA STATEMENT

Better cancer compo needed for CFA firefighters – VFBV

Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria (VFBV) is calling on our State MPs to declare their support for better cancer compensation for CFA volunteers and career firefighters.

Canberra's firefighters already have a simpler system for compensation after the Australian Parliament passed special legislation last year.

Andrew Ford of Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria says the campaign to give Victoria's firefighters the same protection has just taken a step forward, with the Greens announcing they will support it.

"A Senate Inquiry found that firefighters are more likely to suffer from certain types of cancer," Mr Ford said.

"The Australian Parliament voted to change the law so that if a firefighter suffers from any of those types of cancer, the law presumes it is work related," he said.

"That can save a seriously ill person from the lengthy and complicated process of trying to prove the cause of the cancer, which might have been years ago.

"Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria is now calling on State MPs to declare their support for legislation to give the same protection to all Victorian firefighters, whether they are career or volunteer."

Ends...

VFBV media contact: Peter Beaton 0419 504 111