



# **Senate Select Committee on Superannuation and Financial Services**

## **Main Inquiry Reference (c)**

**Submission No. 58** (Supplementary to Submission  
No. 5)

**Submittor:** Ms Ann Byrne  
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# INDUSTRY FUNDS FORUM

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6 July 2000

The Secretary  
Senate Select Committee on Superannuation & Financial Services  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Secretary

At the recent Senate Select Committee Hearing in Melbourne on 15 June 2000 the Committee requested additional information on both the amount and the cost of arrears collection by Industry Fund Forum members.

The following report is a summary of a survey of a number of industry funds.  
Attachment 1: Survey questions.

The funds who responded were:

Name of Fund	Number of Members	Number of Employers	Assets
AMIST	44,000	2,400	\$240m
ARF	460,000	28,000	\$2.6b
BUSS (Q)	42,300	2,074	\$270m
C+BUS	325,000	23,000	\$2.8b
CARE	170,000	17,000	\$800m
HESTA	405,000	14,500	\$2.2b
PRINT SUPER	72,600	2,800	\$460m
REST	1,000,000	28,000	\$2.7b
SERF	8,200	46	\$1b
STA	370,000	15,200	\$2.5b
SUNSUPER	500,000	39,000	\$2.1b
TISS	28,639	2,841	\$180m

1. All these funds have an arrears collection process.
2. In the last year these funds collected approximately \$92 million in arrears.

3. The cost of collecting these arrears was \$2,912,000.
4. The number of members affected by employers falling into arrears in the last year was 492,356.
5. 8 of the funds utilise the courts if the employer refuses to pay the arrears. In the last year 863 employers were taken to court to collect the arrears.
6. The number of employers who made honest mistakes in the last year was approximately 93.

I hope that this information assists the Committee in its deliberations and please do not hesitate in contacting me if further information is required.

Yours sincerely



**MS ANN BYRNE**  
Convenor

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To: Ann Byrne

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From: \_\_\_\_\_

Re.: Arrears Collection

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1. Does your fund have an arrears collection process?

Yes  No

2. How much does your fund on average collect through this process on a yearly basis?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How much on average does it cost to collect these arrears?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. How many of your members have been affected by employers falling into arrears in the last year?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. If your employers do not pay, do you take them to court to seek payment?

Yes  No

If yes, how many have you taken to court over the last 3 years?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. In our submission we asked for the ATO to be given discretion for employers who make honest mistakes (see Section 3). How many of your employers make 'honest' mistakes on average each year?

\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you.