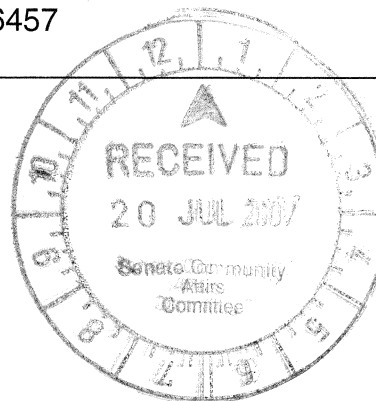


CORRIMAL PENSIONERS AND SUPERANNUANTS ASSOCIATION

5 Hudson Avenue
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16 July 2007

Senate Community Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Sir/Madam

On behalf of all members of the C.P.S.A Corrimal Branch, I would like to state our disappointment with the lack of consideration given to the plight of the older generation, at a time of life when things should, (with a caring government) be made a little easier. Many pensioners are having a struggle just to survive.

Pensions would be quite adequate if more concessions were available and the spiralling cost of living curtailed. Giving rises in pensions does not always mean it will be spent on priority needs, but concessions do.

Corrimal Pensioners and Superannuants Association believes that affordable dental care is urgently needed for pensioners as things like dentures are currently way beyond many pensioner's means.

We believe that transport is too expensive, waiting lists are unacceptable and the cost of medicines keeps creeping up.

Many of our members complain that when a partner dies the costs of the household remain the same but income and assets tests are almost cut by half.

Booking fees on concession trips are a burden to all. We would like to see **one free** train trip to a capital in another state every year or two years. Older people have worked all of their lives, reared a family, educated them with not always a chance to save for old age, but they are penalised with deeming rates, assets tests. All of these charges should be lifted on reaching 80-85 years.

Every day extra taxes are put on the public to pay for different projects. These extra taxes should be focussed on people earning high incomes, not pensioners who are finding current taxes, charges and prices a terrible burden.

We appreciate the Committee's consideration of our issues.

Yours sincerely

MARJORIE DOHERTY
SECRETARY