

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

I am writing this letter to register my objection at the proposed changes to military superannuation, proposed under the Governments Superannuation Schemes Bill 2010.

I have been a serving member in the ADF for 30 years and am currently working as the Doctor at the Special Air Services Regiment. I have deployed overseas on numerous occasions, including twice to Afghanistan in the past couple of years. In recent years I have become frustrated that with the continued erosion of Defence member's entitlements and comparative pay and allowances. This has occurred in a time when Defence member's lives are being lost and its members subject to an extremely high tempo of operations.

There is little doubt that combining military super with other trade union and public servants will see a fall in our standards. It is inconceivable that 2 Defence representatives on a board of 10 will be able to protect the entitlements of Defence members.

Currently Defence is having difficulty in recruiting and maintaining its skilled workforce. Further erosion of our conditions of service will only lead to more difficulty in maintaining our skill base and our ability to meet our commitments.

I believe that the unique nature of Defence work justifies its own scheme controlled by its own directors.

Sincerely

Dr. Mark Wright
MAJOR
RMO SASR