

As retirees reliant on the proceeds from our Self-Managed Superannuation Fund (SMSF) we are very concerned at reports that the Henry Tax Review is considering recommendations to remove or change the dividend imputation scheme. The current scheme helps us to invest in Australian companies and support our self-reliance in retirement by encouraging choice and competition through the operation of SMSF's in Australia's superannuation system - a system which currently promotes high fees in commercial funds for service quality/outcomes completely unrelated to performance .

We believe that removal of or change to the dividend imputation scheme, which contributes significantly to our income in retirement, would be unfair, unnecessary and a retrograde step. Such changes would also negatively impact on the relative attractiveness of investment in Australian companies as well as our income stream and standard of living in a poor economic environment exacerbated by the progressive withdrawal of Federal and State government support across the board for Australians.

This is a serious issue for self-funded retirees the outcome of which will affect our voting intentions at the next Federal election. It goes to the heart of our ability to live on a fixed, market-driven income in an increasingly non-supportive government services environment.

Rod & Jan Chidgey