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Submission: I wish to raise an objection to the proposal to increase the Opal Card Daily Cap for Seniors Card holders from the current \$2.50 to \$9.00 in 2016 with further increases in 2017 (\$9.50) and 2018 (\$10.00).

The 2016 proposed increase is 360% and by 2018 the increase will be 400%. This is by far the largest increase contained anywhere within this proposal and affects the oldest users of the Opal Card system; in the main people who rely on public transport and who are largely unable to raise objections and defend themselves against this type of outrageous fare increases.

Governments, both State and Federal, encourage people to provide for themselves in retirement but then penalise those who do by fare increases such as proposed. Self funded retirees are penalised in so many ways compared to Aged Pension recipients. This is just another example.

The IPART proposal media release concentrates on reducing Opal Card fares for multi leg journeys but the 360% increase for Seniors Card holders does not rate a mention. It is hidden away in the fine print within the proposal.

Opal Seniors Card holders should continue to receive identical benefits offered to Aged Pensioner Opal Card holders.