

To whom it may concern.

RE: Productivity Commission 'Future foundations for giving' draft report

I write as a concerned parent and grandparent about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status which are contained in the above-mentioned draft report. I have gone over the report in detail and whilst I appreciate the need of some review, I am shocked that there is a consideration to scrap the DGR status for non-government and faith-based primary and secondary education organisations which has been in place for many years. This status has provided much needed support for these establishments, specifically in the provision of suitable facilities to the benefit of all.

I have children and grandchildren who attend independent schools that benefits from DGR status. I am very concerned about the potential impact of these recommendations (if adopted) on the quality of educational facilities and cost of education. If this much needed financial support is diminished, the cost of education will dramatically increase, and the quality of facilities will decline. It will also have a collateral impact on the economic opportunities for local contractors and builders who would benefit from such projects and put further pressure on household budgets.

I am also concerned that this recommendation constitutes an attack on religion as most of the independent education is faith-based.

I would appreciate your consideration of my concerns as there would be myriads of families impacted by these recommendations. I am sure that if there was a greater awareness about this report, there would be a groundswell of public outcry!

Yours sincerely,

Alan Allpress