From:

To: <u>Committee, NDIS</u>

Subject: National Disability Insurance Scheme Date: Sunday, 20 April 2014 12:40:56 PM

Dear committee members,

I write in regard the NDIS.

My concern is simple. Recent media reporting seems to be suggesting that the NDIS schemes may be under threat due to budgetary constraints.

I wish to make the plain comment that if there are constraints on the budget, then the NDIS should not be considered in any way expendable or diminishable in order that other priorities be advanced.

I put this point of view on the grounds of compassion, fairness and economics.

It is embedded in human nature to look after fellow humans who are impeded in carrying out what may be called normal living; it seems that being compassionate brings its own reward for both individuals that are assisted and who do the assisting. It stands to reason then that the effect for a whole society may be similar, i.e. positive, and this positivity should only bring strengthening outcomes overall.

Australians pride themselves on all people having a fair go. On this basis any individual who is impeded from having a fair go is receiving less than their entitlement.

Economically, the more a person can contribute the better the productivity of the individual, the better the outcomes for the individual and overall the better the outcome for society.

In all, it is mean-spirited and short-sighted to deny opportunity to some who already have to face many hurdles not placed before the majority. It is generous, life- affirming and expansive to enable all members of society to be positive contributors to the common good.

So, if constraint is necessary, then let it be in areas where constraint is productive, not imposed on people and their families who already have enough constraints in their existence.

Yours sincerely, Stephen Murray