

**From:**  
**To:** [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Medicare photo ID inquiry  
**Date:** Tuesday, 20 August 2019 4:44:49 PM

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20th August, 2019

Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write in regard to an upcoming Senate Committee inquiry into having photo ID on Medicare cards.

This I feel is a 'no brainer' and should have been brought in when Medicare was first introduced into Australia. As it stands at the moment, anyone not entitled to be using our Medicare system could be using someone else's Medicare card and receiving free medical care at the expense of Australians desperately in need of medical attention for which we are running short on funds for.

Sounding over-dramatic? It is not meant to be. I was recently diagnosed with sleep apnea and fortunately for me, I was eligible to receive a CPAP machine through Qld. Health. At just about every appointment I had in relation to being diagnosed with sleep apnea and eventually supplied a CPAP machine I was constantly told that Qld. Health was running out of funds to be able to supply these life saving machines to people such as myself. I cannot tell you the difference the machine has made to my life. For decades I have been dragging myself through each day just waiting to be able to return to bed and accomplishing not very much during the day. After using the CPAP machine for only a couple of months I am finding that I am tackling jobs around the house without a second thought whereas previously it was all just too darned difficult to even contemplate. I am so very grateful to Qld. Health for making the machine available to me and am devastated that others may not be as fortunate as I have been.

So yes! If having our image on our Medicare cards will save the Government money I am all for it.

Kind regard,  
Michelle Kaplan