

Sir/Madam

The pending report on taxation changes is rumoured to contain a recommendation to change the "Franked" clause that reduces the amount we self-funded elderly citizens have to pay in tax. In other words, if this rumour is true, you intend to take us back to the Menzies era! Even Howard was not so cold hearted nor economically inept as to do this.

My wife and I draw NO pension although we are both in our late [removed for privacy reasons] because we wish to be independant.

Possibly you have not noticed that the stock market has hit zone zero and that dividends have been substantially cut across the board? As public paid servants of the people, you are completely protected, unlike those of us who were workers and now face a poverty line standard of living. You are cushioned against this of course thanks to tax payers!

We hope the rumour is not true and that you and the present Federal Government realise the hardship (and massive vote loss) the nation will suffer.

We submit that it is not in the interests of our Nation to change the franking system and that many people at present, self-funding, will apply for the pension which will have a dramatic upset to the Federal budget.

Thank you

G and B Mc Veagh