

Dear Sir or Madam

I would ask that the Senate Committee take the following points in to consideration with regard to the removal of the references to Marriage in the proposed legislation.

- a.. Marriage should not be subsumed into a new category of 'couple relationships';
- b.. Marriage should be treated apart and all existing references to spouse, husband and wife should be retained in the superannuation law;
- c.. The legislation should refer to 'marriage and couple relationships', 'spouse and partner'. Provision for same sex couples could be made under the new category of couple relationships, meaning that same sex couples can benefit from one another's superannuation without giving up all reference to marriage in the process;
- d.. It is incorrect to make the assumption that all relationships are the same. Marriage is a uniquely committed relationship and has been shown to offer greater benefit to spouses and to children than other forms of partnership which are, by definition, less committed and therefore less stable.

Sincerely

Hinson Chan