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Submission: Changes in the God Seniors/Concession Opal Card Fares

My main concern about your draft report is the 3.6x increase in the daily cap from \$2.50 to \$9.00 for seniors who do not hold a Pensioner or War Widow/ers entitlement card. Your proposal fails to incorporate a group of seniors, mainly self-funded retirees, who whilst they do not qualify for the above cards they do hold the Commonwealth Seniors Health Concession (CSHC). These people hold enough assets to exclude them from a Pension or part Pension but not enough to exclude them from the CSHC card. Those

who just qualify for a part pension and those who adequately qualify for the CSHC card may vary marginally in asset holdings. Why does this proposal seek to disadvantage this group of retired people?

This increase could:-

1. isolate those who rely on Public Transport for social activities
2. make essential Public Transport travel to Medical appointments difficult to meet financially for some
3. force others back onto the roads

I oppose the proposal in its current form