

Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT

Dear Committee Secretary

I wish to advise you of my objection to proposed changes to Government Superannuation Schemes, especially the proposed merger I also object to the ACTU having anything to do with Military Superannuation. I find it particularly gauling that the President of the ACTU will be able to nominate three Directors whereas the Chief of Defence Force will only be able to nominate two Directors. (Talk about getting the balance right) Since the Chief of Defence has control over three branches of the Defence Force I would have thought it appropriate for him to be able to nominate three Directors one from each Branch of the Service.

Moreover Military Superannuation should be as distinct from Civilian Superannuation as is the Service persons duty and commitment. A serving member is a tool of the Government of the day and as such their commitment is an open cheque up to and including their life if so directed to serve in areas where they may be required to be in harms way. This is the most significant difference between a military and a civilian occupation. Whilst this is not the only difference there are many and varied.

Military superannuation in its current form has failed to keep pace with the cost of living. The method of Indexation is grossly **unfair** when compared with the way Politicians Superannuation is indexed. All we ask is that our superannuation be indexed at least the same as the Aged Pension. That would be fair. Military superannuants contributed 5.5 % of their salary during their years of service with no other choice. Similar to most aged pensioners from the workforce we also paid tax on our salary.

What I would like to see from the current Government No more reviews as its crystal clear what should be done, Disregard the Mathews report and get real.

Lets get the balance right and of course the key thing is to get cracking and actually do something positive to improve the lot of the military superannuants

In conclusion say no to the merger Military Superannuation must remain autonomous to all other Superannuation schemes because of the unique nature of military service.

Respectfully your once obedient servant

Denis Turner (DFRDB Recipient)