

**TO THE HONOURABLE THE SPEAKER AND MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES**

The Petitioners draws to the attention of the House the changes made to the qualification criteria for the Youth Allowance. We therefore ask the House to move the start date of the new criteria for 12 months in order to cater for the students currently taking a Gap Year in 2009.

The petitioners also request the Government reconsider the requirement of working 30 hours a week for 18 months in a 2 year period in order to qualify as an independent student resulting in added disadvantage incurred by rural and remote students who are forced to relocate in order to participate in higher education.