

**From:**  
**To:** [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\): c](#)  
**Subject:** sub912Submission to the Inquiry into the National Disability Insurance Scheme Bill 2012  
**Date:** Thursday, 17 January 2013 1:16:02 PM

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Please consider this email a formal submission by me to the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs Inquiry into the National Disability Insurance Scheme Bill 2012.

The current disability system has many problems that need to be addressed.

My real concern is that care givers may not always be the best people to manage the money that will be available to the person with a disability and they may not make best decisions for people who haven't the ability to be able to direct their own lives and the way they want to live them. I have seen many times abuse of funds that were given to a person with a disability by their parent or care giver. The world doesn't necessarily produce perfect people who are in charge of them now and my concern is that if large sums of money are given to not so good care givers, who will use the money for themselves or not in the best interests of the person with a disability who will be far worse off than they were before the NDIS. Not that I believe something shouldn't change from the way it is now I do, but there needs to be some sort of competency test before someone is able to be legally responsible for the financial care of another human being who may not have the ability to protect themselves even from their loved ones. Fortunately it will work for my family as my son has amazing family support and the family would always protect him even from each other if that were necessary.  
regards Carmel

The main features of the NDIS that will make a difference to the community are:

The ability to receive services when needed and in the way that suits the person, Increased ability to coordinate services to suit the "whole" person/family, Older parents and families will not worry what happens when they can no longer provide support

The most important services for the NDIS to provide are:

Therapy and allied health services, Life-skills, Positive behaviour support and psychological services

I support the introduction of the NDIS.

I wish I really understood the NDIS as for me it hasn't been explained and delved into the real issue of the diverse range of issues that occur both with the person with the disability and the long term impacts that has on their family, I have not been able to get a clear view of what its going to look like to be able to give a good reason my concern is that this politically motivated and that its building the hopes up of the most vulnerable people in our society and their families who I know have built this NDIS up in their minds to be the savior of all their issues going forward. I would not like to see NDIS not be able to meet their very high expectations of being cared for because of political motivation and vote getting as the fall out in human cost will be horrendous if it fails to be what its cracked up to be in the media by politicians.

I work in a disability organisation and I know first hand that the bureaucrats, no matter what the politicians think will run this system to the way they want it and treasury wants it done and they will be the ones to make it or break it, no matter

what the politicians may say or think after legislation.

But for Gods sake if your going to do it, do it well the first time or don't do it at all until you have ironed all the bugs out of the system and not out of political expediency, as if you don't, the backlash will be ferocious for whoever is in the seat, but the saddest part will be that we will have forever lost the faith and trust of all these very vulnerable people and they will no longer trust in the Australian people /government to take care of them as they need and should to taken care of.

I agree for my submission to be made public

Regards,

Ms Carmel Crouch