



Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources

Liberal Senator for Tasmania

MEDIA RELEASE

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Major gaffe exposes Labor arrogance on retirees tax

Liberal Senator for Tasmania Richard Colbeck has condemned Labor's Anne Urquhart who either doesn't know that her own policy will tax pensioners, or she and Bill Shorten have deliberately misled the people of Tasmania.

Senator Colbeck: "Anne Urquhart has exposed what local retirees have known for nearly a year; Labor MPs don't even understand the damage their policy will do to people's retirement plans.

"While Chris Bowen is busy giving retirees the two finger salute around the country, Senator Urquhart is misleading Tasmanians about Labor's plans to strip up to 30% off those on low taxable incomes and retirees.

"Senator Urquhart arrogantly said that "Every pensioner is exempt from Labor's franking credit changes". * This is wrong:

- those individuals and couples already in a Self-Managed Super Fund (SMSF) who go on the aged pension on or after 28 March 2018 will be affected (unless they were lucky enough for one of their SMSF fund members to already be on the age pension before 28 March 2018); and
- All pensioners who establish a SMSF on or after 28 March 2018 will be affected.

"Senator Urquhart was hopelessly out of touch when she said that "No-one is facing a tax increase".

** This is also wrong:

- those individuals and couples already in a Self-Managed Super Fund (SMSF) who go on the aged pension on or after 28 March 2018 will be affected (unless they were lucky enough for one of their SMSF fund members to already be on the age pension before 28 March 2018)
- all pensioners who establish a SMSF after 28 March 2018 will have their tax increased
- self-funded retirees who currently receive franking credits will have their tax increased; and
- low-income people, regardless of age, who receive franking credits will have their tax increased.

"ATO data shows the total number of people who will have their tax increased in Braddon alone is 3,534. The total number of people who will have their tax increased in Tasmania is 20,201.

"On average, Australians affected by the retiree tax would lose \$2,200 a year. Those with self-managed super funds would lose around \$12,000 a year.

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“For many, their losses will be much higher and may even force some on to a part-pension.

“Senator Urquhart and the Tasmanian people don’t need to take my word for it, Chris Bowen claims the policy would rake in \$55 billion.

“The people who won’t be affected by Labor’s tax increase are the Labor politicians who have their retirement nest eggs in sheltered in union super funds.***

“Labor’s continuous lies are desperate and the truth is compelling. They’re don’t know how to implement policy, they don’t know how to manage money, and they don’t even know how their big new taxes actually work or who they will affect.”

ENDS

**POLITICALLY SPEAKING: Labor to invest in people, for a fair go:*

<https://www.theadvocate.com.au/story/5883615/labor-to-invest-in-people-for-a-fair-go/?cs=89>

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****Senior Labor figures unaffected by franking credits reforms that hit self-funded retirees hard:*

https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/business/senior-labor-figures-unaffected-by-franking-credits-reforms-that-hit-self-funded-retirees-hard/news-story/00330bc633bd307fd24ed81f67ce9d7?fbclid=IwAR0waWhfHiUgocn7G5v5KR0v9gCfumHXQNGwL8eA_pBecScFWHeYIxtyFQ