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The Hon Peter Dutton MP
Minister for Health
Minister for Sport

11 February 2014

Dear Minister

Proposed \$6 Medicare co payment and withdrawal of the net medical expenses taxation arrangements.

Our association represents the retirement interests of several hundred thousand former Commonwealth and Territory public servants and their spouses/partners. We are a non political, not for profit organisation that has existed for ninety years.

The average Commonwealth superannuation pension is approximately \$29,000 and in most cases is the main source of retirement income for these people. The Henderson Poverty line for a pensioner couple is \$30,124.

We have been advised by members that the Government's proposed \$6 Medicare co-payment would cause them not inconsiderable financial difficulty, particularly with increased life expectancy. They say that difficulty will be significantly increased with the progressive withdrawal of the net medical expenses taxation arrangements by 2017.

On behalf of those we represent, I ask that your Government not proceed with the proposed Medicare \$6 co-payment and the withdrawal of the net medical expenses taxation arrangements.

I would appreciate your response to my request so that I can inform our constituents.

Yours sincerely

John Coleman
Federal President