

I would like to make a submission to the Senate Community Affairs Committee, with regard to the change on the legislation for partner service pensions, I would like to ask the committee to have a realistic look at the stated \$34 million saving. Taking into account some aspects which I don't believe were included.

All of the partners (mostly women) will be over 50, most will be either stay at home or working part time, if they are not employed they will be required to register with centrelink (many will find this an embarrassment) the cost of these benefits combined with centrelink and employment agency costs will be more than the pension, if they are working part time they will have to give a serious look at what they really receive after tax and reductions to their husbands pension compared to going on benefits and doing the over 50 15hrs a week voluntary work, if they are working full time then the government will save because the returned serviceman will lose his pension and be reliant on his wife (more embarrassment and possible fiction) what a result for a returned serviceman,

Yours Paul Pratt