

Sent: Friday, 31 July 2009 6:53 PM
To: Committee, EEW (SEN)
Subject: proposed changes to youth allowance

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jack Bennett and I am writing to express my grave concern about the proposed changes to the current youth allowance system.

I graduated year 12 and took a gap year intending to save and save enough money working as a trainee teacher, to pursue my passion of acting through a university course (unfortunately the course I got into was non-deferrable so it makes my situation even more difficult) I do not come from a wealthy family without the support of the youth allowance it will be a very long time before I am able to continue my studies. The proposed changes are going to disadvantage people in my such situation who took a gap year this year in good faith wishing to do the right thing and under the impression that our parents had elected for us would support us through university to become the best we could be. Also the idea that newly graduated students will be able to find full time 30 hour a week work is utterly absurd. I consider such changes ill thought out, heartless and counter productive.

I agree that the youth allowance system is too easy to manipulate and needs to have adjustments but the proposed changes will not only make it more difficult for wealthy students to get youth allowance but also students such as myself who are future voters to.

I thank you for reading my submission and welcome any reply

Yours sincerely

Jack Bennett