

Ministerial Correspondence 16/7/24

Hon Jim Chalmers MP

Mr Chalmers,

I believe that working pensioners are paying tax on money they don't receive due to different treatment of income by Centrelink & ATO

An age Pensioner earning over \$300 p/fn has their pension reduced by 50%. Centrelink treat income as a couple & deduct from both pensions, half each, however the ATO view it as individual & include half the deducted amount as taxable income.

Example:	Husband	Wife
Gross income from earned work	\$ 28,822.00	\$ 0.00
Pension Deduction	\$ 5,039.70	\$ 5,039.70
Taxable income inc pension	\$ 45,234.00	\$ 16,412.00

The Husband is placed in a higher tax bracket paying tax on income not received and effect qualifying for other benefits.

Pension reduction that should apply to Husband \$ 10,079.40

Correct Taxable amount should be	\$ 40,194.30	\$ 21,451.70
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I have contacted Centrelink and ATO without resolution. I also filled out the Treasury Ministerial Correspondence online form, no acknowledgement to date.

I invite you to contact me to discuss further & request confirmation of receiving this

Thanking you in anticipation.

Regards

Greg

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