

Author name: Anonymous

Date of submission: Monday, 1 February 2016

Submission: I am not on the aged pension but have a very modest superannuation pension. If public fare policy changes, this would disqualify me from the Golden Opal Seniors card which I presently use. This massive Opal card increase from \$2.50 a day to \$9 a day would severely limit my mobility and social interaction with others and general quality of life. If it affects me in this way it will affect millions of others. It will lead to isolation, being less active physically and socially and to increased depression in the elderly. Other seniors may continue to drive when they should not. Surely revenue raising through excessive public transport costs should not target the elderly. The net is cast too wide for the \$9 fare increase. Through a means test, exclude those who are genuinely wealthy in terms of income and assets from qualifying for the Golden Opal card. Those on modest super pensions, similar to the aged pension should still qualify for the \$2.50 card.