Submission to welfare review

In shrinking the welfare payments to four categories, there should be a way in which persons who are full time students or those who study 25 hours or more a week can still receive a government payment within the proposed four payments.

Before changing the Disability Support Pension, the government should amend the Fair Work Act section 12 to make the definition of an employee with a disability consistent with the Disability Discrimination Act 1992, and reinstate a full time Disability Discrimination Commissioner to ensure that persons with disabilities can obtain employment without discrimination.

I hope that the removal of supplements will mean increased pensions.

However, if this is a devil’s method of budget cuts, then I suggest the following:

Re-assessing all Disability Support Pension and Disability Support Pension Blind to determine whether they can be transferred to the National Disability Insurance Scheme and to the unemployment benefit;

Amalgamating Fair Work Commission, Workplace Gender Equality Agency and Australian Human Rights Commission into the Fair Work and Society Commission along with the relevant supporting legislation and discrimination legislation into a single act;

Amalgamating Asbestos Registry, Safe Work Australia, Commcare, Australian Transport Safety Bureau, Maritime Safety Authority and Civil Aviation Safety Authority into a single agency;

Amalgamating the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority and Australian Financial Securities Authority into a single agency;

That the Department of Social Services absorb the Department of Human Services and Department of Veterans Affairs;

That the Department of Industry, Department of Agriculture, Department of Communications, Department of Infrastructure and Regional Affairs and Department of Education be Amalgamated;

That the Attorney General Department absorb the Department of Employment and the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

Thanks for your consideration

Matthew Gee Kwun Chan