

# Libs to look after war vets

**BEN DAHLSTROM**

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**HOT** on the heels of the anniversary of the start of the Korean War, Liberal candidate for the Federal seat of Hasluck has announced more money would be available for all military veterans under a Coalition government.

If elected, as of July, 1 2011, Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Scheme members aged 55 years or older would have their military superannuation pensions indexed to the greater of the Consumer Price Index, Male Total Average Weekly Earnings for the Pensioner and Beneficiary Living Cost Index.

Currently this superannuation scheme is indexed only in line with movements with the CPI.

Widows of DFRDB superannuants will also benefit from the announced changes.

"This is the right thing to do. Australia's service personnel, past and present, after giving so much to their nation, deserve to live out their lives in the knowledge that they have financial security."

"Labor broke its election promise to 'fix' the issue of military superannuation indexation and this has yet another example that the Labor Government is all talk and no action.

"This is a fully costed and fully funded policy. Savings already identified by the Coalition will be used to offset the \$98m cost over the forward estimates. A further \$100m will be invested into the Future Fund as a first step towards funding the new arrangements beyond the forward estimates," Wyatt said.

If the indexation rate had increased in line with the aged pension, military superannuants would have received an extra \$28.40 per fortnight to their pension (if they received the full pension rate) in March this year, for example.

"We are committed to real action to support our veterans, and will ensure that those who have served their nation are properly looked af-



**Liberal candidate for the Federal seat of Hasluck, Ken Wyatt.**

ter in their retirement. After all, military service is unique and unique solutions are required to recognise that service.

"Above all else, Australia's service person-

nel, past and present, after giving so much to their nation, deserve to live out their lives in the knowledge that they have financial security," the Federal politician said.