



**SA Superannuants** Established 1927

Unite - Protect - Represent

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Senator Rex Patrick  
Level 2, 31 Ebenezer Place  
Adelaide SA 5000

19 April 2020

Dear Senator Patrick,

On 31 January you provided Dr Ray Hickman, Mr Barry Grear AO and me the opportunity to meet you at your Adelaide office. We discussed aspects of SA Superannuants' pre-budget submission to Treasury, including its reasoned argument challenging the common but in our view faulty assumptions that State and Commonwealth untaxed-source public service pensions are "generous compared to the community standard", and have taxation advantages.

We also discussed potential changes to the South Australian State Pension scheme to assist some retired South Australian public servants without detriment to the South Australian budget.

During our meeting you very helpfully offered some guidance on how we might seek to advance these and related matters, beginning by selecting one or two particular initiatives, identifying which legislation might need amending; the benefits; and a calculated estimate of the budget impact. Dr Hickman subsequently did that. We were encouraged by your straightforward approach, and interest in maintaining contact with our Association of some 1600 South Australian members.

Our discussion then seems a long time ago.

All members of SA Superannuants are concerned about what might lie ahead for our country and particularly those younger than ourselves. We know that all Australian governments are facing difficult decisions now and that this will be the case for months, even years, ahead.

We look forward to engaging with you again, when, in your judgment, the time is appropriate. We fully appreciate though that this is a time for the national interest to over-ride sectional interests, and for governments to be mindful of the needs of their most vulnerable citizens.

We trust that you have made a strong recovery from the coronavirus, and express our best wishes for the future.

Yours sincerely

Brenton Pain  
Secretary