

The Secretary  
Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee  
PO Box 6100  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600

I feel compelled to write this submission in response to the Rudd Labor Government's proposed changes to the Youth Allowance eligibility criteria.

I am very angry about the proposal and can not understand how these changes could be considered as fair and equitable.

I consider it as just another penalty for country students, which will prevent many from fulfilling their dreams of attending university.

My daughter is intending to attend university in 2012 and I am now in great fear that this dream will be unattainable.

She is a country girl with the dream of becoming a Teacher, with the goal to eventually live and work in a regional area.

Country students should be encouraged and assisted to attend university as it is these students who return to the country where the greatest professional shortages are.

Please reconsider this proposal, listen to the despair of the country students, families are hurting already, don't deal them another blow.

Mardi Winen