



Premier of Queensland

18 JUN 2014

BT:

For reply please quote: *SocPol/VB – TF/14/10387 – DOC/14/84253*

17 JUN 2014

Mr Mark Tucker-Evans
Chief Executive
COTA Queensland
PO Box 15525
CITY EAST QLD 4002

Executive Building
100 George Street Brisbane
PO Box 15185 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7000
Facsimile +61 7 3221 1809
Email ThePremier@premiers.qld.gov.au
Website www.thepremier.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Tucker-Evans

Thank you for your letter of 15 May 2014 about the Federal Government's changes affecting the concessions paid to seniors and pensioners.

The Queensland Government made the decision to increase its share of the senior and pensioner concessions by almost \$26 million in this year's Budget, to help compensate for cuts made to these concessions by the Federal Government. Queenslanders made it clear that passing on part of the Federal cuts was not an acceptable outcome and that pensioners and older Queenslanders would have difficulty wearing the cost of the cuts.

We listened to what Queenslanders had to say and responded within the space of two days to reinstate the full level of concessions. Queensland seniors and pensioners will not be worse off because of the federal cuts, and I will continue to send a clear message — that Queenslanders won't stand for these kinds of cuts.

This Can-Do Government has a strong plan for a brighter future and we will always put the interests of Queenslanders first.

Thank you for taking the time to write to me on this important matter and I hope this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

CAMPBELL NEWMAN