

NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



Attention: All members that do work for the Compensation Fund

RE: Compensation for Occupational Injuries Amendment Bill

OTASA has been given the opportunity to comment on this Bill by the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee for Employment and Labour.

The COID Task team and the OTASA EXCO have studied the Bill and has made a written submission and also requested an opportunity to make a verbal presentation.

There are a number of issues that we have commented on as well as requested clarity on others but the main changes to the Bill are as follows:

- Bill has included domestic workers as recipients of compensation if injured on duty.
- Stiff fines are being introduced for employers that do not register employees injured on duty- which has been a problem with claims since the introduction of the CompEasy system in August of 2019.
- Compensation Fund to provide rehabilitation for persons injured on duty which we welcome as an essential service to which we can contribute.
- Clause S43 which essentially aims to exclude the use of intermediaries in the payments from the fund. This implies that practitioners will have to deal directly with the Compensation fund.

As we require some up-to -date information from occupational therapists who deal with the fund **please can you complete the survey** attached. It will take only a few minutes. This information will be included in our verbal presentation to the Portfolio Committee.

LINK: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CompFundAmndmntBill1>

Please complete this by the **16th February 2021**.

The COID Task team is planning a national virtual feedback session for members on the work that has been done since our last feedback session. We will do this as soon as the results of this survey are available.

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