

**From:**  
**To:** [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)  
**Subject:** HIV treatments  
**Date:** Monday, 7 April 2014 2:48:38 PM

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This is just to let you know

Three years ago I stopped work as a result of HIV related dementia (after 19 years), one year ago I returned to work three days a week, at this point I stopped my HIV treatments because I couldn't afford them. I'll be back on them soon because I have gone up to half time. Originally getting onto Social Security when you're living in a rural town with no access meant I had to fund and pay for my own journey two and half hours to Mt Gambier and back for the interview process and it took a month for it to happen as soon as I got it I could afford to head for Adelaide as a respite center had kindly agreed to take me in the next day, I didn't make I was admitted to the RAH with advanced septicemia. If it wasn't for my good friends who put me up the night before my supposed admission to the respite center I would no doubt have died alone on a rural property dehydrated beyond being able to think or act for myself with my kidneys beginning to shut down. The notion of applying for a health care card from Social security when I returned to work was too traumatic to even bother contemplating

Regards,