



Senator
Steve Fielding
Leader of Family First



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POSTIES' HEALTH AND SAFETY AT RISK

Family First Leader Senator Steve Fielding has called for a full senate inquiry into allegations Australia Post has been forcing its injured staff back to work well before they have recovered from workplace injuries.

The call for the inquiry comes after Australia Post gave evidence at a senate estimates hearing in Canberra today.

“There are serious allegations staff have been forced back to work simply to sit in a room to watch television so managers can get their bonus for having lower lost injury time figures,” Senator Fielding said.

“This is outrageous and puts the health of workers at risk because of some greedy managers.

“No wonder Australia Post won an award last month for its rehabilitation of injured workers if it's fudging the numbers.

“There's an obvious conflict of interest between InjuryNET, which looks after the doctors that Australia Post sends its workers to, and Australia Post itself.

“Dr David Milecki, who is a consultant to Australia Post's return-to-work program, also runs InjuryNET.

“Australia Post even admitted that this contract did not go through an independent process - there was not even a tender process.

“We need a senate inquiry urgently to make sure Australia Post employees are being looked after and that they're aren't being taken advantage of by dodgy managers who are more interested in their bonuses.”

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