

28 September 2006

Mr Elton Humphrey
Committee Secretary
Australian Senate Community Affairs Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Mr Humphrey

Re: Inquiry into Aged Care Amendment (Residential Care) Bill 2006

Catholic Health Australia (CHA) supports this Bill as it brings the treatment of gifting and income streams for aged care assets testing purposes into line with the treatment for pension assets testing purposes, as announced in the 2006-07 Federal Budget.

CHA has previously advocated for this to occur and is pleased to support the Bill accordingly.

CHA also supports the other matter that this Bill addresses, ie the granting to Aged Care Assessment Teams (ACATs) the power to formally approve aged care residential respite care extensions beyond the current maximum of 63 days per financial year.

CHA does not wish to appear at the public hearing in Canberra on 4 October 2006.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to make a submission.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Gray'.

RICHARD GRAY
Director Aged Care Services

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