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Submission: Dear Sirs

As self funded retirees, we are appalled at the proposal to make us ineligible for the gold Opal card. With the recent decline in the stock market, the value of our investments & income has been reduced substantially, to the extent that our income is less than many part pensioners. The Gold Opal card has been the only minor benefit provided to self funded retirees who through hard work & saving over many years are saving the Government many millions of dollars by not drawing the aged pension. This negative proposal further reduces the incentive for S.F. retirees to save for retirement as it would be better to spend our money on overseas trips etc. to reduce our assets to a level where we would qualify for the Aged pension & all the associated benefits. Surely the Government should encourage retirees to be independent & thereby save on Social security hand outs. The proposal is totally unfair & will certainly be considered & highlighted to our Seniors via our Probus clubs etc .at the time of the next elections.