

Dear Sir/Madam,

It is with great concern I write to the Senate regarding the disadvantages the new changes to the Youth Allowance are creating.

My Year 12 daughter and I just watched the Q & A on the ABC and although we were engaged with the discussion we were surprised the topic of the time of **18 months** to work for thirty hours a week wasn't brought up.

The scenario of the city student living at home and parents earning \$300,000- a year only around the corner from UNI was a poor example.... to dramatically change the lives of many potential UNI students. How can the government consider this change when it is fraught with impossibilities??????

The puzzlement of how an 18 year old wanting to defer for twelve months to become independent and living possibly hundreds of kilometers away from home is to now consider deferring a two year break...this new proposal is preposterous.

My daughter thought there were plusses to working for twelve months and then resuming studies, not just the obvious being, to become independent.

How will this potential policy change affect the scholarship component of certain Universities?????? Some won't let you commence after a two year break if you were a successful scholarship recipient!!!

We live about 510kms from Sydney and have various other Uni's within 2 - 3 hundred km's from our back door...not around the corner.

Don't pass legislation to unfairly treat our future professionals whom we (her family and schools) have been shaping and molding for the last 13 years of education and to make this the reason being why she doesn't attend one of our Tertiary Institutions.

You wouldn't have to talk to many year 12 students in the country to see the anxiety this senseless change is having on them especially with trials coming up next week. We as parents are trying to lessen the anxiety level and now they have this huge question mark regarding their future direction hanging over their heads!!!

What is the goal here???? Don't we have a very high immigration intake seeking skilled people? I am all for multiculturalism but don't shoot our country in the foot and ignore our young adults as you know quiet well they are our future. Support them and they will support our country.

My goodness come out were we are and visit the many small communities and just see how many **skilled professionals we don't have!!!!!!** Wake up and smell the roses.

Effect a change that is going to benefit our potential UNI students not disadvantage them.

Yours in common sense.

Leanne Barnes