

27/7/09

The Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport.
Parliament house,
Canberra.

I wish to object to the proposed changes to Youth Allowance regarding regional students wishing to attend universities, not available in our towns. The person who came up with these new rules needs to visit our small rural towns and see how difficult it would be for young people to find 30 hours a week employment over 18 mths to meet the new criteria. Further universities allow deferment of studies for one year and would make it extremely difficult for new students. I have one grandson presently working under the old rules for his gap year and this will throw all plans into disarray. Parents with 2 and 3 students within a two or three year range will find it impossible to allow all to further their studies. I realise that there would be some rorting the system who are living at home and claiming the allowance but this is impossible for regional students. Please let some common sense be used in this debate.

Yours faithfully,
Gloria Baldwin

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