



Rob Oakeshott MP
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OAKESHOTT
INDEPENDENT

MEDIA RELEASE

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VETERANS ON THE PATH TO FAIRER INDEXATION

AUSTRALIA'S war veterans have won an important battle in their fight for a better military superannuation deal.

Independent Lyne MP Rob Oakeshott, on his second attempt to have military superannuation pensions properly indexed against cost of living expenses, finally received the unanimous support of Labor, Liberal and National Party MPs yesterday.

"The Parliament has finally sent a strong message to the federal government that the time has come to bring military superannuation pensions in line with other pension payments," Mr Oakeshott said.

"Only the government of the day can introduce a Bill making my Notice of Motion law because it is a money Bill, but the clear message from 150 Members of Parliament yesterday was that the government must act."

Mr Oakeshott's notice called on the government to consider increasing the Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme Pension, Defence Force Retirement Benefit Pension and the Defence Force Retirement and Death benefits Pension twice a year. The benchmark would be the greatest of the Consumer Price Index, the Pensioner and Beneficiary Living Cost Index and the Male Total Average Weekly Earnings.

The Labor Party and Coalition had both promised fairer indexation in opposition, but neither have delivered in government.

"I welcome the parliament's support and will continue to push for a fairer deal for veterans to be enshrined in legislation," Mr Oakeshott said.

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