

Monday, 18 July 2011



The Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600  
Australia

Dear Committee Secretary,

I wanted to take this opportunity to express how much my Mental Health Program (MHP) has helped me with my circumstances. I am half way through my 12 annual appointments in the program and have heard that the Government is intending to cut the program down to 10 psychology appointments a year. In addition to this, I have heard that I will liable to pay \$38.20 per visit to my Clinical Psychologist, of which I would not be able to afford to see my therapist should this go ahead due to financial hardship.

Although I have regular appointments with my General Practitioner (GP), I could never receive the assistance I require for my condition through my GP.

The first three appointments I had in my MHP were with a General Psychologist. I found them beneath the care I needed for my condition so I sought the care of my current Clinical Psychologist. The differences I can report between the two are too numerous to mention. I urge you to please leave the program to 12 appointments and retain the existing subsidy to cover my appointments for Clinical Psychology appointments without having to pay the excess fee.

Thank you for your consideration. I appreciate you taking the time to read my plea.

Sincerely