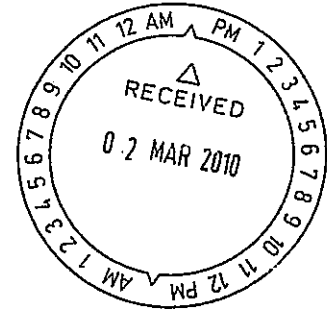


From: LTCOL Moose Dunlop OAM (Retd)

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration
PO Box 6100, Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Sir or Madam,

GOVERNMENT SUPERANNUATION SCHEMES BILL

I am writing to object to the proposed changes being implemented by the current Government to bring military superannuation under the same authority as other commonwealth employees via the proposed *Government Superannuation Schemes Bill 2010*.

It is patently obvious to me as a serviceman and the spouse of a commonwealth public servant for more than 20 years that the requirements of military service compared to public service are like chalk and cheese. Soldiers generally, particularly those serving in the teeth arms, are subjected to greater demands and 'worn out' much earlier than persons in other more sedentary employment. It therefore follows that the superannuation conditions for each will be different. Over time this differentiation has been realized with the establishment of two administrations.

Perhaps the most disappointing aspect of this exercise is that the parliament generally, and certainly the government, are not aware of these differences. The day the government or the parliament sends the public service to war will mark the day when common ground may dictate circumstances requiring a ***one superannuation size fits all solution***. That does not currently exist and is not imaginable.

The question therefore is; why is this happening when the differences are stark and obvious? Will the economies of scale outweigh the special consideration now afforded to service persons carrying out the frequently dangerous government taskings which the military accept? Will such steps become the millstone for recruiting in the future?

This discrepancy and proposed intermarriage of benefits is entirely out of proportion to those who do not have to place themselves in harm's way. Therefore it is an unfair proposal that will disadvantage those past and future military enlistees who elect to serve in our military.

Military superannuation schemes must remain separate from other schemes and be controlled by a separate Board of Directors who understand the uniqueness of military service.

I am happy to expand on any matters raised.

Yours faithfully,