

The letter below was sent to Senator Coonan who advised me to submit it to the committee

Dear Senator,

I am one of the potential casualties of the changes to the 23AG tax ruling.

I work in New Caledonia and pay New Caledonian tax. My roster is 2 weeks of 12 hr days 7days a week followed by 7 days off, one of which is a travel day. Hardly a rich fat cat lifestyle.

The money I earn is currently spent almost exclusively in Australia to the benefit of businesses in Australia.

One of the reasons I work overseas is because of the specialized field I work in, a field that has few opportunities in Australia.

If I was to return to Australia I would find it very difficult to find employment because of lack of opportunity for my skills as well as the issue of my age (57)

Due to the extra tax burden being proposed, which will affect me greatly due to financial plans I made under the previous ruling, I am now considering establishing myself off shore where I can continue in the workforce for several more years.

In short all this change will do for the Australian economy is deprive it of my hard earned income for the period of time I will live overseas to bolster my retirement savings.

There are hundreds like me on this mine site and thousands more on other mine sites around the world that are affected in similar ways by this shortsighted policy which was delivered in such a way as to stifle debate, reply and preparation.

Regards,
John Wade