

I am writing to object to the proposal to amalgamate military superannuation under the same umbrella as other commonwealth employees.

I spent 21 years in the military and watched and talked with relatives, and others, as they worked in the public service. My service required me to work wherever and whenever required with complete loyalty to the organisation and Australia. In return I have expected Australia and its government to be loyal to me. I note that the requirements for public service were never as onerous as for the military.

Since retiring 20 years ago I have noticed that respective governments have done little to correct imbalances on military pension. Pension adjustment at the cpi rate used to be undertaken yearly but are now adjusted half yearly. Nonetheless, military superannuants of my era are effectively going backwards. If the military is to be lumped in with all public servants then I believe that the unique aspects of service life will be overlooked in comparison with everyone else. As the current military scheme does not currently give loyalty to the recipient, I believe that the proposed method will be worse.

I believe that military superannuation schemes must remain separate from others. Further, I believe that the scheme must be controlled by a Board of Directors who fully appreciate, and are loyal to, the military recipient and the aspects of his/her military life.

Yours faithfully

Alan Hurditch