

My only income is the Disability Support Pension. In addition I am basically housebound and cannot travel to shops. Anything I buy needs to be delivered to me. For these reasons I shop for various items online, such as clothes and gifts. I always start by trying to shop with Australian companies, but sometimes what I need is not available online or imported products are by far much better value for money. My main interest and form of mental stimulation is genealogy which I can only research via the internet, so I occasionally have to purchase records or books from other countries as my ancestors were from different European countries.

I believe that the threshold of when GST would be applied to imported goods, rather decreasing in the future, should actually increase in accordance with inflation. I think that there would be many other people in similar circumstances to me whose quality of life would be otherwise adversely affected.

Sincerely,

John Bernacki  
South Penrith, NSW