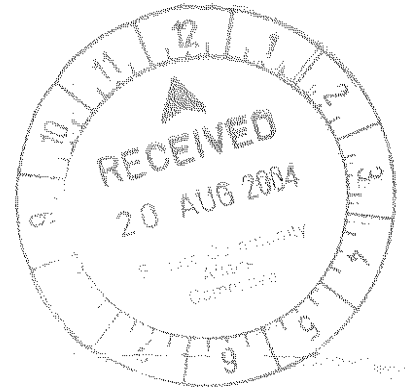


NSW RETIRED TEACHERS **ASSOCIATION**

13 Vesper Street
Mona Vale
NSW 2103

17th August, 2004



Chairperson
Senate Inquiry into Aged Care
Parliament House
Canberra
ACT 2600

At the August meeting of the NSW Retired Teachers Association, representing 5000 members, the submission on the Inquiry into Aged Care by the Combined Pensioners and Superannuants Association was fully supported.

Attached is a copy of their recommendations. We sincerely hope that these recommendations receive your full and positive consideration.

Yours faithfully


Ken Muir
Hon Sec

Recommendations

1. The trend towards deprofessionalisation in the aged care industry must be halted.
2. Aged care nurses in all states should have their pay brought into line with their colleagues in the hospital system.
3. The growth of casualisation in the aged care industry must cease.
4. A comprehensive strategy to promote aged care nursing as a career should be worked out between government and universities.
5. The *Aged Care Act 1997* should be abolished.
6. The Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency should be abolished and aged care be brought under direct control of the Department of Health and Ageing.
7. New legislation in place of the *Aged Care Act 1997* should be modelled on legislation governing the public hospital system.
8. The Australian Government and state governments need to establish a timeline and a comprehensive strategy, in consultation with the National Advocacy Alliance for Young People in Nursing Homes and other interested community organisations, to relocate younger people currently living in nursing homes to more appropriate settings.
9. The Home and Community Care (HACC) Program should receive a 20 per cent funding increase each year to meet the needs of its target groups and be comprehensively promoted as a service.
10. The Australian Government, state governments and interested community organisations need to implement a strategy to fill any gaps in the discharge process of older people going from hospital to aged care facilities or the community.