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Date of submission: Tuesday, 25 August 2015

Submission: As an Illawarra based person, who used to work in Sydney, I think that Wollongong and Campbelltown are already sufficiently disadvantaged without having distance based rail fares. Given the current threat to the steelworks, more Illawarra residents may have to seek work in Sydney, and increased rail fares will only make this more difficult. Additionally increased fares makes driving a viable option with consequent traffic gridlock in central areas of Sydney. I found driving/parking at St George about equal in time and expense to the train for one commuter.

I am now a senior and although personally delighted with the \$2.50 concession, I feel that many people of my age group are more comfortably off than younger people trying to cope with the expense of mortgages and child raising and who are faced with high travel costs.

I think that there is a strong case for retaining the concession - or even issuing free cards - to persons whose disability or frailty prevents them from driving, or who have opted for a restricted licence. But I think that the rest of us, while still not paying full adult fare, should be paying more (\$3.00? a percentage of the adult fare? child/ student rate) than we are at present.

Sincerely, Joan Zealey