

Dear Senator Humphries

I read in today's Canberra Times that the above enquiry report is being delayed - so I am taking this opportunity to raise an issue that maybe others have already raised - nevertheless, here is my big concern.

As retired self-funded retirees, my husband and I are being faced with the need, because of ongoing health problems, to sell our home, which is on a corner block with a fairly large garden, and move into a smaller home or townhouse. These health issues will never be resolved (my husband has Parkinson's Disease) - they will get worse as time goes on, and as the carer, I know that we really need to be in a place that I can manage pretty well on my own, and also one that is conveniently located to public transport, shops etc.

The issue that I have, is the very high costs involved in selling and buying - multiple levels of taxes, Stamp Duty etc - in our case at least \$30,000. We have both worked very hard all our working lives to obtain and maintain a standard of living, bring up and educate a family of four children, and provide for our retirement, I feel we should not now have to move to a lesser standard of living simply because of the burden of the high "extra" costs involved.

Is there any way that people in our situation could be considered for some concession in, say Stamp Duty (as first home buyers for instance) - to make it easier to downsize, and therefore be able to remain in our own home and take care of ourselves for a very much longer period of time?

Thank you for taking the time to read my email.

(Mrs) Fahy Rolfe