

I understand you are taking submissions in relation to the proposed removal of franking credits. Self funded retirees went into meltdown when Labor proposed this and much has been written about the fairness or otherwise of this. I believe the tax refunds should apply otherwise quite a lot of retirees will be looking at ways to ensure that they no longer self funded and rearrange their investments and look to the Government for a pension. If it is your intention to stop wealthy retirees from becoming more wealthy the implementation of the removal of franking credits wont cut it. I would like to give you our scenario as we are by no means wealthy but we live a modest lifestyle..

My husband and I are now both retired, have a SMSF and do not receive any pension whatsoever from the Government. We expected never to rely on the Government for any pension at all in our lifetime due to the fact that we now have a share portfolio mainly consisting of bank shares that offer franking credits which we rely on. Our portfolio is less than \$1.2 million and from those shares we generate enough income including \$27,000 (in 2017) as franking credits to not need any assistance from the Government. Take away the franking credits we will have little more than a person on a full pension and yet we have worked all our lives and saved so that we could be self sufficient.

We rely on those franking credits and to change the law would affect us tremendously, I wrote to every Labor politician complaining about their policy to cease franking credits to no avail. It was therefore an easy decision as to who I would be voting for at the next election. For the Liberal party to even bring this up now is just another nail in the coffin of the Liberal Party after stating so long and so hard that us retirees should be looked after. You are doing yourselves and many Australians a dis service.

As shareholders we are part owners in the Company and therefore do pay tax. It is incorrect to think we do not pay tax and we are ripping money from the taxpayers of Australia by way of dividend imputation. We are only getting back what we have already paid, it is not money coming to us from other taxpayers. We should not have to pay tax twice because we are retired. If the money was in a bank and earning interest I would not pay tax on the interest I received, these Companies have paid tax on our behalf and we are just getting back what is rightfully belongs to us.

We haven't spent our money on fancy cars or overseas holidays over the years we have saved for our future so that we could be self-sufficient in the later years of our life and yet again we are being penalised for doing so.

As I said before we live in a modest house with a SMSF valued just under \$1.2 million so we are by no means wealthy. If the superannuation law stays as it is we can and will be able to be self-funded until the day we die. Any changes would affect our ability to do so drastically. I hope that you do not go down the same track as the Labor party and look after the elderly because somebody needs to.

Yours faithfully,