

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my deep concerns about the proposed changes outlined in your draft report(Future foundations for giving). These changes, while intended to reform and enhance philanthropy in Australia, will likely inadvertently impose significant challenges, particularly in the sectors of non-government education, childcare, and aged care services.

The proposal to revoke DGR status for school building funds for primary and secondary schools, as mentioned in the report, would lead to additional financial strain. This change, affecting around 5,000 entities, would result in increased school fees and reduced accessibility to quality education for many families, at a time when the cost of living is already a significant burden.

While the report suggests that most education-related activities will retain their DGR status, the exclusion of childcare and aged care from extended DGR status raises concerns. These sectors play a crucial role in our society, and any reduction in support would adversely affect the well-being of our most vulnerable populations.

There is also a concern that these changes may lead to a decrease in contributions from businesses to educational institutions. Such contributions are vital for the improvement of school facilities and the overall quality of education. A reduction in this support would have long-term detrimental effects on the Australian education system and, consequently, on our economy.

The proposed changes appear to disproportionately affect religious organisations, many of which operate private and independent educational facilities. It is crucial to ensure that reforms do not unintentionally target or disadvantage any particular group in our society.

In the light of these points, I ask that the Commission reconsider the proposed changes. It is essential that any reform in the philanthropic sector be inclusive, equitable, and sensitive to the current challenges faced by all Australians.

I appreciate your attention to these concerns and look forward to your response.

Regards,

Tim