

## Submissions focussed on DGR status for schools

### Submissions 278-104 to 278-175

No.	Name	Submission	Received
278-104	G Cook	<p>I have been going through this recent draft report in some detail and have some grave concerns as to the implications of many aspects of this proposal on non-government education, aged care and also religious organizations. One item in particular which concerns me is the proposal to scrap the deductible Gift Recipient (DRG). This is something that has been very valuable for many years, encouraging charitable giving to many good causes and the Government should not attempt to remove it.</p> <p>As a father my children have been to private schools and now my grandchildren, which benefit from DRG status. I see the potential for this proposed change to disrupt this free-hearted giving and in turn this financial support being lost. My very concern is that my grandchildren – and I am sure many other Parents and Grandparents would share the same concerns that their children may have no options but to go to overcrowded public schools. I wish for my grandchildren to have a good education to give them the best importunities in life and would ask that the Government would recognize this concern.</p> <p>While there has been some good research relating to this draft there are aspects of the proposal that run contrary to the fundamental structure of our democracy and charitable giving is something the Government should not be meddling with. Unfortunately, I do not have time to address all my concerns at this time however I ask that you please consider the above.</p>	18/01/2024
278-105	Rosa Pasquale	<p>I am disappointed to read on page 18, paragraph 3 of the draft report “Future Foundations for Giving” (released 30/11/23) that it is being recommended that Deductible Gift Recipient status be removed for charities that support SRE education in public schools. Without the financial support of donors, public schools will miss out on quality curriculum materials published by church organisations; and volunteer teachers will not have access to teaching resources that are approved by the NSW Department of Education.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>I believe that this would be a great loss to students and parents in public education who value the provision of SRE. And the community would also lose out as generations of children will miss out on their right to quality faith education in their childhood and adolescence.</p> <p>Paragraph 3 assumes that “Potential donors are most likely to be people directly involved with the school and benefit directly from donations, such as students, their parents or alumni.”</p> <p>This is not true in my case, nor in the case of many of the volunteers with whom I worked alongside. While I did volunteer to teach in my child’s primary school, I also taught at three other primary schools in my district, and twice I was a relief teacher in a high school – all of which were unrelated to my child.</p> <p>I believe that the benefit to the community goes beyond the private benefit of my home because I have not been directly involved with my students beyond the year in which I taught their SRE class.</p> <p>Using my child as a guide, I valued the teachers who gave up their time to teach her about God, Jesus, and Christian values, because I could not afford to send her to a Christian school. I had the same experience with parents who could not afford private education for me and my siblings.</p> <p>Now reaching her final year in university, I believe that my child has developed into a well-rounded adult who cares about people, and herself has a passion for education. Her Christian values have inspired her to volunteer to serve students younger than herself in her local community and orphans in Cambodia. This compassion, I believe, comes from a Christian faith education both from church and from her public school SRE teachers.</p> <p>I truly hope that you will not remove the tax-deductible status of Christian charities that publish SRE educational resources that are approved by the NSW Department of Education. Doing so would not only discriminate towards these donors, but it would also be a great loss to students and parents in public schools, and the community if you do.</p>	
278-106	Bruce McCalman	<p>I write this as a concerned grandparent having read the Productivity Commissions recommendations in the ‘Future foundations for giving draft report’ . Although there may be some merit in some recommendations my biggest concern lies in the deductible gift recipient (DGR) and the recommendation that it be disallowed for childcare, religious organisations, aged care primary secondary schools and other non government organisations.</p> <p>My grandchildren attend an independent school so this is of great concern to me. The parents battle under the cost of living pressures as it is and any further education costs such as fees would be almost too much to bear, because if the DGR status is removed the school will need to find the extra money that won’t be donated in the future because of it not being a tax benefit.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>We live in a country that based on Judeo- Christian principles which has made this the great country that it is. The right to educate your children where you think they will perform at their best is a right that should not be taken away, but sadly this may be the case if the recommendations go ahead. This will force larger numbers of students into our already over crowded public schools and place further burdens on the government</p> <p>I am sure there would be many thousands of families and organisations affected by this and would urge you to consider what the effects would be if this was implemented.</p>	
278-107	Ben Noble	<p>I have read through the draft report as I feel it would impacted me and my family. There are some decent recommendations made from findings, but I am very concerned about the recommendations for the deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be removed for non-government education facilities, childcare, aged care and other religious organizations.</p> <p>This is a great concern as I have three children attending a non-government school and I know how much they benefit from DGR status. This allows them to provide additional facilities and infrastructure to help drive a greater learning experience for the students. I am concerned that, in the current economic climate, where there is increasing financial pressures on families such as mine, that this would drive up school fees. This would be because withdrawing the tax benefits for businesses or private donations would reduce the giving and force the school to need more funding from fees.</p> <p>If the government were to implement these recommendations, families such as ours would be forced to enroll our children in the public school locally which is already overcrowded. This will ultimately impact their learning experience.</p> <p>In some other research I did I found that 35% of students in Australia are educated in private schools so if these were to collapse his would increase the load on government schools by more that 50%. I am guessing the cost of this to the government and the negative effect on students' academic achievement would outweigh the benefits that the government gains from the implementation of this recommendation.</p> <p>Considering the figures mentioned above, I doubt that my family would be the only ones affected by this if it were to be acted on.</p> <p>Thank you for reading and would appreciate it if you would consider my concerns.</p>	18/01/2024
278-108	Stuart Pringle	<p>I am writing in relation to the Productivity Commission 'Future foundations for giving' draft report.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>I have read the draft report with interest. Whilst there are some good findings and recommendations, I am concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>This is of particular concern to me as my grandchildren attend independent schools that benefits from DGR status.</p> <p>In a time where we are experiencing cost of living pressure never felt before, I fear that school fees would only be driven up further to make up the lost income from reduced giving, driven by the lack of tax benefit for businesses or individuals able to donate to the school.</p> <p>My big concern is if the Government adopt this recommendation, we will be forced to send our grandchildren to overcrowded local public schools which will impact their learning experience and stifle their academic potential.</p> <p>I feel this is an attack on religion as majority of private or independent education is provided by religious organisations.</p> <p>Please consider my concerns, I am sure our families won't be the only one impacted.</p>	
278-109	George and Indiana Le Souef	<p>I've taken the time to review the 'Future Foundations for Giving' draft report from the Productivity Commission. It presents several insightful points and proposals, but one aspect deeply worries me – the recommendation to eliminate the deductible gift recipient (DGR) status for various non-government organizations, including educational institutions such as independent schools.</p> <p>Although I don't have children at present, this issue is of great importance to me. I am concerned about the future landscape of education, particularly for independent schools which currently benefit from DGR status. In our current economic climate, marked by rising living costs, the removal of DGR status seems likely to lead to increased school fees. This would be a means to compensate for the reduced financial support due to the lack of tax deductions for donors.</p> <p>This potential policy change poses a significant concern for the future. Should such measures be adopted, it could lead to a fundamental shift in the educational system, forcing future students – possibly my own children one day – into overcrowded and under-resourced public schools. This change could detrimentally impact the quality of education and limit the academic potential of numerous students.</p> <p>I believe that these concerns are not just mine but are shared by many who value the diversity and quality of our educational system. I urge you to consider the long-term implications of this recommendation on the education sector.</p>	18/01/2024

278-110	Jonathan Layton	<p>It has been interesting reading through the draft commission report. The report has some interesting findings and recommendations. Our family are greatly concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organizations.</p> <p>My children go to independent school that benefits from DGR status. Without this, the school would have to charge me significantly more for school fees, and, at the current time with huge cost of living pressures like never before I could not afford to send my child to the school. Most likely many other parents would be in the same boat, and this could force the closure of this and many other private schools. The knock-on effect of this would be many more children forced to go to already overcrowded public schools leading to huge expenditure for the government to expand these resources. My understanding is the government cost for expansion of public schools will be far more than leaving the DGR status as it currently is.</p> <p>Please consider my concerns, I am sure our family won't be the only one impacted.</p>	18/01/2024
278-111	Craig Perryman	<p>I have carefully reviewed the draft report and found it to be quite insightful. While there are commendable findings and recommendations, I am apprehensive about the proposed elimination of deductible gift recipient (DGR) status for non-government entities such as primary and secondary schools, childcare facilities, aged care centers, and religious organizations.</p> <p>This issue holds particular significance for me as my children are enrolled in an independent school that currently benefits from DGR status. In these times of unprecedented cost-of-living pressures, I am concerned that the removal of this tax benefit could lead to a rise in school fees. This potential increase, driven by a reduction in charitable contributions due to the lack of tax incentives, may pose financial challenges for families like mine.</p> <p>My primary concern is that, should the government adopt this recommendation, families may be compelled to send their children to overcrowded local public schools. This shift could significantly impact the quality of their learning experience and potentially hinder their academic potential.</p> <p>I urge you to take into consideration these concerns, as I believe our family is not alone in facing potential repercussions if such recommendations are implemented.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter</p>	18/01/2024
278-112	Bonnie Perryman	<p>I hope this message reaches you promptly. I've carefully reviewed the 'Future Foundations for Giving' draft report from the Productivity Commission and feel compelled to address my concerns directly.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>While the report contains commendable findings and recommendations, the proposed elimination of deductible gift recipient (DGR) status for non-government entities, including primary and secondary schools, childcare facilities, aged care centers, and religious organizations, is deeply troubling.</p> <p>This issue hits close to home, as my children attend an independent school that currently benefits from DGR status. In light of the unprecedented cost-of-living pressures we're experiencing, I fear that scrapping this tax benefit will lead to a significant hike in school fees. The potential financial strain on families like mine, coupled with reduced giving due to the absence of tax incentives, is a serious cause for concern.</p> <p>If the government adopts this recommendation, families may be left with no choice but to enroll their children in overcrowded local public schools. This outcome not only jeopardizes the quality of their education but also stifles their academic potential.</p> <p>I urge you to give serious consideration to these concerns. It's clear that our family is not alone in facing the potential detrimental impacts of such recommendations. Time is of the essence in addressing this matter, and I look forward to your immediate attention and action.</p>	
278-113	Ken Reynolds	<p>In reading the draft report, I am concerned regards aspects about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>I write as a parent of students attending an independent school that benefits from DGR status. This is very concerning that school fees will be driven up to recoup the loss of income by reduced giving.</p> <p>Business &amp; individuals are looking for tax deductible giving opportunities &amp; education is a positive impact means for this who are generous.</p> <p>I am concerned If the government proceeds with this recommendation, we (along with many other parents) will have no option but to send our children to local public schools – there are already overcrowded &amp; struggling for resource.</p> <p>With the impact of high &amp; increasing living cost, increasing interest rates, this financial impact of families would be impactful &amp; real.</p> <p>I appreciate if you would consider my concerns along with parents with a similar view.</p>	18/01/2024
278-114	Nathan Best	<p>I am concerned regarding the detail of the current inquiry into Philanthropy particularly with regards to calling for DGR status to be removed for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care and other religious organisations.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>Whilst my children currently attend government primary schools, I intend to remove them and enrol them in a non government faith based school due to immoral teaching and influence. This comes at a substantial cost already of which I am prepared to do for the betterment of my children and also to ensure they are given the best education. I fear that removing DGR status will only further increase costs at a time when cost of living is increasing drastically. Should persons like myself have to send their children back to governments schools as a result of this proposal, it will only put pressure on the government to invest in infrastructure and staffing as I believe 35% of total student population currently attend non government schools.</p> <p>I also note The Honourable Jim Chalmers MP Wikipedia page states he attended catholic schools before going on to Griffith University. A non government and faith based school that produced the current Treasurer of Australia that is seeking to remove DGR status of which he benefited from seems somewhat hypocritical.</p>	
278-115	Harry Woodbury	<p>I find the draft report to be very concerning for the school as I had my own experience as a charitable campus operator for a number of years. I have intimate knowledge of the financial side of running a non-government school and I know that the independent schools rely on deductible gift recipient (DRG) status. This legislation will cause undue pressure on the school and based on my experience may mean closure.</p> <p>I strongly object to the proposed changes to the DRG status. My children are at a private school and I don't want this to change. Private school offers superior facilities and individual focused learning which benefits students' wellbeing and potential for success later in life.</p>	18/01/2024
278-116	Peter Grace and Heather Grace	<p>We have read the draft recommendations report with interest. Whilst there are some good findings and recommendations, we are very concerned as grandparents about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be removed for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>This is of particular concern to us as our grandchildren attend a school that benefits from DGR status. In a time when many are experiencing extreme cost of living pressure, it will mean school fees will need to be increased to make up for lost income. If there is no tax benefit for businesses or individuals who wish to donate to a school, it will drastically reduce this income stream impacting the quality of education and also buildings and infrastructure.</p> <p>Our concern is if the Government adopt this recommendation, some private schools will be forced to close sending students to overcrowded local public schools, impacting their learning experience and hindering their academic potential.</p> <p>We feel this is an attack on religion as most private education is provided by religious organisations.</p>	18/01/2024

		Please consider our concerns and the many families impacted if this is allowed to happen.	
278-117	Granton Warnock	<p>I am thankful for the work done over many years through many reviews finding ways that have improved the lives of so many Australians. However, I have genuine concern that the recommendation to remove deductible gift recipient status for schools, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations is flawed and counter effective.</p> <p>I see the recommendations could potentially result in reduced support for private school building funds. To make up the shortfall school fees could increase significantly and potentially drive our children into public schools. If this becomes the case, the government would bear 100% of the associated buildings and education costs as opposed to the current system whereby our children's education funding is shared by donors, fees and government support including the DGR status that we are ever grateful for.</p> <p>Alternatively, should donors remain committed to the cause of private school buildings, donations will need to be substantially increased to achieve the same net result and it would be reasonable to expect that many of these donors would also support other charitable efforts, and enacting these recommendations would have an offset effect coming at the expense of other worthy causes.</p> <p>Either way, it is clear to me that this recommendation will be counter effective for both the Australian people and the government.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this draft report, I trust my concerns are heeded and DGR status will remain effective for schools, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p>	18/01/2024
278-118	Jeremy Wallis	<p>I have thoroughly reviewed the draft report and found several noteworthy points and suggestions. However, I am particularly troubled by the proposed elimination of deductible gift recipient (DGR) status for entities like non-governmental primary and secondary schools, childcare facilities, aged care institutions, and various religious organisations.</p> <p>This issue hits close to home for me, as my children attend an independent school that currently benefits from having DGR status. With the cost of living soaring to unprecedented levels, I am apprehensive that removing this status will significantly increase school fees.</p> <p>This increase would likely be an attempt to compensate for the decline in donations, which would no longer provide tax incentives for businesses or individuals.</p> <p>My most significant concern is the potential government adoption of this recommendation. Such a change could compel us to enrol our children in the already overpopulated local public school. This shift could adversely affect their educational experience and hinder their academic growth.</p>	18/01/2024



		I urge you to take my worries into account. I believe that many families, not just ours, would be adversely affected by this change.	
278-119	Selwyn Hester		18/01/2024
278-120	Stephen Parsons	<p>Your work on this project is appreciated, and I am truly grateful that opportunity for submission is made possible, thank you for taking the time to carry this forward.</p> <p>I have read with interest the overview of the Draft Report. As a parent of a son in secondary school I have a few concerns about some of the recommendations contained in the report. Particularly worrying me is the recommendation for DGR (deductible gift recipient) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, and religious education, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>I understand that reviews of systems are needed, and this is indeed part of a responsible government's activity, and there are some very logical and beneficial findings noted in the Draft Report. The concern I have is that without DGR status, non-government schools will need to increase fees, exacerbating the current cost of living crisis facing our country. And that should we and many other parents be forced to revert to government schools for our children, the added burden to government schools will be beyond their resources and infrastructure – and ultimately result in a general widespread decrease in the standard of education across the board.</p> <p>Another concern with this specific recommendation is that it appears to highlight religion and religious-based education. This has potential to cause serious ramification for the government going forward, to be seen as removing support for beneficent parts of society, or creating religious-based division in the country.</p> <p>Considering this particular recommendation from many perspectives, I can see that every element will effectively be counter-productive, and the end result worse, not only for families involved like mine, but also for the government itself with added financial demands on them from other government-funded organisations who will be required to pick up the pieces.</p>	18/01/2024
278-121	Craig Hales	<p>I have read the draft report with great interest. Whilst there are some good findings and recommendations, I am greatly concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient ( DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged card and other religious organizations.</p> <p>This is of particular concern to me as my children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status. In a time where we are experiencing rising cost of living pressures as we have never felt before, I fear that school fees would only be driven up further to make up for the loss of income from reduced giving. Driven by the lack of tax benefits for businesses or individuals able to donate to the school.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>I was a member of a small non-government school committee for 7 (Seven) years that was in charge of providing extra support and help to disadvantage children who were struggling with learning, physical and mental disabilities. The facilities we had to provide were different as what a average student required and these could not be provided if the benefits from a DGR status was lost. These included special sound paneling to walls and ceiling to help with children who had autistic requirements. This allowed these children to learn and grow in a normal environment while catering to their requirements.</p> <p>My worry is If the Government adopt this recommendation, these special needs children, or children who have special requirements such as the need for ramps for wheel chairs etc. and all children will be forced into our overcrowded local public schools leading to them becoming disconnected to the education system and eventually meaning they “drop out early”. As we all know “early drop outs of education” or the children who don’t obtain a proper meaningful education generally only become a future liability to the government.</p> <p>We strongly recommend that you don’t alter or change the DGR system that has worked and helped out many, many ordinary Australian’s and given them the education they deserve to succeed in life and be future tax payers, in turn being a great benefit for all of society.</p>	
278-122	Phil McAlpin	<p>We are disappointment in the recommendations in the Productivity Report into Future Foundations for giving – draft report.</p> <p>To remove the DGR from non government religious schools will have a profound effect on these schools to provide a quality education at an affordable cost.</p> <p>This will result in either our children receiving an inadequate education or many children having to transfer to the public school system – which is already at capacity.</p> <p>Please consider the situation with many families affected by the suggestion in this draft report – it is really discriminating against a person’s religious beliefs.</p>	18/01/2024
278-123	Mark Layton	<p>I have been through the draft report in detail and whilst there are some good findings, I am concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient(DGR) status to be removed for non-government primary, secondary, aged care, childcare and other religious organisations.</p> <p>This is of concern to myself and my wife as our children attend an independent school which benefits from DGR Status. All Australians are experiencing cost of living pressures and I an concerned that this will only increase these pressures as school fees could be driven up due to the lost income independent schools would receive under this draft report. This could be also be exacerbated by the lack of individuals able to donate, and the lack of tax benefit for business to donate to the school.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>Should this recommendation be adopted we will have no option but to send or children to the local public school which I feel would be overloaded and will impact the academic outcomes of my children.</p> <p>I appreciate your understanding and consideration of my concerns as I am sure there will be lot of other concerned parents around the country who genuinely care for the academic outcomes of their children.</p>	
278-124	Ben Wallis	<p>I am writing regarding the recent productivity commission's future foundations for giving draft report which I have read with interest and concern.</p> <p>My concern is regarding the recommendations for DGR status to be scrapped for non-government schools and other religious organisations. As a person of faith, I feel that this is yet another attack against those of us in society with religious beliefs, and of particular concern to myself and my wife is how this will impact our children and their peer's education.</p> <p>Our children currently attend an independent non-government school which greatly benefits from the generous giving of donors, largely driven by the tax benefit provided under its DGR status. These donations make a very significant contribution to the school's infrastructure and our children's quality of education. If the government scraps the school's DGR status as proposed, it will either mean the school will have to increase school fees to cover the shortfall or compromise the high standard of education that my children and all the other pupils currently benefit from.</p> <p>Whilst our family is in the fortunate position where increased school fees could be met, many of my children's classmates' families are not so fortunate and their parents will very likely be forced to send their children back to local public school impacting their learning journey and disrupting their social network during their tender formative years.</p> <p>I believe this issue will be widespread across the nation (likely an unintended consequence) which will put pressure and stress on 1000's of families and their children (during a cost-of-living crisis) along with adding significant further pressure on the public school system and ultimately leading to worse outcomes across the board for both society and education.</p> <p>Please consider my concerns very seriously when choosing whether to adopt this recommendation or not.</p>	18/01/2024
278-125	Deon P	<p>I have recently come across the Draft Report on 'Future foundations for giving'. Upon completion of reading the Report, I believe whilst there are some good findings and recommendations, I am concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>As a parent of a Child going to attend an Independent School this year that benefits from DGR status, this is a big concern to my family at this time, with pressure already on us due to cost of living continually rising. I fear that school fees would only be driven up further to make up the lost income from reduced giving, driven by the lack of tax benefit for businesses or individuals able to donate to the school my child will attend.</p> <p>I worry if the Government were to take on the recommendations of the Report, I will have to send my child to our Local Public School that is already heavily populated and will greatly impact their learning experience and suppress their academic potential.</p> <p>I thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns, I am sure there will be many other families that impacted by this.</p>	
278-126	Daniel Martin	<p>I recently had the opportunity to review the draft report from the Productivity Commission on 'Future foundations for giving' with great interest. While I acknowledge the positive findings and recommendations, I am writing to express my apprehension regarding the proposed elimination of deductible gift recipient (DGR) status for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organizations.</p> <p>Of particular concern to me is the potential impact on independent schools, such as the one my children currently attend, which currently benefit from DGR status. In an era where the cost of living is placing unprecedented pressure on families, the suggestion that DGR status might be scrapped raises concerns about the financial viability of these schools. I fear that the loss of tax benefits for businesses or individuals donating to the school could lead to increased school fees, creating an additional burden for families already grappling with rising costs.</p> <p>My primary worry is that, should the government adopt this recommendation, families like ours may be compelled to enroll our children in our local public school, which is already grappling with overcrowding. This potential shift could have adverse effects on the quality of education and hinder the academic potential of our children.</p> <p>I kindly urge you to consider the far-reaching consequences of these proposed changes. It is my sincere hope that, in weighing the potential adjustments, the government takes into account the broader impact on families, educational institutions, and the overall educational landscape.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I trust that you will carefully consider the concerns expressed.</p>	18/01/2024
278-127	Douglas Reardon	<p>I am writing to express my concern over the Productivity Commission's recent recommendations regarding deductible gift recipient status.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>As the father of two kids, I am seriously worried about the impact these changes will have on schooling. I have used a non-government preschool and was intending to use private schooling for their future schooling but if the proposed changes come into effect, private school will be way beyond my reach. The changes will increase school fees far in excess of my means, specially given the horrific cost of living increases recently.</p> <p>With regard to the government schools, unfortunately they are already overcrowded;and with all the kids whose parents can no longer afford to send them to private schools due to fee hikes, they will become centres for low quality education due to the stress on the student to teacher ratios and infrastructure.</p> <p>I understand the building extensions and facility upgrades for private schools will also be impacted if the Productivity Commissions recommendations go ahead. As a stakeholder in a small local business, I'm worried about the impact that will have on businesses as future building work dries up.</p> <p>While I can see excellent points in the recommendations, I can't help but feel this is just an attack on religion as most of the private schools are faith based and these institutions will be impacted so heavily.</p> <p>Thank you for considering my concerns.</p>	
278-128	Matthew Cowell	<p>In reading through the report, I am concerned about several of the proposed measures. In particular, the red tape for small religious charities, and removal of DGR status for a lot of schools and charities. In my experience as an accountant, I see a lot of businesses and their generous giving which I expect they'll drop or reduce is DGR's are restricted.</p> <p>At a time when inflation is growing, there is a lot of geopolitical pressures as well as a cost-of-living crisis, I see this as an unnecessary attack on religion. Australia rightfully prides itself on being a diverse and inclusive community and I feel religion and tax benefits (whilst being fair and consistent) should not be tampered with. Rather, the government should be focusing on the other more serious, relevant issues.</p> <p>I don't want school building to be held back either, my children to have higher school fees or have to revert to the public system which is already struggling.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns. Please consider this and appreciate this would be the same view for many, many Australians</p>	18/01/2024
278-129	Kelvin S	<p>I am writing to express my deep concern as a parent about the potential changes to the Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status for non-government school building funds. These changes, if implemented, may have a significant impact on my family's ability to continue sending our children to a non-religious private school.</p> <p>Here are my key points:</p>	18/01/2024

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our children attend a non-religious private school, which has been a choice we made for their education.</li> <li>• We are very worried that if the DGR status for non-government school building funds is altered, it could lead to increased fees for parents like us.</li> <li>• The cost of living crisis is already putting immense pressure on our family budget. Any increase in school fees would make it even harder for us to provide a quality education for our children.</li> <li>• There is no economic sense for the government to implement these recommendations as, removing our kids from the current largely privately fund school and putting them into government schools would lead to increased cost for government and further reduce in educational outcomes. My only conclusion is that it is assault religion and private schooling.</li> <li>• We believe that parents should have the freedom to choose the type of education that aligns with their values and beliefs, whether it's religious or non-religious.</li> </ul> <p>In conclusion, we kindly request that you consider the impact of these potential changes on parents like us who choose private schools for their children's education. We believe in the importance of diversity in education and hope that our choices will continue to be respected and supported.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter.</p>	
278-130	Jim Shemilt	<p>I was recently given the draft report and read through it with interest. I can see some of the findings and recommendations are good, however I hold serious concern about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient status to be removed for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>The reason this concerns me so much is because my children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status. Right now the cost of living crisis is unprecedented and I can only see this driving up school fees further to make up for the lost income from reduced giving, which will be inevitable given the lack of tax benefit for entities and persons who are able to donate to the school.</p> <p>My concern is if the Government adopt this recommendation, my wife and I will be forced to send our daughters back to the overcrowded local public school which will impact their current enjoyment of learning and suppress their academic potential.</p> <p>I know our family won't be the only one impacted and I would respectfully and sincerely ask you to consider my concerns.</p>	18/01/2024

278-131	Phil G	<p>Having read the above mentioned report, I submit this letter as a concerned citizen, business owner, taxpayer, donor, parent &amp; grandparent.</p> <p>The items in the report that I find totally unacceptable, is the recommendation to cancel DGR status to school building funds, and the seemingly discriminatory and derogatory references to religion in the report.</p> <p>Firstly, it is almost unbelievable that the report suggests removing the DGR status from School Building Funds, when the fact that these schools (private schools are mentioned in a particular way) are willing and able to attract substantial private funding through donations (helped by the fact that these donations are tax deductible through the DGR scheme), which lessens the burden on the Government to provide infrastructure for education!!!</p> <p>Having sent my children to an independent school that utilised a DGR building fund very effectively to provide suitable education facilities, and having also had children go through the public school system, I have witnessed the decline in both the standards of infrastructure and the standards of teaching in the public system, so I definitely do not want my grandchildren being forced to go to a public school (which the press reports as being already overcrowded anyway!).</p> <p>Please refer to the following articles as support for my submission-</p> <p><a href="https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-01-17/public-private-catholic-school-education-costs-billsdata/103324992?utm_source=abc_news_app&amp;utm_medium=content_shared&amp;utm_campaign=abc_news_app&amp;utm_content=other">https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-01-17/public-private-catholic-school-education-costs-billsdata/103324992?utm_source=abc_news_app&amp;utm_medium=content_shared&amp;utm_campaign=abc_news_app&amp;utm_content=other</a>,</p> <p><a href="https://www.9news.com.au/national/australia-cost-of-educating-a-child-in-public-independent-catholic-schools-over-13-years-revealed/863492d6-d48e-4719-9dad-bb273e78cebe">https://www.9news.com.au/national/australia-cost-of-educating-a-child-in-public-independent-catholic-schools-over-13-years-revealed/863492d6-d48e-4719-9dad-bb273e78cebe</a></p> <p>&amp;</p> <p><a href="https://www.9news.com.au/national/sydney-students-bake-without-airconditioning-as-funding-dries-up/9e181f65-33c7-46cc-99b6-b3841397018c">https://www.9news.com.au/national/sydney-students-bake-without-airconditioning-as-funding-dries-up/9e181f65-33c7-46cc-99b6-b3841397018c</a></p> <p>Australian parents are experiencing unheard of cost of living pressures , and the last thing they need are higher school fees as a result of their schools loss of DGR status (no tax deductible giving from businesses and individuals).</p> <p>Our children deserve the best education they can get, and Australian parents have traditionally gone without themselves to be able to afford to provide it- this recommendation in the report will only further isolate this</p>	18/01/2024
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		Government from the voters, and also irreparably damage the potential of future generations of young Australians.	
278-132	Richard Burrows	<p>I am writing to express my deep disappointment regarding the proposed removal of donation tax concessions for Special Religious Education (SRE) in schools. As a concerned member of the community, I believe that SRE plays a crucial role in shaping the holistic development of our children.</p> <p>Australia, with its rich history, has been built on strong Christian values that have played a fundamental role in shaping the fabric of our society. Special Religious Education serves as an invaluable avenue for children to connect with these values, fostering a sense of identity, belonging, and moral grounding. As we navigate an ever-changing world, it is essential to recognize the positive impact that SRE has on the mental health and overall well-being of our young minds.</p> <p>Beyond the spiritual aspect, SRE offers a platform for instilling essential life skills and values. These include empathy, compassion, tolerance, and respect for diverse beliefs. Such teachings contribute to the nurturing of responsible, well-rounded individuals who can positively contribute to our multicultural society.</p> <p>Moreover, SRE provides a safe space for children to engage in meaningful discussions about ethics, morality, and the importance of community. It encourages critical thinking and helps them develop a strong moral compass, guiding their choices and actions in a constructive manner.</p> <p>The potential removal of donation tax concessions for SRE could have adverse effects on the availability and quality of these programs in schools. I urge you to reconsider this proposal, recognizing the invaluable contribution that SRE makes to the holistic development of our children and the broader community.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that you will consider the long-term impact on the well-being and values of our future generations.</p>	18/01/2024
278-133	Philip Grimshaw	<p>After studying detail in the abovementioned report, I am compelled to write and express my significant concern regarding the potentially far-reaching and damaging consequences of the proposed changes to DGR status as recommended in the report. Of special concern is the suggestion to exclude non-government schools and other religious organisations from DGR eligibility.</p> <p>After witnessing in the community generally, and indeed with my own family the superior educational outcomes and tangible career benefits afforded by education from independent faith-based schools, it is hard to see how any measures to divert much needed funding away from these institutions could form part of a Productivity improvement.</p>	18/01/2024



		<p>As a business owner, we choose to actively support these organisations through the DGR process. I can only testify to the fact that all available income is allocated by schools with great rigour directly in relation to providing the best possible support and resources for students. Any reduction in additional funding (that schools work so to obtain), can only result in either a diminishing of services or, an increase in fees. At a time of widespread cost of living pressure where many as we know are in financial stress, returning students back into the public system will likely become the remaining option.</p> <p>Increasing student loads in the public sector can only place additional demands on government funding and in addition to deteriorating the educational opportunities of these students, runs counter to the purpose of the current review in question.</p> <p>Whilst I welcome any endeavours by government to improve its operational effectiveness, the changes to DGR eligibility currently proposed are biased and self-defeating. It is of utmost importance that these reforms maintain equality and do not disadvantage legitimate contributors to building a better community in the process of the restructure.</p> <p>Accordingly, I request that you please ensure the removal of any changes proposed in the report that would have an adverse impact on these institutions which have long proved to be pillars in the development of the potential. Many are currently providing vital support to aspiring families already strained to the limit of their available resources.</p>	
278-134	Jon Sivewright	<p>I am writing to express concern at certain recommendations in the abovementioned report.</p> <p>Specifically these relate to the proposal for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>My eldest child currently attends an independent school that is eligible for DGR status. As the school is part funded by donations from the private sector, any change to the DGR status will impact the school fees and potentially make it unaffordable.</p> <p>This will mean sending our child to a nearby public school which we know (from experience) does not have the resources to provide a sound education. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.</p>	18/01/2024
278-135	David and Monica Imberti	<p>I have read the draft report with interest and some concern. Whilst there are some good points, I am very concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient status to be scrapped for non government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care and other religious related organisations.</p> <p>This greatly concerns me as my children attend an independent school that benefits from deductible gift recipient status.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>At the current time we are experiencing a rising cost of living which is creating unprecedented financial pressure, my fear is that school fees will be driven up to make up the loss of income due to reduced giving as a result of the tax ramifications to the businesses and individuals that are currently donating.</p> <p>I am worried that if the government approve this recommendation, we will have no choice but to send our children to our local school which will have a negative affect on their learning and cramp their academic progress.</p> <p>Please take our concerns seriously as I am sure there will be many families that will be negatively impacted.</p>	
278-136	Trevor	<p>This draft report has caught my attention. I fully believe that the duty of any Government is to protect the people of the nation. Globally, religious organisations have been major contributors to society for centuries. This has been evident with millions of persons proving the benefit of these charitable organisations. They have been set up for the benefit of society. These organisations have many other branches being, childcare, schools, aged care, benevolence organisations, etc, etc. These organisations are major contributors to the communities as well as much further afield.</p> <p>My children attended both public and private schools which I believe has helped them value and respect all walks of life. Like myself, even though not religious perhaps, many Australians have been donors to these religious organisations for many years because we can see the good outcomes they have on those they help and support. The help offered is without prejudice.</p> <p>If the charitable status was removed, from these generous organisations, it will be to the further detriment of the people of Australia. The Australian Government needs to realise that this will end up costing them far more than the taxes it will collect.</p> <p>Many Australian families are already under severe financial strain and if this recommendation was allowed it would mean that building improvements in private schools could not proceed which would mean students would need to swap to the over-crowded public schools which in turn puts even more pressure on teachers nationally. Ultimately this will reduce the national education level. It will be long-term pain for Australia and Australians of all walks of life.</p> <p>In addition to the educational, care and physical assistance these religious organisations are a shoulder to lean on and a person to hug. There is no guarantee that this support will be available if gifting to these organisations dried up because the charitable status was removed by the government.</p> <p>We can see the effects of the absence of these organisation in communist nations and the terrible conditions in which people eek out an existence. It is folly to think that the government will be in a better position if they scrap</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>the DGR of these organisations. As mentioned previously, it will only put further financial pressure on an already stretched and overdrawn budget.</p> <p>Please remove the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations from the draft.</p>	
278-137	Terry Wallace	<p>I've reviewed the 'Future foundations for giving' draft report and wish to express my deep concerns about the proposal to eliminate deductible gift recipient (DGR) status for non-government educational and religious organizations.</p> <p>My children attend an independent school benefiting from DGR status. The potential loss of tax benefits for donors raises fears of increased school fees, placing an additional financial burden on families already grappling with unprecedented cost-of-living pressures. As a result of this it could force families, including mine, to consider overcrowded local public schools, compromising the learning experience and stifling academic potential for our children.</p> <p>Additionally, I am troubled by the potential impact that the reduced giving will have on our school's ability to undertake essential building extensions and upgrades. These projects not only enhance the learning environment but also support numerous small family businesses in our area, contributing to the local economy.</p> <p>Moreover, it appears that these changes disproportionately affect religious organizations providing private education. As the majority of private or independent education is offered by religious organisations, these recommendations seem to be targeting and attacking religion, which plays a vital role in our community.</p> <p>I urge you to consider these multifaceted concerns as you finalize your recommendations. Our family is likely not the only one affected by the potential adverse consequences of these proposed changes.</p>	18/01/2024
278-138	Ken Williams	<p>As a concerned parent, I am writing to you regarding the Australian Productivity Commission's draft report titled 'Future Foundations for Giving.' This report proposes changes that would substantially impact the funding model for Christian and other faith-based schools.</p> <p>Like many others in the community, our family values Christian faith based schools' educational and moral teachings. These institutions achieve consistently high academic outcomes that contribute directly to building the social capital and connectedness this report searches for. They also instill critical core values that are foundational for generations of Australian families like mine.</p> <p>The proposed changes in the report, particularly recommendations to cease the deductible gift recipient (DGR) status for non-government primary, secondary, and childcare facilities, could substantially increase school fees</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>and reduce educational outcomes. This prospect is particularly worrying given the current economic climate and the mounting cost-of-living pressures our family and many others face.</p> <p>The flow-on effects of these proposed changes go far beyond financial matters and would be viewed as a lack of government support for faithbased institutions, which play such an essential role in our diverse community. Additionally, the potential migration of private students to already full and struggling public schools will further burden the Government, reduce academic outcomes, and stifle our children's potential. No genuine parent wants that.</p> <p>This report rightly acknowledges the crucial efforts of charities, not-forprofit organisations, and community groups, including religious institutions. Indeed, Australia would not be Australia without them! I ask that you actively work to dismiss the DGR recommendations in this report that would directly impact faith-based institutions in this country.</p> <p>Thank you for your kind consideration in this matter.</p>	
278-139	Keith Davis	<p>I am very concerned about the Commission's recommendation to scrap deductible gift recipient (DGR) status for non-government primary and secondary schools and also child care and aged care organisations.</p> <p>This is of real concern to me as my grandchildren will attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status. Non-government schools have been thankful for DGR support for the last 70 years. If your Government adopts this recommendation it will result in increased fees for parents at a time when they can least afford it. It could also force parents to send their children to local public schools which are already overcrowded. In time this will result in governments and taxpayers having to find more funds to build more public schools.</p> <p>I trust you will take my concerns into account and not proceed with this very unfair recommendation.</p>	18/01/2024
278-140	Tom Sanderson	<p>I was shocked to read in a recent media article, of the proposed changes to the governments assessment of what constitutes philanthropy. Hence I have looked into your 'Future foundations for giving' draft report in some detail and I am deeply disturbed by the proposals that would appear to be ripping deductible gift recipient (DGR) status from faith based institutions and some non-government school provisions.</p> <p>Whilst there may be some reasonable findings and recommendations, recommendations to scrap DGR status for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations, can only be an own-goal for the government.</p> <p>As a parent with children in a modest independent school, I am acutely aware of the benefit of DGR status in that school. Parents like myself all over Australia have gladly and willingly made donations to independent schools and received a tax benefit in return, which is just and fair. By removing the tax benefit, all the</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>government will do is make it more expensive to give, which in turn will mean we have less to give to other charitable organisations and reduce our philanthropic giving. I for one will not stop supporting a cause that I believe in, but I do know however that the increased expense will hurt.</p> <p>Additionally, I would also note that the removal of DGR status can only make the cost of independent school education more expensive, as charitable giving will be forced to decline without tax relief. The cost of living pressures that we are already under, and of which the current government should be more than aware, will continue to escalate to a level that we have never seen.</p> <p>However well intended this review may have been initially, I personally believe these recommendations are an attack on religion as most independent schools are faith based. I believe the recommendations to be both ill-informed and ill-advised, and if the government wishes to avoid the circumstance whereby they appear to be attacking established institutions and religion, while increasing the cost of living, then they would do well to examine the draft closer and in consultation with parties that will be affected by the changes.</p> <p>I would ask that my concerns are both heard and considered and call upon the government to reject any changes that fundamentally go against the established role of independent schools and religion in this great country.</p>	
278-141	Joseph Woodford	<p>I have read and am concerned by the recommendations of this draft report.</p> <p>Whilst some of the recommendations may be acceptable to mainstream society in providing benefits to a handful of popular causes, this would be at a cost to many children's education facilities and families' budgets, which are already under immense pressure in the current inflationary times.</p> <p>I am concerned that there appears to be a concerted effort to encourage the long-term entrenchment of minority causes, while the next generation miss out on quality facilities which would limit their academic potential and future contribution to society.</p> <p>As a parent with a child at an Independent faith-based school, I am concerned that planned upgrades to the facilities may not eventuate, as without DGR status, donations would be at a much greater cost.</p> <p>Also, at risk are the additional jobs for tradespeople who provide the building services, if the benefit is removed for the advancement of facilities for schools, aged care and other religious organisations.</p> <p>Surely DGR status for those who contribute to the care of society in a faith-based manner is of more benefit to the broader community?</p>	18/01/2024

		Our family will feel the consequences, along with other hardworking families, and I would ask you to evaluate this draft report and oppose its implementation.	
278-142	Craig Collett	<p>I have been reading through the draft report with interest and concern. Though there are some good things mentioned and recommendations made, as a parent of 3 children with two at primary school and one about to start kindy, I am concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>This is of particular concern to me as my children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status. As a parent I want my children to have a quality education so that when they leave school they can pursue a career that will be of benefit to them and their country, and not end up on government support like the dole. In a time where we are experiencing an extreme level of cost of living pressure like never before, we are stretched to the max already, I believe scrapping DGR would cause school fees to be driven up even more to make up the lost income from reduced giving - because of the lack of tax benefit for businesses &amp; individuals able to donate funds to the school.</p> <p>From my research the public schools around our area are already near capacity, and if families like ours are forced to take our children out of the independent schools and send them to public schools due to unaffordable school fees, my concern is the public schools will be completely overwhelmed, impacting learning experiences for all and stifling students academic potential.</p> <p>I also feel this is an attack on religion because from my understanding the majority of private or independent education is provided by religious organisations.</p> <p>I also worry that the knock on effect will mean that small businesses, contractors etc that service the independent schools will suffer as a result, because as independent school student numbers decline those schools will become unsustainable and have to close.</p> <p>Please consider my concerns, I am sure our family won't be the only one impacted.</p>	18/01/2024
278-143	John Chesterfield	<p>This draft report was brought to my attention by a recent news report and I must say I am horrified that the Government would even consider meddling with what is ostensibly the definition of charity in this country.</p> <p>The purpose of the Productivity Commission was to identify opportunities and barriers to increasing philanthropic giving in Australia but its recommendations are only going to reduce philanthropic giving in Australia.</p> <p>Scrapping the deductible gift recipient (DGR) status for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations will not mean that tax paying donators will suddenly start donating toward</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>government schools (or any other causes they do not believe in). It will simply just decimate the benevolent taxpayer's school building support for non-government education.</p> <p>Furthermore, non-government education supports approximately 35 per cent of the total student population. If the remaining 65% of Government schools were suddenly required to accommodate the additional 35% they would need to increase their capacity by more than 50%. It defies logic that the Government would even consider the idea of jeopardising non-government education when its own local schools are already overcrowded.</p> <p>I only hope the Government makes the right decision on this and focuses on reducing costs and ultimately government debt rather than pursuing an alternative agenda that is only increasing the cost of living and ultimately the taxpayer burden.</p>	
278-144	Gavin Fleck	<p>I have read the draft report regarding 'Future foundations for giving' with interest. Whilst there are some good findings and recommendations, I am very concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>This is of particular concern to me as my child (two previous children have also attended the same school and achieved high ATAR results) attends an independent school that benefits from DGR status. In a time where we are experiencing cost of living pressure never felt before, I fear that school fees would only be driven up further to make up the lost income from reduced giving, driven by the lack of tax benefit for businesses or individuals able to donate to the school.</p> <p>My great worry is if the Government adopt this recommendation, we will be forced with deepest regret and worry (nervous makeup whether she would attend) to send our child to our overcrowded local public school which will impact their learning experience and stifle their academic potential.</p> <p>Please consider my concerns, I am sure our family won't be the only one impacted.</p>	18/01/2024
278-145	Neil Dowell	<p>I am writing as a concerned parent of children attending private education.</p> <p>While the draft report has some good recommendations and findings, I am concerned in particular to the recommendation of the DGR (Deduction Gift Recipient) status to be scrapped from all non-government schools, childcare, aged care and other religious organisations.</p> <p>As a wage-earning parent experiencing increases in cost-of-living expenses, my sincere concern is that, without additional funding, fees will increase, and our children will be forced into the already overcrowded public</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>schooling system which will affect their learning opportunities. I am sure there will be many other wage earners experiencing the same concern.</p> <p>To have the tax-deductible status for building funds removed is going to be detrimental to the ongoing needs of the oncoming generation and future workforce employees. As a result, this will have a direct impact on the future of the prosperity and availability of capable personnel to govern and lead our country.</p> <p>My concern is that my children receive the best education available, so they are equipped to be responsible, educated and productive members contributing to our society.</p> <p>I would be very grateful if you could heed my concerns as I am sure the consequences of the proposal to change the current law will be widespread and have a negative affect of the future of our country and oncoming generations.</p>	
278-146	David C	<p>I have read the draft report and have a concern. While there may be some good findings, I am concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care and other religious organisations.</p> <p>This is of great concern, as our child attends an independent school and we have seen his confidence and overall learning excel since attending and we now have a second child starting. If this bill is passed, it would mean the fees of faith based schools rise and like most other households facing the cost of living pressure, we will have no option but to send our children back to an already overcrowded public schooling system, which in turn will impact their learning and have our children not reach their full potential.</p> <p>Surely the government can see that over time, right education benefits the nation.</p> <p>Please consider our letter, as we are sure there would be other families that will be impacted too.</p>	18/01/2024
278-147	Selwyn Smith	<p>I hope this message finds you well. I wanted to express my appreciation for the draft report on 'Future foundations for giving.' Having reviewed it, I felt compelled to address a matter of great concern.</p> <p>While the report presents commendable findings and recommendations, I am particularly troubled by the proposal to eliminate Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and religious organizations. This issue strikes a chord with me as my children are enrolled in an independent school that significantly benefits from its DGR status.</p> <p>In these challenging times of unprecedented cost-of-living pressures, the prospect of scrapping DGR status raises genuine concern. I fear that this decision will lead to an escalation in school fees, as the institution would</p>	18/01/2024



		<p>have to compensate for the anticipated reduction in charitable contributions, given the absence of tax benefits for potential donors.</p> <p>The consequences of such a move are far-reaching, affecting not only our family but countless others. Should this recommendation be adopted by the government, families like ours may be forced to redirect our children to local public schools, already strained with overpopulation. This shift could hinder their learning experiences and jeopardize their academic potential.</p> <p>I implore you to consider the implications of this proposal and its impact on families across the nation. Preserving DGR status for non-government organizations is crucial for sustaining educational institutions and other vital services.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration. I trust that, together, we can ensure a future where educational opportunities remain accessible for all.</p>	
278-148	Wayne Flintoff	<p>I have read the draft report &amp; have concerns regarding some of the items mentioned within it as I am a parent of a child who attends an Independent school &amp; am worried her future schooling requirements may be negatively impacted if Independent schools are excluded from the DGR system.</p> <p>Like many other families we are already feeling the increase in cost of living pressures &amp; I fear that that if the Productivity Commission's recommendation is approved this will further increase school fees as they try to make up for the Government funding they had been receiving previously adding more financial pressure to innocent families.</p> <p>The decrease in Government funding to Independent schools would also likely mean a reduction in the quality of the learning environment &amp; facilities due to increased restrictions on any spending for necessary upgrades &amp; maintenance.</p> <p>It is already quite difficult to enrol at nearby public schools in our area due to capacity restraints &amp; am sure this will only cause it to get worse putting more pressure on the Public schooling system.</p> <p>This report appears to be a direct attack on religion which is a critical part of many of the Independent Schools in Australia &amp; would be very detrimental to the entire schooling system in the country if the Productivity Commission's recommendation was approved.</p> <p>I would greatly appreciate if you could consider my concerns regarding the above!</p>	18/01/2024
278-149	Dale Smith	<p>I have read this draft report with interest due to the potential to impact so many livelihoods.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>Whilst there may be some good findings and recommendations, I am particularly concerned about the recommendation for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for nongovernment primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>I am particularly concerned because:</p> <p>A. My children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status.</p> <p>B. In a time where we are experiencing cost of living pressure never felt before, I fear that school fees would be driven up further to make up the lost income from reduced giving, driven by the lack of tax benefit for businesses or individuals able to donate to the school.</p> <p>C. It would have a flow on effect, preventing new buildings &amp; upgrades – in turn affecting local small family businesses.</p> <p>D. We would be forced to send our children to our overcrowded local public schools.</p> <p>E. There is already a shortage of these Public schools.</p> <p>F. It would also impact their learning experience and stifle their academic potential – the lifeblood of a future strong Australia.</p> <p>I do feel this is an attack on religion as the majority of private or independent education is provided by religious organisations.</p> <p>Please seriously consider my concerns.</p>	
278-150	Brendan Chugg	<p>Having read the Draft Report I felt compelled to write and express my deep opposition to the recommendation of Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status being removed from Non-Government Primary and Secondary Schools, aged care, child care and other religious organisations.</p> <p>These organisations provide invaluable support to the wider community and reduce financial burden on the government. We are currently faced with extremely high cost of living pressure which is severely challenging many of us, but to cut back support to these organisations in the form of the DGR status being removed (many of these organisations enjoy very generous giving from business and individuals due to the DGR status, which would be dramatically reduced) and in the case of schooling will have to result in lower quality facilities and higher school fees which many of us simply cannot afford.</p> <p>As a parent that started my children in the public school system, I have chosen to sacrifice other luxuries to enable my children to have the best possible education result for their future and the future of the greater society, by moving them to a private school education. I feel that I would be forced to put them back into a public</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>school, many of which are already at or above capacity, should the government decide to adopt these poorly informed recommendations, which would negatively affect both their psychological health and educational performance.</p> <p>Further to this, surely it is obvious to both the government members and members of society that the extra burden on the public school system from those who can no longer afford private education for their children, will only result in the government being forced to increase taxes to cover this extra expenditure requirement, thereby further exacerbating an already perilous crisis for many already doing it tough.</p> <p>I don't believe I am alone in this situation, and I sincerely hope that many others are free to speak up to protect the DGR status that allows these organisations to operate efficiently, economically and for the benefit of the wider community.</p>	
278-151	Joshua and Deralee Brooke	<p>I have read this draft report and, although there are some good recommendations, I feel that the negative outcome resulting from this would far outweigh the benefits. I am particularly concerned about the recommendations for the DGR status to be removed for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>My children attend an independent school that benefits from the DGR status. The removal of this status in a time where the cost of living is at an all time high is only going to greatly increase school fees. This would be required to cover the reduced giving by businesses and individuals because of the lack of tax benefit. If this happens, we may be forced to enrol our children into the public school, which as you are aware, are very overcrowded and understaffed. Not only will this put extra pressure on an already struggling entity but will also result in a greatly decreased learning experience and reduction in the children's potential.</p> <p>I plead you to listen to this as many of my friends and family have the same concerns.</p>	18/01/2024
278-152	Mark and Gail Grace	<p>Following a review of this report, although some potential positive outcomes, I am extremely concerned about the deductible gift recipient (DGR) status being reviewed for building funds in non-government schools. I see the recommendations for this to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>My children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status and is a small school that relies on the benefits of this status for the building fund to keep up to speed with improvements.</p> <p>It would be reasonable to assume that school fees will increase dramatically to make up for the lost income from businesses and individuals losing the tax benefit from DGR status no longer applying to the sectors mentioned</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>above. How can our family sustain a substantial increase in school fees when household expenses are higher than ever?</p> <p>Will our school and other schools reduce their investment into upgrades and technologies? Will our children's academic development be affected by a decline in the school environment?</p> <p>Do we send our children to a public school? For a lesser quality education? Aren't our public schools already full or overfull?</p> <p>This would seem to be an attack on religion as many private schools are provided by religious organisations.</p> <p>These are real concerns for us and our family, and I am sure for many others too.</p> <p>Please consider these concerns.</p>	
278-153	Jason Donald	<p>I write to you with concern after reading the Productivity Commission's draft report as to the proposed changes that could significantly affect the funding model for faith-based schools.</p> <p>As a Christian, parent, active member of the local community, supporter of giving &amp; philanthropy and small business owner the suggestion to scrap the deductible gift recipient status for non-government faith-based schools and organisations who rely on this support is disturbing to say the least.</p> <p>My four children, as well as my widowed sisters four children whom I supported, have all benefitted from the high level of education and protective learning environment offered by private schooling. Without the funding support of those able to donate to private schooling due to the loss of tax benefits, we would not have been able to afford the school fees for their education.</p> <p>In addition, it is clear that the decreased support through DGR will directly impact schools ability to undertake building and infrastructure improvements needed to maintain the level of education provided.</p> <p>U urge you to please strongly consider the far-reaching implications in the draft report and that you will advocate for the dismissal of the recommendations of the report to scrap the DGR status.</p>	18/01/2024
278-154	Mark	<p>I write to express deep concerns regarding the draft report, specifically the recommendation that School Building funds "would no longer be eligible for DGR status under the Commission's proposals."</p> <p>Over the past year, we have experienced increased cost-of-living pressures, including rising school fees. The prospect of a further increase in school fees due to the potential loss of income from reduced giving to the school building fund, is a real concern.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>Should this recommendation be implemented, we will be forced to consider moving my children to our local public school. Unfortunately, it is already overcrowded, and will compromise our children's learning experience and hinder their academic potential.</p> <p>I implore you to consider the far-reaching consequences of this recommendation, not only for my family but for many others who face similar challenges. The potential shift away from DGR status for School Building funds could have a profound impact on the viability of independent schools and the choices available to families seeking quality education for their children.</p> <p>Please take into account these concerns as you review and finalize the recommendations outlined in the draft report. I believe it is crucial to strike a balance that supports the continued provision of quality education without unduly burdening families already grappling with financial pressures.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I trust that you will carefully consider the potential repercussions on families, students, and the broader community.</p>	
278-155	Kenneth Baker	<p>I wish to express my concern regarding this report and the proposed recommendation to remove the tax deductible status of gifts to religious organisations including non-government schools, childcare, aged care facilities etc. I have donated regularly over the past 15 years thus improving facilities for the education of my grandchildren.</p> <p>Since 1954 provisions for this funding has been in place, a mark of good government in Australia. Any provision that furthers our children's education is to be applauded. It is of great concern that government furthers and respects the upholding of Judeo/Christian values and endeavours, particularly in education and care, not undermine as this draft report appears to do.</p> <p>It should be mentioned the flow on benefit economically of facilities building which tax deductible gift for educational construction enhances. Refer the great benefit of Mr Rudd's programme building school facilities to all schools including private sector at time of Global Financial Crisis 2008.</p>	18/01/2024
278-156	Gareth Buckland	<p>I have read the draft report that was released on the 30/11/23 and am writing to express my strong concerns regarding the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status being taken away for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>As my children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status, I am greatly concerned about this status being taken away as it will cause school fees to go up considerably to cover for the lost income from reduced giving which will be caused by the lack of tax benefit for businesses or individuals to donate to the school.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>My concern if this recommendation is taken on by the Government, and with the increase in the cost of living like we have never seen before, will cause us to send our children to the local public schools which are already overcrowded which will cause decline in their education experience and will lower their ability to learn in a suitable environment and in turn impacting there academic potential.</p> <p>I also feel this is an attack on religion because most private or independent education is provided by religious organizations. It would be appreciated if you could please consider my concerns and I hope that the Government will understand what impact it will have if this status is taken away.</p>	
278-157	Nigel Salter	<p>I have read through this draft report as it is of interest to me. Yes there are some good findings and recommendations, I am very concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be removed for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations. This is of high concern to me as my children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status. In a time where we are experiencing cost of living pressure never felt before, I fear that school fees would only be driven up further to make up the lost income from reduced giving, driven by the lack of tax benefit for businesses or individuals able to donate to the school.</p> <p>My worry is if the Government adopt this recommendation, we will be forced to send our children to our overcrowded local public school which will impact their learning experience and stifle their academic potential. Please consider my concerns, I am sure our family won't be the only one impacted.</p>	18/01/2024
278-158	Brett Tunley	<p>Having gone through the essentials of the report from the Productivity Commission I hear their concerns as to misappropriation of funds, however, there is also a flip-side concern. If all privately funded schools were to have funding cancelled, many of these children would have to attend public schools.</p> <p>With those in our area (North Victoria) already at capacity, what would the infrastructure costs be to accommodate so many children, and in what time frame? My understanding is that nearly 35% of Australian students attend independent schools so even if half had to leave and go public, the infrastructure costs would be enormous, not to mention how long it would take. Living in a rural location we've experienced first-hand the difficulty of getting quality education for our children and so we'd be very appreciative of this provision being continued.</p>	18/01/2024
278-159	Ben Holt	<p>I read with interest the draft report. It contains many valuable recommendations, however I was concerned by the recommendation to make changes to the DGR status of school building funds. It would appear to be short-sighted, ignoring the importance of quality education for Australians to give us an edge on the global scene. Anything that increases the cost of education works against the effort to give Australia a competitive edge. Removing DGR status from school building funds will reduce giving to these causes substantially (your report</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>itself states that a reduction in the cost of giving increases giving, so the inverse would also be true) meaning school building costs will need to be funded from increased school fees, a direct hit to ordinary Australians already suffering from the cost-of-living crisis. I follow the reasoning presented, however feel it stops short of considering the full picture.</p> <p>Increasing the cost of private education is going to make it increasingly difficult for average Australian families to make this choice, tipping more families towards public education – a system that is already overcrowded. It is prudent to consider it costs the government 17 – 40% more to educate a child in a public high school than an independent or Catholic school. It would be a lose-lose situation to increase cost-of-living further for many Australian families, causing more to send their children to public schools, further increasing the financial burden on the government to educate Australian children.</p> <p>Alternatively, schools may simply elect not to proceed with building projects – building projects that support many local businesses in each school’s community, and directly improve the quality of educational outcomes. This is still a negative outcome from the proposed change and an adverse impact on further ordinary Australians.</p> <p>I join many Australians who are watching this issue unfold with keen interest.</p>	
278-160	Scott & Justine Barker	<p>We are writing to express our concern at the Dra report for the “Future foundations for giving”</p> <p>Its something we have read with interest given that our children a end an independent private school that benefits from DGR status and our main concern is that already high school fees will become unaffordable if the Government adopts this recommendation.</p> <p>We have recently pulled our children out of the overcrowded public school system into an independent private school to improve their education, and this is barely affordable currently especially with the constant rising cost of living pressure we are experiencing.</p> <p>On a secondary note, as you would be aware a lot of the funding for private schools is currently provided by religious organisations and this seems to us as an unfair proposition and an attack on religion in this country, which will only serve to increase school fees for parents and drive an influx of children into the already struggling public schooling system.</p> <p>We would kindly ask that our concerns are taken into consideration in your decision making.</p>	18/01/2024
278-161	Andrew Ingles	<p>This draft report recently came to my attention in the media and having looked into it has given me serious cause for concern. This has to do with the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be abolished for childcare; and primary, secondary, religious and informal education. (Page 179)</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>This is of special concern to me both as a parent and a grandparent. Previously my four children attended an independent school and now it seems certain that my grandchildren will follow the same course. These schools have long benefited from their DGR status, I believe since 1954, by encouraging private donations and it has no doubt become part of their business model. This enables them to provide ongoing campus modernisation without excessively increasing student fees.</p> <p>I am alarmed that if the government were to adopt these recommendations these independent schools will be forced to increase their student fees. This could not come at a worse time as the majority of families presently struggle with cost of living pressures and many will be forced to put their children into the already overcrowded public schools. This likely decrease in enrollments for independent schools will only further compound the problem and force their fees even higher, whilst in all this it is the education of the children that will suffer. As future responsible members of society this will have a long lasting negative effect.</p> <p>It is hard to follow the rationale behind this recommendation, if we take away students from independent schools and put them into government schools it is obvious that this will increase the burden on the public education system which will then have to bear the full cost of educating these children.</p> <p>This point in the draft recommendation is a bad idea. As most independent schools are faith based it is hard not to feel this is an attack on religion.</p>	
278-162	Russell Reddel	<p>I am concerned by the Productivity Commission’s draft report ‘Future Foundations for Giving’.</p> <p>The Commission has recommended that non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations should lose their deductible gift recipient (DGR) status.</p> <p>Non-government schools have been granted deductible gift recipient status since 1954 (69 years), and all Australians have benefited from this. Our children are our future, and we must be careful how we nurture and care for them – their education, especially in their early tender years, is critical in turning them into productive, responsible, and proactive citizens.</p> <p>My children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status, and these egregious recommendations would devastate our family budget and would put my household under unwarranted and detrimental pressure. In 2024, we have cost of living pressure never felt before; and I fear that school fees would increase massively to make up the lost income from reduced giving, driven by the lack of tax benefits for businesses or individuals able to donate to the school.</p> <p>My concern is that if the government adopts this recommendation, we will be forced to send our children to our (already overcrowded) local public school, impacting their learning experience and stifling their academic</p>	18/01/2024



		<p>potential. I also sense (due to the organisations recommended for retaining and receiving DGR status) that this is an attack on religion, considering that most non-public education providers are religious organisations.</p> <p>Please consider my concerns. With approximately 40% of Australian students educated outside of the public system, I am sure our family won't be the only ones adversely impacted</p>	
278-163	Deryck Smith	<p>As a grandfather I would like to express my concern about the possible abolishing of the DGR status for private schools and religious organisations etc. I can't understand why this is being considered after it has successfully been in place since 1954. Any change now or in the future will have a devastating domino effect including bringing more pressure on the public schooling system because parents will not be able to afford to send their children to private schools as fees will have to increase. Also there will be lack of funding for building improvements etc and in general the standard that is expected and upheld at private schools will decline.</p> <p>Households currently are under extreme financial pressure with interest rates and any increase in school fees will not be sustainable for many parents.</p> <p>And last but certainly not least I regard this as an attack on religion because many private schools are connected to religious organisations.</p> <p>I urgently ask for your sincerest consideration as to the above points which I believe and I am sure many others would agree are deeply concerning.</p>	18/01/2024
278-164	Russell and Joanne Woodbury	<p>Philanthropy is something we are very passionate about and we believe a review is needed. We have read the draft report and agree with some of the overdue recommendations.</p> <p>We are alarmed and extremely concerned about the recommendations for DGR status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>We feel this is an attack on basic rights, freedom of religion and an attack on Christian values.</p> <p>Our children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status. Not sure if you realise the rapid increase in the cost of living recently but we are certainly feeling the pinch. We are very concerned these changes will drive up school fees and restrict our ability to donate to schools to maintain our Christian way of life.</p> <p>In our giving to my local church and school, we have always been pleased at how efficiently and effectively the money has been spent with great transparency.</p> <p>Our local public school is already overcrowded, it would not be an option for us to send our children there. One of us may have to quit work and homeschool them instead.</p>	18/01/2024

		We plead with you to hear our urgent submission. I believe this recommendation will affect many and have a lot of unintended consequences.	
278-165	Anthony Allpress	<p>I'm writing to you as a concerned parent of 2 teenage children to share my concerns in regard to the recent recommendation handed down by the productivity commission to scrap the deductible gift recipient (DGR) status for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>I have read the draft report and note that some of the recommendations seem sound, but this particular recommendation will have a major negative impact on a whole host of factors relating to a great percentage of our next generation and their quality of education.</p> <p>My children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status. In a time where we are experiencing cost of living pressure never felt before, I fear that school fees would only be driven up further to make up the lost income from reduced giving, driven by the lack of tax benefit for businesses or individuals able to donate to the school.</p> <p>My worry is if the Government adopt this recommendation, we will be forced to send our children to our overcrowded local public school which will impact their learning experience and potentially have a negative impact on their academic and wider potential.</p> <p>We trust that this be taken into serious consideration as I'm sure many many other parents would be sharing similar concerns.</p>	18/01/2024
278-166	Joshua Perryman	<p>I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my concerns about the recommendations outlined in the Productivity Commission's 'Future Foundations for Giving' draft report, specifically regarding the proposed scrapping of deductible gift recipient (DGR) status for non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organizations.</p> <p>Having carefully reviewed the draft report, I acknowledge the positive findings and recommendations it contains. However, the suggestion to eliminate DGR status for certain organizations, including independent schools, has raised significant concerns for me and my family. Our children currently attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status, and this plays a crucial role in maintaining the school's financial stability.</p> <p>In a time where many families are grappling with unprecedented cost-of-living pressures, I am apprehensive that the removal of DGR status could lead to a decline in charitable giving, subsequently impacting the ability of organizations like our school to provide quality education. The potential consequence of increased school fees is a daunting prospect for families already facing financial strain.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>If this recommendation is adopted by the government, there is a genuine fear that independent schools may have to raise tuition fees to compensate for the lost income from reduced donations, as the tax benefits for businesses or individuals contributing to these institutions would be diminished. This, in turn, could force families like ours to reconsider their educational choices.</p> <p>Our concern is not limited to our family alone; I believe that many others in similar situations may face the same predicament. The potential outcome of increased enrollment in overcrowded public schools could adversely affect the learning experience and academic potential of students who are compelled to make such changes.</p> <p>I kindly request that you take into serious consideration the potential consequences of the proposed changes and the broader impact on families, educational institutions, and the community at large. I trust that the Productivity Commission will carefully weigh the implications of these recommendations on various stakeholders before finalizing its report.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter. I appreciate your dedication to fostering informed and beneficial policies.</p>	
278-167	Scott and Jacinta Cantrill	<p>One has read the draft the report and I am deeply concerned about the recommendations for (DGR) status to be ditched for non-government primary, secondary, aged care, child care, and other religious bodies.</p> <p>My eldest child presently attends an Independent school and I intend to send my two younger children to the same Independent school that benefits from DGR status. With the cost of living pressure higher than it has ever been before my fear that school fees would only be jacked up further to accommodate the lost revenue from reduced giving, driven by the lack of tax benefit for businesses or individuals able to donate to the school.</p> <p>Looking through the recommendation its frightening to think that the great nation of Australia in a democracy could even consider looking at the idea of not supporting our potential in the youth (childcare and schooling) and our aged of whom we as a nation stand on the shoulders of. (age care and religion). Its sounds horribly like a communist regime.</p> <p>My fear is if the Government implement this recommendation, we will force parents to send our children to crowded woke driven agenda local public schools which will impact their learning capability and suppress their academic potential an results.</p> <p>Please consider my frustration and concerns, I am I not the only person impacted by this.</p>	18/01/2024
278-168	Michael Gooden	<p>Thankyou for the opportunity to respond to the above draft report.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>I understand that the Commission is recommending the removal of deductible gift status for non-government and religious schools.</p> <p>My children attend an independent school which relies on philanthropic gifts to provide improved facilities which are not subsidized by Government funds.</p> <p>It worries me greatly that there is a suggestion to remove the deductible gift status of these schools, as it will both limit the ability of the school to provide a quality educational experience for our children, and the school fees will increase to compensate, putting extra financial pressure on households that are already experiencing difficulty making ends meet.</p> <p>Should the Government proceed with this, it will likely remove our freedom of choice of education for our children, forcing households to send their children to public schools, limiting their future potential to contribute to society.</p> <p>I would appreciate your consideration of my concerns.</p>	
278-169	Nathan Cruickshank	<p>I am writing with concern as to some of the recommendations in the commissions draft report. Whilst there are some positive findings the part that alarms me is as to the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped which will affect non-government primary, secondary, childcare, aged care, and other religious organisations.</p> <p>As a parent I have had some exposure to the running of private/independent schools through the Parents and Friends circle, my wife is also currently a volunteer in the school canteen where our children attend.</p> <p>Contrary to the popular media myth that private schools are well funded by rich parents and generous government funding the reality is quite different. The school where our children attend are mostly from average income backgrounds where parents make sacrifices sometimes from the time the child is born to send them to a school where they think they will get the best education. The school itself needs to be sustainable and has pretty much only a few funding streams, these include school fees, government funding and private donations.</p> <p>The school we attend relies nearly 100% on private donations to their building fund to improve the learning environment and experience for their students, if this was to be removed then these improvements either wouldn't happen or would need to be funded from a raise in school fees.</p> <p>My view is that the pressure of living costs is enormous at the current time and any increase in school fees will result in a substantial exodus from the private school sector, this in turn will put pressure on an already overloaded public schooling system which is not coping now, the reality is that the public school system relies on the private school sector to "do their bit" and reduce the burden on the public system.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>Government funding for private schools likewise is necessary to maintain this balance of public and private schooling, it is far more cost effective for the government to be able to fund only part of a students education than try and foot the entire bill.</p> <p>Please Karen consider the points above, if the government decided to adopt the recommendation to scrap DGR status for non-government schools the impact on the whole Australian education system would be enormous and destructive, impacting the academic achievement potential of our children who deserve the best opportunities a democratic country can give.</p>	
278-170	Bradley	<p>In reading through the draft report several concerns come to my mind, which I'd love to for you to take notice of. In particular, the recommendations for the deductible gift recipient status to be scrapped for non-government schools, childcare, aged care and other religious organisations.</p> <p>I have been saving up for my children to attend an independent school that relies on the DGR status. We firmly believe that the school will no longer be able to operate as it currently does without the support of the DGR status in the following capacities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality teaching and education, human resources, and related collateral (IT etc)</li> <li>• Physical environment will not be able to kept current and planned extensions not undertaken, impacting the many small businesses that are working on keeping these facilities modern.</li> <li>• Significantly increased school fees, driving population to public overcrowded schools.</li> </ul> <p>Cost of living has never been so high and where public schools are struggling to keep behaviour under control, I feel the move to scrap DGR benefits for these organisations could damage a generation. Further to that, I feel that the underlying motive is an attack on religion. Please seriously consider these concerns raised as many people have shared these concerns also.</p>	18/01/2024
278-171	Doug Rendell	<p>I am writing regarding the Productivity Commission's new proposal regarding "Future foundations for giving report".</p> <p>I am conversant with some of the content, and I am disturbed about the Charitable Giving DGR statements.</p> <p>I am a grandparent with grandchildren and great grandchildren attending non-government schools, which are co-funded by giving by the likes of myself, and I also am the beneficiary of care in non-government hospitals and aged care facilities.</p> <p>In these times of hardship, it would become even more difficult to maintain a basic level of living, and the education and care of oneself and my offspring would suffer. The government schooling systems and</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>government hospitals cannot cope as it is, and therefore, if we are forced to use these, or required to make much higher private contributions, it will all be to the detriment of our progress in this nation.</p> <p>My other concern is, if government money is not directed to non-government charitable organisations, then where will it be directed to.</p> <p>My appeal to you is to consider my concerns, along with many other families in the same situation as myself.</p>	
278-172	Luke Joyce	<p>I have reviewed the draft report that has been released with interest. I do believe there has been some good &amp; valid findings for recommendation. However, I am particularly concerned about the potential changes for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be abolished for non-government organisations, such as elderly care, childcare, primary, secondary, religious groups, all of which I believe are entitled to DGR status.</p> <p>I am particularly concerned as my children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status. We are experiencing cost of living pressure's that we haven't experienced in my lifetime, by removing the DGR status on independent schools, this would have a direct flow on effect on school fees, and I am confident they would be increased to make up the deficit of lost income from reduced donations. The lack of tax benefit for individuals and businesses would reflect this directly with a reduction in giving. My particular concern is that if the current Government adopt this recommendation, the already overcrowded local public school system will be thrown into further chaos and will impact the learning experience of our oncoming generations. Education is an extremely important part of a child ability to succeed in life, as a concerned parent, I feel government need to look further down the chain to see the effect that a small change in policy could have detrimental impact on many sectors of humanity.</p> <p>I would appreciate your consideration of the concerns that I have regarding these potential policy changes.</p>	18/01/2024
278-173	Adrian Attwood	<p>I have come across the Productivity Commission 'Future foundations for giving' draft report and read it with keen interest and am deeply concerned.</p> <p>My concern lies with the recommendations to scrap the deductible gift recipient status for nongovernment schools etc.</p> <p>This is going to have a major impact in our family as all our families' children across the country attend independent schools that receive deductible gift recipient funding.</p> <p>Without this status, costs within the school will increase, causing fees to increase putting pressure on our household cost of living which is already stretched, and we would be forced to send the children to an already overcrowded public schooling system.</p>	18/01/2024

		<p>My heart felt concern is if this happens, it will impact the learning experience and affect the quality of education which has consequences that go for generations.</p> <p>I am sure our family won't be the only ones impacted by this proposal and I would plead with you to consider this impact seriously.</p>	
278-174	Ron Grace	<p>I trust this message finds you well. Having thoroughly reviewed the draft report, I commend the insightful recommendations presented therein. However, I am writing to express my apprehension as a concerned grandparent regarding the potential removal of Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status.</p> <p>The suggestion of eliminating DGR status raises significant concerns for me, particularly considering its impact on the educational institution attended by my grandchildren. The school currently benefits from DGR status, and any alteration to this designation could have far-reaching consequences.</p> <p>I am particularly troubled by the potential repercussions, including increased school fees and a potential decline in the quality of educational facilities. In the midst of the current cost of living crisis, these outcomes could place undue financial strain on parents and adversely affect the overall educational experience for students.</p> <p>As we recognize that a quality education is paramount to the development and potential of young students, any additional stress on our already stretched education system could disproportionately impact all students. There is a valid concern that such changes may prompt a shift from non-government schools to the public system due to rising fees, further burdening an already challenged public education sector.</p> <p>I kindly request that you carefully consider these concerns during your deliberations, recognizing the broader implications for the entire education sector and, most importantly, for the students who stand to be affected.</p> <p>Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I trust that your decision-making process will prioritize the well-being of our education system and its beneficiaries.</p>	18/01/2024
278-175	Lindy Lee	<p>I am concerned about the recommendations for deductible gift recipient (DGR) status to be scrapped for non-government primary, secondary, age care and other religious organizations. This concerns me as my children attend an independent school that benefits from DGR status.</p> <p>As a single parent and a religious woman in a time where we are experiencing a huge rise in the cost of living, we are all under pressure never felt before, I fear that with this DGR being scrapped school fees will need to be driven up higher too cover the full cost of running our school and any building improvements, I would have to take my children out and place them back into mainstream schooling, which is already overcrowded.</p> <p>Our children are the leaders of tomorrow and this will significantly impact their learning experience.</p>	18/01/2024

		I also feel this is an attack on religion as a majority. And age care, to put our loved ones into care is a hard choice often it's for end-of-life care. I shudder to think what will happen to our past generations when our only option for them is public hospitals.	
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