

UNITED FIREFIGHTERS UNION OF AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL BULLETIN

Bulletin No: 005/2024 22 AUGUST 2024

UFUA Welcomes Expanded Presumptive Cancer Laws in Queensland

TO ALL UFUA MEMBERS,

The United Firefighters Union of Australia has welcomed new legislation introduced by the Queensland Government to expand by ten the number of cancers included in presumptive firefighter cancer. The UFUA has extended our congratulations to the United Firefighters Union Queensland (UFUQ) for their contribution to the proposed Bill. Members can read the UFUQ's Committee Submission here.

The UFUA additionally welcomes the proposed inclusion of Uterine Cancer in the Bill, as confirmed by the Minister for Industrial Relations, the Hon. Grace Grace MP last night. Your National Union wrote to Minister Grace in June this year to advocate for the inclusion of Uterine Cancer as an addition to the list of deemed diseases. On 15 August 2024, Minister Grace confirmed in a letter to the UFUA, that the inclusion of Uterine Cancer was directed to the Department for consideration.

The UFUA recognises that the body of scientific knowledge about firefighter cancer is moving rapidly, so much so that when the Queensland Government embarked on this legislative change in 2023, uterine cancer had not yet been recognised by any Australian jurisdiction. It was your National Union that brought this to the Ministers attention, ensuring that Queensland firefighters get access to nation leading protections.

For further information, please refer to the 22 August 2024 UFUA media release linked here.

We look forward to the passage of the Bill in Queensland this year and hope that other jurisdictions follow suit with these important reforms.

Authorised by Greg McConville, National Secretary, United Firefighters Union of Australia, Canberra.