



## THE HON. DR MIKE KELLY MP Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support

Monday, 1 March 2010

007/2010

### **‘Boss Lift’ to Solomon Islands reinforces benefits of employing Reservists**

The Parliamentary Secretary for Defence Support, the Hon. Dr Mike Kelly AM MP, today announced that twenty employers of Defence Reservists will travel to the Solomon Islands today (Monday, 1 March) as part of Exercise Boss Lift – a Defence program designed to encourage employer support for the Reserves.

Participating employers will visit soldiers from the Perth-based 13 Brigade who are currently on a four-month deployment to the Solomon Islands.

While in Honiara and surrounds, the employers will have the opportunity to see their Reservists on Operation Anode, the Australian Defence Force’s contribution to the Australian-led Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands.

The four-day Boss Lift program will highlight the important role the Reserves play in the Australian Defence Force and will allow employers to experience directly the essential roles played by their employees.

“This is a unique opportunity for employers to gain a valuable insight into the benefits their employees can bring back to the civilian workplace by being able to observe those skills that Reserve service has developed,” Dr Kelly said.

“We aim to highlight the skills Reservists gain from being in the ADF and how those skills can benefit civilian employers.

“As the ADF’s commitments grow, Reserves are bringing increased levels of capability to Australia’s Defence Force and this experience can flow directly to the civilian workplace,” Dr Kelly said.

For details about the many programs run by CRESD visit [www.defence.gov.au/reserves](http://www.defence.gov.au/reserves) or call 1800 803 485.

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