

Verna

23 June 2008

Submission No. 334
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C. 1/7/08

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

email: Chairperson
committee.reps@aph.gov.au

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 am a carer for my husband who is 68 years old. He has **Parkinsons**, he is **Deaf** and he is on medication for a quadruple **Heart Bypass**.

We live in the country with no public transport. We are 60 klm's from Bunbury, our closest big town. We have visiting specialists who visit Bunbury, but with the rising cost of petrol I don't know how long we can find the money do this. I get **\$100 a fortnight as a Carer**. I also suffer a serious **Lung Disease and am on Medication**.

We pay the same price for a loaf of bread or bottle of milk as someone on \$100,000 per annum. I am doing the government a favour for a lousy \$100 a fortnight, as I could be costing the Government thousands by having my husband admitted to a nursing home.

We paid our taxes in our working years. I started work at 14 yrs old!

I think the government can better help carers by paying us the amount we deserve and by showing more compassion and I would like to see how the government would cope living on our pension!!!!

Yours sincerely

Verna