



STUART GRIMLEY MP

Member for Western Victoria
State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party

MEDIA RELEASE



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Grimley says Presumptive Compensation Scheme Needed for Last Line of Defence

State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party Stuart Grimley MP has asked the State Government why they have not implemented a Presumptive Compensation Scheme for our 'last line of defence' through COVID-19.

Mr Grimley asked the State Government why they have chosen not to define COVID-19 as a 'proclaimed disease' which prohibits healthcare workers from being able to have access to presumptive compensation for their illness and associated time off.

In his speech, he asked "Given that Western Australia and South Australia have rolled out similar presumptive compensation schemes during the pandemic, what has prevented the State Government from making similar changes to presumptive compensation in Victoria?"

Given the long delay in genomic testing and the inability to ever contact trace some contractions of COVID-19, having this presumptive compensation scheme was important for healthcare workers who need to take extended time off work.

Mr Grimley, a former policeman, understands the risks that our 'last line of defence' are taking by facing possible coronavirus cases head-on.

Quotes Attributable to Stuart Grimley MP:

"For example, if I'm a paramedic and I contract COVID-19 and therefore have to take time off work, contact tracing needs to be undertaken to 100% confirm that I got [COVID-19] whilst at work in order for a WorkCover claim to be processed for my illness.

Presumptive compensation is needed for healthcare workers especially where it's estimated that at least 70-80% of COVID-19 contractions are from within the workplace.

If Western Australia and South Australia have such a scheme that's giving healthcare workers the rights they deserve, why don't we?"

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