

Dear

I receive a Commonwealth Superannuation pension that is adjusted using the CPI. This means of adjusting my pension was chosen many years ago when the CPI reliably measured changes in the prices we all pay for goods and services. It ceased to do that about twenty years ago due to adjustments, mostly downwards, for product quality changes.

Over the past couple of years I have received no pension increase on two occasions when the CPI basket of goods showed no aggregate change in prices.

The CPI does not measure actual shop prices we all have to pay and is therefore a most unfair way to index pensions. My standard of living is progressively slipping relative to other seniors.

The welcome introduction in 1997 by the Coalition Government of a wage-based index for most Government pensions demonstrated the inappropriateness of the CPI as a pension indexation tool. Since then, three Senate inquiries have recommended that my pension be indexed to stop the erosion of my standard of living but both parties have refused to do so.

The Coalition Government's introduction of fair pension indexation for some military superannuants is further acknowledgement of the unfairness of using CPI to adjust pensions.

The Superannuated Commonwealth Officers' Association, SCOA, says that the cost of providing me with fair pension indexation is affordable and could be met from the Future Fund without affecting the Budget bottom line. I understand that it held \$101 billion at 30 June 2014. The closure of the military MSBS scheme will significantly reduce Commonwealth superannuation liabilities.

I am not asking for special or favoured treatment, only the fair go Australians expect and deserve.

I look forward to your response.