



4 October 2006

Elton Humphrey
Committee Secretary
Community Affairs Committee
Australian Senate
Email: community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au.

Re: Aged Care Amendment (Residential Care) Bill 2006

In relation to the proposed Bill, the Australian Nursing Federation advises:

- (a) That the ANF does not object to the proposed changes to the gifting and income streams for aged care assets testing purposes to bring them into line with the way they are dealt with for pension assets testing purposes. The ANF notes that the National Aged Care Alliance has supported the proposed changes to the Bill as outlined in their publication: *Response to the Review of Pricing Arrangements in Residential Aged Care* (www.naca.asn.au/pdf/hogan_report.pdf). Additionally, the ANF does not object to the transfer of asset testing responsibility to Centrelink, providing that Centrelink is adequately resourced to be able to conduct these assessments in a timely manner to ensure a persons' entry into residential aged care is not delayed.
- (b) That the ANF does not object to the proposed changes to allow the Secretary to the Department of Health and Ageing to delegate to members of the Aged Care Assessment Team the Secretary's power to extend the maximum number of days per year on which a person may be provided with residential respite care.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill Iliffe".

JILL ILIFFE
Federal Secretary

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ANF Journals

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