

Dear

I wish to express my bitter disappointment with the Government's refusal to stop the erosion of my standard of living which occurs because my Commonwealth superannuation pension is indexed by the CPI, rather than a wage-based index as used to index other Government funded pensions. I know that at least three Senate inquiries, involving 29 Senators have between 2001 and 2008 recommended fair pension indexation for Commonwealth superannuant pensioners. However both Labor and the Coalition when in Government have refused to provide me with what I know is only fair and equitable.

I am particularly upset because the Government is denying me the fair go that Labor promised all Australians prior to the last two elections. Why am I being discriminated against and treated so unfairly?

Prior to the last two elections I expected Labor to honour its promises of being fair to all Australians if it won those elections. I now feel betrayed because there is ample evidence to demonstrate why the CPI is an inappropriate way to index pensions. If the CPI is an appropriate pension indexation tool why did the former Government, fully supported by Labor, introduce a different index for Age Pensioners and other Government funded pensioners? Why also do retired Federal MPs and retired Federal Judges have their pensions indexed in line with increases in their salaries and allowances? The graph accompanying this letter clearly demonstrates the discrimination and unfairness to which I am subjected. Over the last twenty years why have Commonwealth superannuation pensions increased by only half the percentage increase of that for MPs and by not much more than half the percentage increase for Age Pensioners?

My standard of living has been steadily declining because of the use of the CPI to index my pension. I received no pension increase in July 2007 or in July 2009 but I know that most other Government funded pensioners rightly received an increase.

The Government was able to find many billions of dollars to stimulate the economy. I know that the cost of fairly indexing my pension is not significant in budgetary terms. I am also aware that there are considerable funds in the Future Fund which could be used to stop the unfairness to which I'm subjected.

Will you please represent my request for fair pension indexation by raising this matter both in party room meetings and in the Parliament? I am not seeking special or favoured treatment, only the *fair go* Commonwealth superannuants were promised before the last two elections; the fair go that all Australians expect and deserve. I look forward to your response.