

AOC 17/7/08

Submission No. 888
(Inq into better support for carers)

From:
Sent: Friday, 4 July 2008 9:30 AM
To: Committee, FCHY (REPS)
Subject: Submission re: Carers

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to make a submission on my views on how the Government can provide better support to Carers. I care for my husband who has various physical and mental illnesses, he is aged 64. I also care for our 12 year old son who has high-functioning Autism.

I recently discovered that next year when my husband turns 65 I will be taxed on my Carer Payment.

I guess everyone has to pay their share of taxes but still I was horrified to learn this. It is difficult enough to live on this payment without losing more of it in tax.

We also have a daughter and our total fortnightly income from these payments is \$1335. Basically, this is all we have to live on.

As carers, we save the Government millions of dollars each year looking after our loved ones here at home and because of this I think Carers should not be taxed on their benefit just because they or the person they care for has turned 65.