

Committee Secretary
Senate Economics Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

9 February 2017

Dear Mr Fitt,

Re: Inquiry into the Superannuation (Objective) Bill 2016 [Provisions]

Women in Super (WIS) appeared before the Senate Economics Legislation Committee on Monday 6 February to provide further submissions in relation to the Committee's Inquiry into the Superannuation (Objective) Bill 2016.

During the course of giving evidence, we took a question on notice from Senator Ketter regarding whether we were supportive of an alternative wording for the objective which has been put forward by a number of superannuation related entities, as follows:

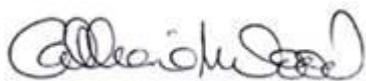
The primary objective of the superannuation system is "To provide an adequate income to ensure all Australians achieve a comfortable standard of living in retirement, supplementing or substituting the age pension".

WIS would be supportive of the adoption of this wording for the primary legislative objective of super, given our support for inclusion of a clear and measurable level of retirement income, subject to reference to "ensuring all Australian men and women" achieve a comfortable standard rather than "all Australians".

We greatly appreciate the opportunity to provide input into the Committee's considerations and urge you to recommend the inclusion of an explicit gender focus in the legislative objective, and in so doing ensure a constructive policy focus on addressing the persistent and significant economic and social disadvantage experienced by most women in terms of their retirement income.

Please do not hesitate to contact Sandra Buckley on sbuckley@womeninsuper.com.au should you have any further queries.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Catherine Wood'.

Catherine Wood
Chair, Women in Super