

10 Feb 19

Productivity Commission (DVA)

Dear Sirs,

Re: Submission to Productivity Commission

I am currently in receipt of an 80% Veterans Affairs Disability pension and an Age Pension, including Rental Assistance, through the provisions of the Department of Human Services.

My Age Pension has been reduced because of my receipt of DVA part pension.

However, earlier this year by “reason” of my change of my rental arrangement to sole rental from an entirely unsatisfactory share arrangement (even my doctor recommended I hasten out of the share arrangement for my sanity’s sake!) DVA used some obscure rule to reduce my fortnightly payments using the excuse that I was receiving more Rental Assistance from Centrelink. Of course I received more from Centrelink when my Rental Assistance amount increased due to renting ‘solo’.

The rule so used by DVA has two notable non-qualities: The reduction of DVA payments due to legitimate Rental Assistance increase to help pay for increased rent actually reduces the total amount for which I am eligible by devaluing the value of the Centrelink Assistance; and the said rule used to ‘rip me off’ is not consistent with the very public statements of claim that DVA helps veterans.

Please correct this situation by deleting the said DVA negating provision as well as remunerating me for all lost Rental Assistance amount taken unfairly by DVA.

Thanking you in anticipation.