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Submission: Yes to an increase in the daily charge for all holders of the seniors opal card from \$2.50 to \$3.60.

No to any change in the eligibility for a seniors opal card ie a seniors opal card should be available to all persons over 60 who satisfy the income criteria as is the current situation. This includes many self-funded retirees who may be not much better off materially or in terms of disposable income than persons on the Centrelink age pension.

The availability of travel at a significantly reduced charge is an important benefit to the quality of life of many older people in the community, enabling them to engage in activities in a meaningful way which advantages their health and well-being.

And the state of NSW can afford it, even though the concept may not accord idealogically with conservative market-driven attitudes to people getting something from government which to their minds they may not have "earned".