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TIMBER QUEENSLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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Timber Industry gives Newman Government Workers' Comp Changes the tick

Peak Industry body Timber Queensland applauds the State Government for making common sense changes to Queensland's workers' compensation scheme.

TQ's CEO Rod McInnes said the changes will significantly reduce premiums for Queensland businesses whilst ensuring the scheme remains strong and viable for the future.

"The changes which were introduced in Parliament last week include a common law threshold of 5% which will clamp down on fraudulent claims," said Rod McInnes.

"Employers will now have access to the claims history of applicants, as well as the maintenance of journey provisions," he said.

The changes will not adversely impact genuine claims or any individual right to workers' compensation payments for lost wages, medical expenses and rehabilitation and return to work expenses.

Mr McInnes said premiums for workers' comp in the timber industry had increased more than 25% over the last few years.

"Hikes of this nature were not sustainable and impacting the ability of businesses to employ people," he said.

"We commend the Newman Government for a taking stand and restoring Queensland's workers' compensation scheme to a condition that is fair and equitable for both employers and employees."

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For further information contact: Rod McInnes CEO Timber Queensland: 07 3358 7902 / 0419 704 028

Timber Queensland Ltd

500 Brunswick Street, Fortitude Valley, QLD 4006

PO Box 2014, Fortitude Valley BC, QLD 4006

Ph: (07) 3254 1989 Fax: (07) 3254 1964

Email: admin@timberqueensland.com.au

Website: www.timberqueensland.com.au