

Committee Secretary
Senate Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

RE: SOCIAL SECURITY AMMENDMENT (Income Support for Regional Students)
BILL 2010

Dear Sir/Madam

My husband and I live and work as a Teacher and a Nurse in Warwick, Queensland, an Inner Regional area. We have four children that we have raised here but who have had to relocate to the City to continue their education once reaching Tertiary level. The eldest two have now graduated and work in rural areas. The third child has just completed the second year of his five year Law degree. The fourth is about to commence University next year 2011.

As it costs approximately \$15,000 per year for each child to live away from home we have very much appreciated the help of Youth Allowance for each child so far. They have each worked for a year (in rural areas - Bourke, Longreach and St.George) to qualify under the "old" rules for Independence.

As you will understand from my family situation, it does not matter whether you live in an Inner Regional OR Outer Rural and Remote Area, it still costs the same amount to have your child relocate and live away from home to attend University.

For this reason I feel that excluding Inner Regional areas from the same rules that exist for Outer Rural and Remote students is disadvantaging and discriminating against students who have been raised in Inner Regional areas but need to relocate to continue their studies.

Thank for considering this matter.

Dave and Sally Carr
27th November, 2010