

**From:**  
**To:** [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)  
**Subject:** Disability support pension  
**Date:** Sunday, 22 June 2014 3:25:00 PM

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Dear Senators

I have been on the disability support pension (DSP) for a number of years since having a stroke in 2007.

Initially I spent 4 years on unemployment benefits (U/P) completing courses and obligations as required, and attending countless job interviews.

Only moving to DSP after discussions with my family, doctor and job search provider.

One of my great joys after moving onto DSP has been traveling overseas (O/S). I have recently been granted portability but I didn't apply for this for 1.5 years through fear of losing my DSP.

DSP recipients are unfit for work. So why is the government treating them so unfairly and restricting the time O/S they will be paid ? And limiting their traveling time in a year ?

In my opinion people don't go on DSP as a lifestyle choice ! My travels O/S are very frugal, using low cost carriers with poor connections.

To be honest being unwell it takes me about a month to recover from a one way trip, and now the government is expecting unfit/unwell DSP recipients to travel twice in 4 weeks if they want to be paid.

Why doesn't the government send everyone on DSP a cyanide pill ?

It must be what they think of us !

Unemployment !

I can sort of understand what the government is trying to achieve with the changes to under 30 unemployed but they are going way overboard.

Why don't they offer some choices ?

Bring back National service on a part time basis, create a forestry/tree planting service for those not interested in the armed services.

Some people are not suited to studying and this change is going to cost a fortune in crap course fees.

Yours sincerely