

17/01/2024

Dear Karen.

Regarding : Philanthropy – Productivity Commission Report

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my concerns regarding the “Future foundations for giving” draft report.

I am sure much of this is relevant and valuable, but I am deeply disturbed by the recommendation to eliminate the tax-free status of donations to non-government schools and other religious organisations. I believe this is termed DGR or deductible gift recipient status.

As the grandparent of several children who attend an independent school benefitting from DGR status, my concern is that elimination of this benefit will put the school fees up, as smaller schools struggle to make up the shortfall.

Households already struggling with rapidly increasing living costs may not be able to afford these fees, and could be forced to burden the already crowded government schools where of necessity they will not receive the individual quality academic instruction they have been getting.

As a business owner I make regular tax-free donations to Foodbank, Salvation Army, Red Cross, and several other recognised charities supporting disadvantaged children as well as hospitals, medical organisations, surf lifesaving and animal welfare, together with my grandchildren’s independent school.

Am I to be denied this outlet of help to those who need my support ?

I ask you on behalf of many others similarly affected, to reconsider this proposal.

Thank you again !

Yours sincerely,

Douglas I Hornsey. \