

**Submission to the Community Affairs Committee, Department of the Senate,
Parliament House Canberra ACT**

Re the Federal Government's plan to link welfare payments to school attendance.

I am most concerned about the effect that the *Social Security and Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment (Schooling Requirements) Bill 2008* will have on families. In the current situation many families are already under tremendous stress. I cannot see how this legislation will actually help these families. It will only disadvantage and disempower them even more. Let's give these families the positive support that they so desperately need and not punish them even more for a situation which is largely the result of inadequate support and funding in the past.

Let's get more teachers out there and let's give all Australian children the education they deserve. Please do not allow this proposed legislation to become law.

Signed:

Katrina van Ruth RSJ