

I am writing to express the concern of me and my wife about seemingly well sourced reports that the "Australia's Future Tax System Review" is considering removing or changing the dividend imputation credit scheme.

We have run our self-managed super scheme for many years now. We set it up in the belief that we should be as far as possible self-supporting in our retirement. And -- I know this is an old-fashioned notion -- with the idea that we could invest in Australian companies with obvious advantages both for us and the Australian economy. Also, after many years of contributing to industry and private funds, we welcomed the chance to support the choices and competition that self-managed super funds bring to Australia's superannuation system.

We rely to a significant extent on dividend income to help us in our retirement and we believe that any removal or change to the scheme would be unfair, unnecessary and retrograde. It is obvious that it will affect negatively the value of Australian companies in which we hold shares -- companies which provide us with much-needed income, especially in these difficult economic times.

I find it hard to believe that a Labor government would contemplate reversing a measure taken by one of its predecessors which was rightly hailed at the time as a huge step forward for Australian investors. This issue is so serious that after much discussion we have decided that it will be the single biggest issue that decides our vote in the next election.

Yours sincerely

Phil and Yvonne Harrison
[removed for privacy reasons]