



Jim Chalmers MP

SHADOW MINISTER FOR FINANCE
FEDERAL LABOR MEMBER FOR RANKIN

Mr Andrew Wilkie MP
Member for Denison
PARLIAMENT HOUSE
CANBERRA ACT 2600

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INDEXATION OF COMMONWEALTH DEFINED BENEFIT SUPERANNUATION PENSIONS

Thank you for contacting Bill Shorten about the indexation of superannuation scheme pensions for Commonwealth civilian public servants. He has referred this to me as I have policy responsibility for this matter.

I appreciate the difficulties that some superannuants face in living on a fixed income and the significant impact that Scott Morrison's changes to the Age Pension income and asset tests have had.

The defined benefit pensions that were available through some Commonwealth superannuation schemes compare favourably with those available to the general community. They provide many benefits that are available to relatively few Australians including an indexed lifetime pension and no exposure to investment risk. We do not intend to make any changes to these indexation arrangements.

Thank you again.

Yours sincerely,

Jim Chalmers MP
Shadow Minister for Finance