



Australian Government

Department of Families, Housing,  
Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

Senator Claire Moore  
Chair  
Senate Community Affairs Committee  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Moore

CLARIFICATION OF INFORMATION TO SENATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE –  
1 JUNE 2011

I am writing to clarify an answer that I provided during the Community Affairs Committee's examination of Output 4.1, Income Support for Seniors of the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) on 1 June 2011.

In response to a question from Senator Mark Furner about the benefit to pensioners of the new Work Bonus, I stated that, 'The direct impact of that would be that the person's pension would go up by \$20 a fortnight'.

My answer should have been, '...would go up by \$25 a fortnight'.

I note that as a result of my error, Senator Furner subsequently stated that in relation to a combined pension household "...the savings would be \$40 between the two, is that correct?

Had I stated the correct figure, Senator Furner would have stated '\$50' (correct figure) instead of '\$40'.

I apologise for this error and I am seeking your agreement to amend the transcript of the Committee's proceedings to reflect the correct answer.

Yours sincerely

Alanna Foster  
Branch Manager  
Seniors and Means Test  
Social Policy Group

24 June 2011