

9 July 2024



DEFEND CHOICE & CONTROL NDIS

Submission I am extremely pleased that the Senate is giving individuals a chance to have a say in relation to NDIS Amendment Act.

This is feedback to give the committee some extra understanding of what is happening out in the community to carers who look after profoundly disabled people 24/7, over and above those already in hand.

I have personally been involved with a profoundly disabled young person for over 43 years.

First up the NDIS is a great scheme and the two-year funding was working well for us – that is up until about November last year when accounts we previously received monthly and fortnightly from service providers were taking longer than normal to be reimbursed by NDIS.

A result of this was that the service providers started sending weekly accounts that more than doubled our workload – i.e. checking rosters, hours, payments, invoices and the services were actually provided.

It appears that NDIS reimbursements are now taking even longer and have become harder to check and sort out as all the individual service provider payments are accumulated into one payment making it in some cases extremely difficult to check especially if reimbursements for several weeks together with travel allowances are accumulated into one payment

This I believe is another avenue that may well be open to abuse as the checking we do with our service providers re hours, spread of hours, invoices and services delivered needs constant supervision.

Our workload has doubled, carers of 24/7 clients are single parents who often are on a pension of \$500 per week without super and or sick pay let alone able to have a holiday.

Please try and find a solution to ease the carers workload and personal financial hardships

And

Address why the problems re NDIS reimbursement have been adversely impacted the work load of carers.

Many thanks