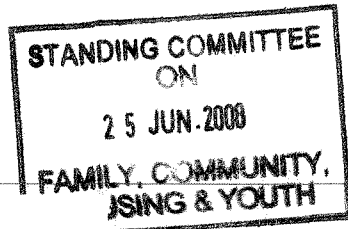


A.O.C. 1/7/08

Submission No. 351
(Inq into better support for carers)



RHOWDA

20/06/08

Dear Secretary

I wish to make submission to the House of Representatives Stand Committee on family, community, housing and youth. Inquiry into better support for carers. As a carer, I feel that my role is 24 hrs a day 7 days a week. We have been looking after our son for 27 years Totally FULL CARE. He is severely intellectually disabled with bowel problems all his life now with a Colostomy. Bladder problems with intermittent catheter. Bipolar and seizures of later years.

We face the problems that we aren't getting any younger we are nearing retirement age. The care of our son is getting harder as we get older. We would like to have a break when we are retired so we can do the things together just retired people do, when their family is off their hands.

I think the government can help better by supporting us, before we break down as a family. We undeniably need Community housing so our adult children like ours can be looked after in the future. I think we have done our duty of care. We have well deserve a break. Our son can't ever be left on his own while we go to the shops for half an hr.

Community housing in group homes would be ideal for our son with people with the same needs, as they don't have mates only our older friends.

Thank you for taking my views into consideration as part of the committee's Inquiry. I look forward to reviewing any recommendations you make to improve our lives

R.