

FIREFIGHTERS — CANCER RISK

**812. Ms M.M. Quirk to the Minister for Emergency Services:**

I refer to your commitment to enact laws to address the risks of fire-fighters developing cancer and I ask, have those laws been drafted:

- (a) if so, when will they be introduced into Parliament; and
- (b) is it intended that amendments to existing Workers Compensation laws will be the vehicle through which you will meet your election commitment?

**Mr J.M. Francis replied:**

- (a) The Government is committed to the introduction of presumptive legislation for both career, volunteer and former firefighters who have contracted any one of a range of 12 cancers prescribed in the national legislation. Preparation of the bills necessary to enact this proposal are in progress.
- (b) This commitment will not solely be met through amendments to Workers' Compensation laws. Amendments to the emergency services Acts will also be necessary.