

Committee Secretary
Inquiry into Better Support for Carers
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family,
Community, Housing and Youth
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Submission No. 729
(Inq into better support for carers)

A.O.C. 14/7/08

Dear Secretary

I wish to make a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family, Community, Housing and Youth's Inquiry into Better Support for Carers.

I am submitting to the Inquiry because...

of the concern for the role of carers which live out in
the country areas away from the areas in which services
are more available as well as the disability
pension details query

More information is attached on a separate sheet

1. The role and contribution of carers in society

As a carer, I feel that my role is...

a necessary part of our family as with
services of home help and disability taxi
programme these have to be organised in
conjunction with the shire

More information is attached on a separate sheet

2. The barriers to social and economic participation for carers

As a carer, I face the following problems ...

More information is attached on a separate sheet

3. The practical measures required to better support carers

As a carer, I need help with ...

More information is attached on a separate sheet

4. Strategies to assist carers to access opportunities and choices

I think the Government can better help carers by ...

More information is attached on a separate sheet

Thank you for taking my views into consideration as part of the Committee's Inquiry. I look forward to reviewing any recommendations you make to improve life for carers in Australia.

Yours sincerely



Signature

EVERARD

Print your name

26/6/08

Date

Contact Telephone Number

(2)

As a carer, I face the following Problems,
Living with my wife which has a severely affected
balance problem. She has not driven a vehicle
for years as her coordination of control has
been effected also. To the extent of a walking
frame. Also she has epilepsy.

As we live on a farm shopping and other
appointments and activities with the children
have always depended on me but she has
a disabled taxi card this can be a help for
appointments etc

(3)

As a carer, I need help with having people available to assist her with her shopping or appointments whether to meet her from the taxi or from other means. If it is not possible for me to go. These services to my knowledge are not available for cases such as this. This can be arranged only for days which home help ladies help out. Her condition will deteriorate further.

As our son has chosen a farming career my time must also be spent with him for guidance etc.

Previous to our assets change on the family farm 12 months ago. she received a disabled pension from centrelink, but now all pension benefits have ceased, which made it easier to meet her costs etc. because we are just above the cutoff point.

This is when they offered me the carers allowance.

As with the past drought. we have a drought relief allowance but this is a temporary fix.

(4)

I think the Government has let down carers and disabled people by not raising the assets cut off point as with land values skyrocketing which makes for a low cut off point to qualify for the disabled pension.

I would suggest that the government bring in a graduated stepped assets test which would allow something for my wife even though we are just above the current cut off point.

With farming as you know assets will not make money with the drier seasons we have had.

The carer allowance is a help with which we are thankful for.

The cancellation of my wife's disabled pension was a very traumatic experience for her.

This explanation is a little off the purpose of the question but it also affects me as a carer.