

## **Crib away or “Flynn” allowance decision pending**

Dear Member,

HSU PTO delegates attended the recent, and hopefully final, full bench hearing on Tuesday and listened to government’s final arguments as to why HealthShare PTOs should not receive a fair allowance for cribbing away.

HSU PTOs had been awarded a \$28.90 allowance for each occasion they are required to crib away from their starting and finishing location way back in March 2017.

HealthShare has been using every legal trick in the book to try to block and delay that payment since.

The best hurdle government has placed between members and being awarded the full amount (\$28.90) is the dodgy, unfair and anti-worker government sector wages regulation that says no worker can receive an increase in take home income of more than 2.5% unless they give up something to fund the increase over 2.5%.

The government legal teams have been using the IRC processes to argue that while PTOs have been forced to give up their right to dine at their own workplace, the saving made by HealthShare is so small that it doesn’t cover \$28.90 per crib away.

Amazingly, they’ve told the full bench that due to mismanagement, or poor planning, in some cases it costs them money to require PTOs to crib away from base. While it’s true that Health PTS management have not exactly been covering themselves in glory when it comes up to setting up and running an efficient patient transport service, it is very hard to believe that cribbing PTOs away doesn’t create a substantial saving to the employer.

We are now in the hands of the Full Bench who are required to ensure that any allowance they award does not breach the wages regulation.

Our legal team is unable to predict what the full bench will decide; however, workers should be very angry if it’s less than the \$28.90 fairly awarded back in 2017 – not at the full bench but at the unfair wage regulation set up by the successive governments.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes  
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD