

From:
To: [Community Affairs, Committee \(SEN\)](#)
Subject: SUBMISSION: Social Services Legislation Amendment (Strengthening Income Support) Bill 2021
Date: Thursday, 25 February 2021 8:22:06 PM

To whom it may concern,

I would like to make a submission regarding the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Strengthening Income Support) Bill 2021.

The rate needs to be raised it's just not adequate going from single parent payment to jobseeker at \$200 less than SPP was very very hard! at times I didn't think I could drive my kid's to school as I couldn't afford the petrol car was running on fumes weekly, my bills got way behind grocery shopping was cut severely buying meat on clearance as it expired that day, anything to save money to put towards utilities, I'm now working part time under an ABN so still get a part payment from CL, I manage my money carefully each fortnight paying utilities but by bit evenly my spending is non existing as there is no spare money to spend at all high school uniform was 770 just for summer(winter uniform will have to wait until I can find more money) 1 hat and 4 pairs of socks, two pairs of shorts one white shirt a house shirt a sports shirt and new school Backpack (all are compulsory!!!as have school logo on all!) oh a new MacBook Air \$1300! Again compulsory!

That's just one child thankfully the youngest has old uniform to be passed down he just needed a Apple iPad \$600 I owe my mother a few thousand just to get them in school this year, I don't get rent assistance as I have a mortgage this jobseeker increase is a way out of poverty having money to be able to get my hair cut ! Having petrol to get to work also not going without meals so I can give the kids more food than me, the average rent in my area(and not a great area !)is \$350-\$450 pw there is no way I could afford to rent and Thankgod I don't have to but there are plenty who are not lucky enough to be in their own home.

Covid and the extra supplement actually got me caught up on power and water bills for the first time ever since my husband walked out on his family, I could put more than \$20 fuel in my car and not worry about getting my kids to school everyday, feeding them better food our house was happier the kids were happier as I wasn't as stressed and strung out, I'm fearing March so much when the rate goes back to pre covid rate

Please raise the rate by an amount that will halo people out of the cycle of poverty ! give people a chance to pay their rents and have a chance at becoming employable by helping their mental health and being healthy you cannot be healthy on \$500 a fortnight the figures don't lie there is no money for food it's rent or street you can't be homeless with kids !!!! So mother's don't eat !

Yours sincerely,