

APC 17/7/08

**Submission No. 862**  
(Inq into better support for carers)

---

**From:** Barry |  
**Sent:** Friday, 4 July 2008 5:00 PM  
**To:** Committee, FCHY (REPS)  
**Subject:** FW: Submission for Parliamentary Inquiry into Better Support for Carers

Friday 4 July 2008

Barry

Committee Secretary  
Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth  
PO Box 6021  
House of Representatives  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Secretary

I wish to make a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth's Inquiry into Better Support for Carers.

I have a son with significant support needs.

I have had to reduce my working by one day per week and take on another full time employee to ensure our son, can attend his various physio, speech sessions etc ( more is needed but....).

Following are the actions I think need to be taken.

**ACTIONS** the current Labour Parliament could enact are:

- The government can assist carers by making Pave the Way courses available whilst maintaining the quality.
- Consistent & More Carers made available – eg for long distance travel ie shopping, going out we use a wheelchair. So I am limited to when I can go out especially when I needed to use a pram for my younger children. So again I needed assistance just to do the shopping.
- Wheelchairs – the government can assist those in supporting those in wheelchairs by putting into law that every doorway in Australia be made wide enough to fit an adult wheelchair and the biggest adult walker both domestically and commercially. By putting into law that the entrance to every commercial building should be wheelchair accessible.

- By legislating that 10% of all 1 and 2 bedroom holiday accommodation should have an entrance that is wheelchair accessible and have a wheelchair friendly bathroom.

We have not asked much of the public system to date but without improved Carers support & resources, the next few years could see the physical demands of caring for our son, begin to impact heavily. Increased support now for Carers, will begin to pay off immediately to all of us, the circle of family/friends locally.

Please acknowledge receipt of this email.

Thanking you  
Barry