From:

To: <u>Community Affairs, Committee (SEN)</u>;

Subject: sub890Submission to the Inquiry into the National Disability Insurance Scheme Bill 2012

Date: Thursday, 17 January 2013 12:44:31 PM

Please consider this email a formal submission by me to the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs Inquiry into the National Disability Insurance Scheme Bill 2012.

The current disability system has many problems that need to be addressed.

Having worked within the disability sector for many years I have personally witnessed the day to day struggles of many families coping with the extraordinary demands of caring for a loved person with a disability. There are not nearly enough supportive resources available and much parental anxiety regarding the future. Placing children with special needs into the general education system, for example, is not working. Inclusiveness of people with disabilities into the wider community is a commendable concept but will never be viable without the necessary support and choice of widely available resources.

The main features of the NDIS that will make a difference to the community are:

The ability to receive services when needed and in the way that suits the person, People with disability/family will influence the types of support and services offered, Older parents and families will not worry what happens when they can no longer provide support

The most important services for the NDIS to provide are:

Education support (technology/services/equipment), Support for families and carers, Flexible in-home/outside home respite

I support the introduction of the NDIS.

Because families who care for a person with a disability have for too long done so without the necessary resources of support. Persons with disability are valued members of the community, a fact often not acknowledged or reflected in the services currently available. NDIS will address these issues.

I agree for my submission to be made public

Regards,

Mrs Christine Walsh