



**ADSO** ALLIANCE OF DEFENCE SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

15 April 2016

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

### **THE TURNBULL GOVERNMENT HAS LOST THE RESPECT OF DISABLED VETERANS**

*“They went forth willingly to do their duty to Australia; Australia must be equally ready to do its duty to them. It is the intention of the Government, so far as is humanly possible, to see that the debt is paid in full”. Prime Minister Billy Hughes, 1917.*

In a damning display of political arrogance the Coalition Government has lost the respect and the support of the nation’s 130,000 disabled veterans by continuing to ignore their concern at the erosion of the value of their compensation payments, especially those affecting our most severely disabled war veterans.

Those disabled veterans who cannot work or are restricted need to have their compensation payment benchmarked to an acceptable level that will maintain a satisfactory standard of living for them and their family. *Is that too much to ask?*

*Why is PM Turnbull failing to live up to the enduring pledge of PM Hughes so long ago?* Hughes fully understood the life changing effects on our uniformed men and women damaged by war. **The Turnbull Government does not!**

*Why Is the Government ignoring those who have been disabled through their military service to Australia?*

The Coalition Government is telling us that the nation cannot afford fair and equitable military compensation payments for our disabled veterans. *Really Prime Minister?*

**The Government must stop the erosion of our disabled veterans’ living standards and self-dignity. They deserve nothing less.**

Our veterans did the right thing by their Nation. Many paid a huge price with broken minds and bodies. It’s time for the Nation to step up and do the right thing for our disabled veterans.

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