

**From:**  
**To:** [Community Affairs, Committee \(SEN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Submission to the Inquiry into the National Disability Insurance Scheme Bill 2012  
**Date:** Thursday, 17 January 2013 9:52:15 AM

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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.

- too disconnected
- narrow selection criteria in order to secure funding
- not enough specialist services
- not person centred
- person with disability does not hold the power or control over their services
- not enough focus on making society more accessible

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

People with a disability can choose the types of support to use, More rights for people with a disability, 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:

Accommodation options, Flexible in-home/outside home respite, Case management, planning and coordination

I support the introduction of the NDIS.

Australia is a wealthy nation and should be taking the lead when showing the rest of the world how to effectively support and integrate people living with disabilities into the community. I believe one of the greatest barriers for people living with disabilities is a lack of investment into infrastructure and services that enable them to access all sections of our society. We all have a responsibility to uphold the rights of the most vulnerable people in our community.

I agree for my submission to be made public

Regards,

Ms Carolyn Smith