The Northern Territory Government will back date its proposed Presumptive Fire Fighters Legislation to July 2011 and implement a three month sunset clause for career fire fighters.

The changes follow discussions with Business Minister Peter Styles, NT Fire fighters and United Voice to discuss its proposed legislation amendments due to be debated in Parliament tomorrow.

"United Voice raised the issue that the back-dating of the presumptive legislation to when the Country Liberal Party formed government in 2012, excludes a number of fire fighters who would like to apply,” Minister Styles said.

“The Country Liberals Government has listened to those concerns and Cabinet has agreed to further back date the introduction of Presumptive Fire Fighters legislation.

“The first presumptive legislation in Australia was enacted by the former federal Labor Government on July 4, 2011.

“The Northern Territory Government now plans to back date it’s presumptive legislation to that date to be nationally consistent.

“Further we are proposing a three month sunset period that would give living career fire fighters a window in which to make a claim under the presumptive legislation as if the presumptive legislation had an open commencement date.”

Minister for Police Fire and Emergency Services said the Country Liberals Government is delivering on its promise to bring about good legislation for Territory workers.

“When we asked for patience and understanding while the review of the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Legislation took place we promised we would listen to the recommendations,” Mr Chandler said.

“Our word is good. We have listened.”
"This is good legislation. We have achieved in two years what the previous Labor Government failed to do in almost 12 years.

“The process of claiming workers compensation will be made easier for firefighters, as a result of the Northern Territory Government listening to community concerns and making changes in the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Legislation.”

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