

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

Dear Sir/Madam,

Members of the public who put up their hand and swear allegiance to Queen and Country to serve in the Armed Forces are certainly different to a worker on a building site, a clerk in an air conditioned office etc. We are subjected to civilian and military law during this service, we learn how to kill and we voluntarily put ourselves into hazardous situations as the case demands.

We leave the services after a long period, we have to adjust to a civilian job mostly as we still have years of work in front of us. I can tell you from personal experience, leaving the forces after 27 years in the Australian Regular Army is a culture shock. I went onto serving another 8 years in the Reserve and have a lot of respect for the Army Reserve now I have been with them.

The point I am making; service personnel provide a valuable contribution to this country, once they have provided their contribution, they must have the assurance their Superannuation can support them during any transition and later in life when many of the hardships and injuries sustained manifest themselves and can impact negatively on lifestyle and future earning capacity.

I will support any person who holds our Superannuation close to their heart and ensures there is no diminution or "watering down" of the scheme.

Yours Sincerely,
Werner Golla
Ex Army