

Committee Secretary,  
Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee  
Inquiry into TPI Payment (Special Rate of Disability Pension)

Supplementary Submission

Dear Committee Secretary,

There is much conjecture after a large “Accounting Firm” put forward an “opinion” that the Service pension is compensation!

1. The Service pension, because of its “means-testing” is without any doubt, WELFARE.
2. Why did DVA ask and also, pay for their “opinion”?
3. Why is the granting of the Service pension, that gained life on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1936 being “muddied” today?
4. Does this DVA paid-for “opinion” have anything to do with the known fact that the VEA TPI (workers) Compensation payment has never been bench-marked against community prosperity – **ever** - since 1920?

Whether a percentage of VEA TPIs are well off, but most are no; is because the VEA TPI payment is not “Bench-Marked” against any known “Adult Wage Index”. This fact answers a lot about the DVA VEA compensation and government rhetoric, IMO.

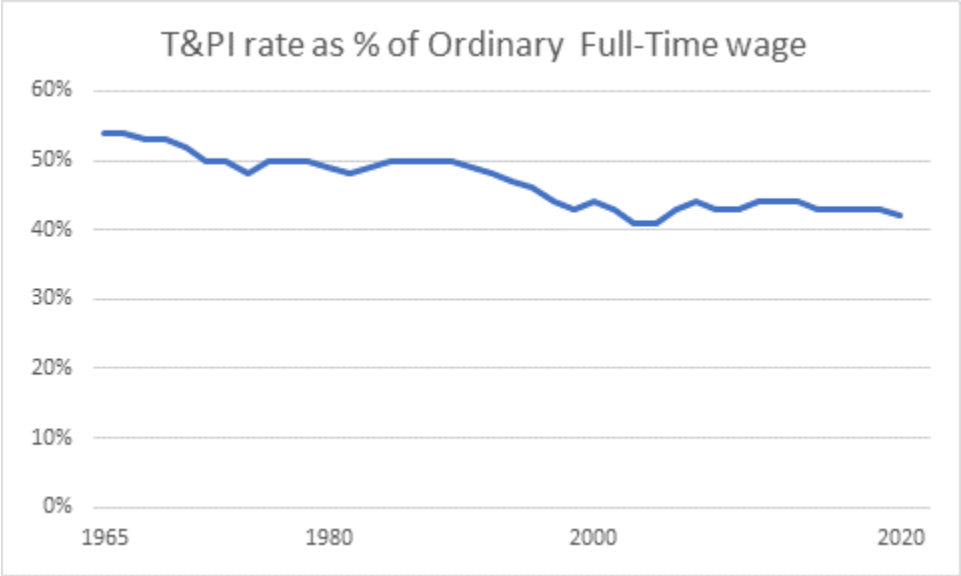
**Below, I will “focus” on the Partnered VEA TPI – using DVA figures with Energy Supplement.**

Service pension (Partnered) paid at 100%: \$359.05 per week.  
Special rate (TPI): \$732.35 per week.  
TOTAL equals: \$1,091.40 per week.

The Average Weekly Ordinary Times Earnings as at 25/02/2021 is \$1,711.60 per week, or equal to 64% of the combination of the 100% of the Service pension plus Special rate (TPI) payment.

Why is there a drop in financial value of the Special rate (TPI) payment since around 1990?

- Are VEA TPI's not good enough to be financially included in the Australian community?
- It makes no sense to call the Service pension “compensation” when clearly, my partner never went to war, but is granted the “Partner” pension!
- The financial difference between a Single Service pension payment and the Partnered pension payment is \$178.15 per week in favour of the Partnered couple! (*Single pension \$476.35 per week against the Partnered pension (times two) \$654.50 per week*)



Cordially,

Raymond Evans