

Received 8/8/02

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Tasmania

4 August 2002

The Secretary,  
Senate Finance and Public  
Administration Legislative Committee,  
Parliament House,  
CANBERRA, ACT. 2600

Re: MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (LIFE GOLD PASS) BILL 2002

Dear Sir,

In respect to the subject enquiry, I would wish to submit the following -

As a Taxpayer and citizen of Australia, I strongly object to the Life Gold Pass for Members of Parliament.

The continuation of this benefit to past members of Parliament, in my view, is a gross misuse of public money and a luxury that this country can ill-afford.

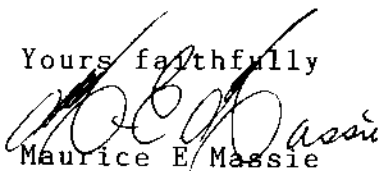
Additionally, I would submit that the Life Gold Pass is seen by members of the public as an abuse of privilege available only to a select few. It places Politicians in a poor light especially when coupled with the over generous superannuation benefits available to them.

Prior to my retirement, I was a serving member of the Tasmania Police Service. My period of service extended over some forty-one years, with the last twenty-three years being served as a Commissioned Officer. At the end of my long service, I received no Gold Pass or any other benefit comparable to that of Federal Politicians.

The short period most Politicians serve before they retire and obtain a Life Gold Pass and other major benefits by way of Superannuation, demonstrates a serious inequity when compared with that available to other citizens of Australia.

I would respectfully submit that the Members of Parliament Life Gold Pass system be abandoned forthwith, saving the Country unnecessary expenditure.

Yours faithfully

  
Maurice E. Massie  
Q.P.M., L.F.A.I.E.S.