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Submission to the Treasury Laws Amendment (Protecting Your Superannuation Package) Bill 2018

Anglicare Australia would like to commend the Government for its proposed changes to the Treasury Laws Amendment Bill 2018.

The proposed measures will help unite people with their superannuation and prevent any low-balance accounts from being eroded; something of great assistance to people on low incomes and with work histories that have seen them earn small amounts over their working life. This is particularly important to women who have taken years out of the workforce to care for children and those who have worked part time for several years to fit in with caring duties.

Anglicare Australia urges the committee to recommend further steps to improve the superannuation system and address the gender gap in superannuation, which has seen no real improvements in the last decade.¹ One-third of women are still retiring with no superannuation. Many women retire into poverty and are heavily reliant on the age pension. A fairer system that enables women (and low income earners more broadly) to reach greater economic security in retirement can be achieved by implementing the five recommendations of the Women in Super (WIS) *Make Super Fair* campaign.² We also remind the committee of the more detailed work carried out by its sister Reference Committee, whose April 2016 report 'A husband is not a retirement plan – Achieving Economic Security for Women in Retirement' makes a very clear case for the recommendations referred to above.

We thank the Committee for its consideration of our position on this issue. Should you require further information, please contact the Anglicare Australia office on [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]
Roland Manderson
Acting Executive Director
Anglicare Australia

¹ Superannuation of female intending retirees still lags, Press Release June 29 2018, Roy Morgan
<https://www.roymorgan.com/findings/7642-superannuation-of-female-intending-retirees-still-lags-201806290657>
² <http://www.womeninsuper.com.au/content/make-super-fair/giupb5>