



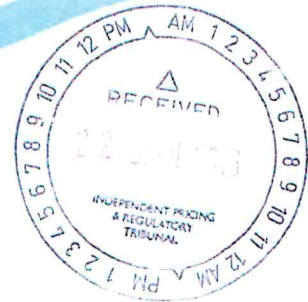
Gareth Ward MP

MEMBER FOR KIAMA

GW:kr

Monday, 18 January 2016

Dr Peter Boxall
Chairperson
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal
PO Box K35
Haymarket Post Shop
NSW 1240



IPART
Doc No
File No

Dear Dr Boxall,

I write to make representations on behalf of _____ in relation to a possible increase to the public transport fares for Seniors.

_____ is concerned that the proposed increase in the cost of seniors travel, from \$2.50 to \$9, will make it unaffordable for Seniors to use public transport services and will detrimentally affect all Seniors, particularly those who are self-funding their retirement.

To ensure you are fully informed on the circumstances, enclosed is a copy of _____ correspondence.

I would appreciate if you could include these concerns when considering your final report to the NSW Government on this matter.

Thank you for your assistance in relation to this matter. I look forward to your response.

GARETH WARD MP
Member for Kiama
Parliamentary Secretary for the Illawarra and South Coast

Working for Our Community!

Encl. Correspondence from Mr Robinson

Hi Gareth,

A very happy New year to you & your family. I hope you had a pleasant Xmas. My year coming up won't be very exciting. Your friends in Canberra took the "Senior's Supplement" from me earlier this year, dropping my income by about \$17 a week. (Doesn't seem much but it all helps). Now I see that some "Expert" has recommended an increase in Senior's travel by 360% from \$2.50 to \$9. Thanks very much. As a self funded retiree who doesn't receive any Centrelink pension, I have to pay full price for Council Rates, Water Rates, Car Registration, Driver's Licence, Electricity & Medical Appointments. All I receive is the Clean Energy Supplement of about \$7 a week, Pharmaceutical benefits & at the moment, cheaper fares. (I'm sure some bright spark in Canberra is working on a way to take everything from me).

I agree that \$2.50 is exceptionally generous for unlimited travel for pensioners & a modest rise is warranted but why hit the self funded retiree even more?

I know many people rort the system, applying for a senior's card at age 60 whilst working more than 20 hours/week & this would be difficult to police. I think it is only fair that transport benefits only be provided (to all senior's card holders) once they have reached pension age. Perhaps those aged from 60 to pension age could be entitled to the concession fare.

I have voted Liberal for 50 years but had already decided that I would vote for someone else at the next Federal Election due to the mean treatment of part pensioners & the removal of the Senior's Supplement. If the increase in non pensioner senior's fares is greater than that for pensioners then I will not be voting Liberal at the next State Election. You won't be getting any extra out of me, I will not use public transport & so will either be trapped at home, or drive the car thereby adding to pollution & traffic congestion.

Cheers,

