



Stuart Robert MP

Federal Member for Fadden

Shadow Minister for Defence Science, Technology and Personnel

****MEDIA RELEASE****

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GILLARD LABOR GOVERNMENT SUPPORTS UNION MATES AT EXPENSE OF ADF PERSONNEL & VETERANS

The Gillard Labor Government today showed it was more interested in furthering the cause of its union mates than supporting current and former Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel.

Shadow Minister for Defence Science, Technology and Personnel, Stuart Robert MP, said today the Gillard Labor Government had introduced legislation that gives an unelected union boss more power than a Federal Government Minister.

‘The ComSuper Bills that were passed in the House of Representatives today, despite strong opposition from the Coalition, will enshrine the power of the ACTU at the great expense of current and former military personnel,’ Mr Robert said.

‘The Minister for Defence Science and Personnel and Veterans’ Affairs, Warren Snowdon, has altogether abandoned his portfolio responsibilities and pushed through a Bill that fails to protect the interests of members of military superannuation schemes.’

The Gillard Labor Government’s legislation will enable ACTU directors to run rough-shot over fellow directors on the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation (CSC) board, which will be tasked with managing all Commonwealth employees’ superannuation funds, worth an estimated \$20billion.

‘It is regrettable that Minister Snowdon has chosen to support his ACTU mates instead of supporting those that have, and continue to give, so much to this nation, Mr Robert said.

‘This legislation will result in the new CSC board being dominated by ACTU appointed directors who can only be removed if the President of the ACTU agrees to that course of action. Not even the Minister for Finance can remove an ACTU board member under this legislation.’

‘Military members stand to lose out under this flawed legislation that gives the President of the ACTU more power than an elected Federal Government Minister.’

Media enquiries: Richard Briedis – 0401 056 054

Address: Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Phone (02) 6277 2106

Email: richard.briedis@aph.gov.au