



**JOINT MEDIA RELEASE
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**PEAK INDUSTRY GROUPS URGE PARLIAMENT TO BACK MINNS
GOVERNMENT'S REFORMS TO FIX BROKEN WORKERS COMPENSATION
SYSTEM**

Five of New South Wales' peak industry bodies have joined together to support the Minns Government's proposed reforms to fix the state's workers compensation scheme. The groups are calling for bipartisan support and warning against any delay that would result from further committee referrals.

ClubsNSW, the Australian Hotels Association NSW, Restaurant and Catering Australia, the Australian Childcare Alliance (NSW) and the Pharmacy Guild NSW are urging the Parliament to pass the legislation urgently.

The reforms aim to create a sustainable and fairer system that supports workers with genuine psychological injuries while removing structural flaws that currently reward extended absences and discourage recovery. The changes will return the scheme to its intended focus on rehabilitation, return to work and prevention.

There has been a sharp increase in both the number of psychological injury claims and the cost of those claims. Under current arrangements, employers are often unable to defend themselves against unsubstantiated allegations.

The five industry groups have stated that the cost of inaction is too high. Delaying these reforms would harm workers, increase financial pressure on businesses and undermine public confidence in the system. Without reform, our members are going to be hit with premium increases of up to 36 percent, placing even more pressure on already stretched sectors.

The bill delivers the most substantial progress the system has seen in years and deserves support from all sides of politics. We are calling on the Liberal Party to confirm its support and urge them to back the reforms now rather than delay action.

This is a clear opportunity to fix a system that is failing and deliver real outcomes for both workers and employers.

ClubsNSW CEO Rebecca Riant said “We applaud the Minns Labor Government for taking decisive and immediate action. The case for this workers compensation reform is clear and we do not need another inquiry. We encourage the NSW Parliament to seize this opportunity for bipartisan reform, creating a fair system for businesses and injured workers.”

AHA NSW Deputy CEO Sean Morrissey said “We commend the Minns Government for this important and positive reform which will create a more sustainable workers compensation system for both employers and employees.”

Restaurant and Catering Australia CEO Suresh Manickam said “The Minns Government is taking a positive step forward, which we support. We encourage all stakeholders to get behind this vital initiative.”

Pharmacy Guild NSW President Mario Barone said “We need a sustainable workers compensation system in NSW. Pharmacies across NSW want certainty and are calling on the parliament to implement the government’s reforms without delay.”

Australian Childcare Alliance (NSW) President Lyn Connolly with over 40 years experience as a Provider in early childhood education and care said “While we would never want to nor shirk our obligations to look after those who are injured and do all that we can to return them to work we must also confront the ever-increasing cost of Workers Compensation Premiums and make them affordable, effective and sustainable for our workers and their employers.”

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