



The Hon Tony Abbott MHR
Leader of the Opposition

5 March 2012

RADM Ken Doolan AM RAN (Retd)
National President
Returned and Services League of Australia
PO Box 303
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Rear-Admiral Doolan 

Today I am personally recommitting the Coalition to the fair indexation of DFRB and DFRDB military superannuation pensions.

As you will be only too well aware, the Coalition announced prior to the last election our commitment to fair, just and equitable indexation of DFRB and DFRDB pensions. Under our plan, all DFRB and DFRDB superannuants aged 55 and over will have their pensions indexed in the same way as aged and service pensions. This \$100 million commitment was and remains fully funded and fully costed.

Despite narrowly losing the election, the Coalition persisted with our commitment and introduced legislation into the Senate on 18 November 2010 to deliver fair indexation. In March 2011, the Coalition opposed Labor and the Greens sending the Bill to a committee for yet another inquiry which, predictably and on party lines, opposed the legislation. On 16 June 2011, the Senate voted to defeat the Coalition's legislation in a tied vote.

Since the Senate's decision, I have repeated the Coalition's commitment to deliver this reform, including during my speech to your National Conference in Melbourne last September. Today in Bendigo I have personally restated this position.

The Coalition Government that I lead will deliver this reform. You have my word.

Together with my colleagues Senator the Hon. Michael Ronaldson, Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs and Mr Stuart Robert MP, Shadow Minister for Defence Science, Technology and Personnel, the Coalition stands ready to deliver this reform. Our veterans and their families have waited too long. When the Government changes, my Government will deliver the fair go our veterans deserve.

Yours sincerely

TONY ABBOTT

The Coalition's clear commitment to our Veterans

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A Coalition Government will deliver fair indexation to 57,000 military superannuants and their families.

The Coalition will ensure DFRB and DFRDB military superannuation pensions are indexed in the same way as aged and service pensions. All DFRB and DFRDB superannuants aged 55 and over will benefit.

Only a Coalition Government will deliver fair, just and equitable indexation for DFRB and DFRDB pensions.

With your support, Australia's veterans and their families will get the fair go they deserve.



Hon. Tony Abbott MHR
Leader of the Opposition



Senator the Hon. Michael Ronaldson
Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs

