



# **MEDIA RELEASE**



## **Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP** Member for Stuart

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### **Bill to protect emergency services workers referred to Select Committee**

A Private Members Bill introduced by Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP and supported by the Liberal Opposition which would require private motorists passing an emergency services scene identified by flashing lights to slow down to 25 km/h rather than the current requirement of 40 k/h has been delayed by the Government. The Government has referred the Bill to a Select Committee of Parliament.

Mr van Holst Pellekaan says he “is disappointed the Government is unwilling to support his proposed legislation straight away, but optimistic that the Select Committee will see the merits of it.

“This Bill is common sense and has the support of all emergency service volunteer organisations including CFS, SES and Ambulance and is also supported by the professional emergency service members’ organisations such as MFS and Police,” he said.

“This Bill seeks to give all emergency service workers the protection that they deserve and the same protection that roadside workers already have.

“The referral of this Bill to a Select Committee by the Government at best delays giving that protection to the emergency services workers who deserve it as soon as possible and at work signals that the Government will not support it.

“Fires in the last few days which required CFS attendance by roadsides in Port Augusta, Gladstone and the Stuart Highway between Glendambo and Coober Pedy make clear that every day this legislation is delayed is a day that volunteers are put at greater risk.

“The protection of these volunteers and professionals should be a top priority for any government.”

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Visit Dan's website [www.danvhp.com.au](http://www.danvhp.com.au)