

## **Consultation**

*MRRT and related measures Repeal*

**Name**

[REDACTED]

### **Submission text**

*As a working single mother I am writing to you to appeal the legislative change to abolish of the SchoolKids bonus.*

*The reality for many single parents like myself is that school costs are spiralling out of control. Many single parents rely on this bonus to pay for their children's educational needs. I have just received \$550 in bills from a state high school for my eldest daughter and I was relying on the bonus to assist with this plus the primary school costs for my younger child.*

*I am not a 'bludging off the government single mum'. I have sole custody of two children, a job that pays me \$50,000 p/a and I receive around \$10,000 in child support payments. I pay a mortgage, insurance, bills and as have sole responsibility for all my children's medical, school, clothing, extracurricular costs. \$60,000 does not go far when you are trying to give your kids the best education possible.*

*If education was free it would be ok to abolish these payments but it's not free. Two children in state schools costs me approx \$3000 a year just in compulsory fees, camps, uniforms etc. Add to that the fact the children must have access to the internet, a computer, a printer etc at home and you would be looking at closer to \$5000.*

*One of my children is gifted and the gifted education programs cost even more money - I pay this so she can contribute to our country. She may be a scientist, a lawyer, a politician.*

*Please reconsider this. The money goes to our country's most important assets - our children. Why should my children have any less opportunity that the children of a wealthy couple?*

*The reality is when you remove the bonus you will remove from many kids an opportunity to be educated to their full capacity. Parents will have to make cuts to gifted programs, sports programs, music lessons. A choice no parent wants to make.*

*\$600 every 6 months is about what I receive. It may not seem like much to you but it means my girls can go on school camp, participate in academic competitions and make the most of what state education has to offer them.*

*Thank you.*

*Kind Regards,*

[REDACTED]