

TO THE FEDERAL GOV PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION. CHILDCARE.

The Australian Institute of Family Studies has found grandparents are caring for 40 percent of babies, toddlers and preschoolers, add to this primary aged children after school and school holidays. I would like to see a small money allowance given to grandparents, who in Australia, take the roll as carer, putting in extensive hours. Yes, most do it out of love for the children, but its time Australia recognized these people, who stand in place of expensive Child Care Centres, which cost the Govt millions of dollars in subs childcare allowances, these Grandparents have cost the Govt nil in Childcare for years, supporting parents who are then able to work, keeping productivity going in this country, and the gathering of taxes to continue.

Social Security should allow a payment of this sort, to not have a penalty on Grandparents pensions, nor should it be treated as income by the tax dept. The Grandparents would also benefit, by having a small amount of extra monies coming in, to help with life costs. Overall the Govt would save monies on Grandparents giving a cheaper rate, than professional profit driven childcare centres, as many Grandparents I know, would be happy with \$25.-- to \$50. a week and the children would be with someone who loves them.

Payment should be optional, as some Grandparents may have moral hesitations not to accept payment for caring of their grandchildren. It would be a

personal decision to apply.

THE ROLL OF GRANDPARENTS IN THIS
COUNTRY IS UNDERESTIMATED AND NOT
ALWAYS APPRECIATED BY AUSTRALIAN
GOVT.

29 ones.