

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

SUBMISSION TO THE SENATE INQUIRY INTO SUPERANNUATION REFORM

I write as a veteran of nearly 38 years Military service with service in South Vietnam, New Guinea and the United Kingdom. During my service I experienced many months of absence from my family with the resultant burden on my spouse caring for children without her husband's support. I object strongly to the proposal to amalgamate military and Public Service superannuation administration for the following reasons:

There is a significant difference between military and civilian occupations, evidenced by the above and the greater risk to life posed by military service.

I believe strongly that Labor Party philosophy has always been to lump military administration more closely with other non related occupations.

I cannot accept that the committee that will investigate this matter is made up of three union members, organizations I submit are not in favour of separate conditions for military members. The five members nominated by the Finance Minister, I submit, will strongly support the system that provides the best fiscal outcome to the Government and with no interest in the special conditions of employment of the military.

Finally I state that I have always supported the Labor Party at the ballot but I feel so strongly about this legislation that I will never again vote for that party in either State or Federal election

Faithfully,

William J Beckwith, ex Royal Australian Engineers 1955 to 2003