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**Working Pensioners Paying tax on Deducted Earnings**

1 message

**Greg Jarvis** <gregjarvis5@gmail.com>

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To: Minister.Rishworth@dss.gov.au

Cc: "Doyle, Mary (MP Office)" &lt;Mary.Doyle.MP@aph.gov.au&gt;, Manny Cicchiello - Liberal for Aston &lt;manny.cicchiello@vic.liberal.org.au&gt;

Hon Amanda Rishworth MP

Amanda,

Could you please clarify why I'm paying tax on money I haven't received?

I believe that working pensioners are paying tax on money they don't receive due to different treatment of income by different Government departments.

An age Pensioner that earns over \$300 p/fortnight has their pension reduced by 50 cents in the dollar. As Centrelink view income as a couple they deduct from both pensions i.e. half each, however the tax dept see income as an individual and therefore tax the worker for half the amount already deducted.

Example:	Husband	Wife
Maximum Pension 2023/24	\$ 21,451.70	\$ 21,451.70
Gross income from earned work	\$ 28,822.00	\$ 0.00
Centrelink pension paid	\$ 16,412.00	\$ 16,412.00
Pension Deduction	\$ 5,039.70	\$ 5,039.70
<b>Taxable income</b>	<b>\$ 45,234.00</b>	<b>\$ 16,412.00</b>

The Husband could be placed in a higher tax bracket and pay tax on income not received. This could also lead to not qualifying for other benefits due to the incorrect inflated taxable income.

Pension reduction that should apply to Husband	\$ 10,079.40	
Correct Taxable amount should be	\$ 40,194.30	\$ 21,451.70

I have contacted Centrelink who advised 'that's just what they do', regard couples income as both individuals earnings, the ATO just go by what Centrelink send them. I also filled out the Treasury Ministerial Correspondence online form, no acknowledgement to date and the switchboard advised they don't, and they are unable to confirm receipt.

I have also instigated an epetition, EN6227, regarding working pensioners that has been referred to your office, part of which requests the Work Bonus for couples to be combined which would alleviate this issue.

I invite you to contact me to discuss further and refer you to [www.workbonus500.com](http://www.workbonus500.com) for more information. All I expect is a Fair Go

Apologies for the gospel, I find it difficult to explain any other way.

Thanking you in anticipation.

(Obviously Husband, Wife, Partner all interchangeable)

Regards  
Greg

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