

The Secretary,

Re: changes to Youth Allowance – rural and regional

Please accept my submission to the Senate Committee.

I am greatly concerned about the proposed changes and would like to register my opposition to them.

We live on a farm in the Riverina and are 40 km from the main town of Wagga Wagga.

If the proposed changes are introduced, my children will be excluded from receiving Youth Allowance because it will make it impossible to work the necessary hours &/or earn the necessary amount that Centrelink demands.

This would be an unjust treatment of my children and of all rural youth who would be hoping to enter some form of tertiary study.

Please consider the difficulties in obtaining work in a rural area due to reduced availability of jobs.

Please consider the amount of travel imposed on these youths who will be forced to keep 2 or 3 jobs if they can find them in the first place.

Yours sincerely,

Mary McGrath