



## THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT CORPORATION

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Last week the House of Representatives expressed its support for fair treatment for members of military superannuation schemes. Today the Senate rejected a Bill which would start the process of removing the discrimination faced by ADF members in their superannuation schemes. This was an act of bastardry by the government following so closely after the PM's words of condolence to the family of the soldier who was our latest Afghanistan casualty.

The Bill was rejected after the voting was even. I recommend you read the Hansard record of proceedings of 16th June pages 1-21 at <http://www.aph.gov.au/hansard/hanssen.htm> to understand the reasons for its rejection by the Government, Greens and Independent Senator Xenophon.

However, Sen. Xenophon insisted that there is a need for a detailed inquiry within 6 - 12 months by the Senate's Economic Committee working with the Australian Government Actuary into ways to fund the increased indexation expenditure in the long term from Defence savings. He said:

"Let us go through the process of seeing what savings can be made—thoroughly, forensically, robustly—with the Defence Materiel Organisation and the Department of Defence. That is the best way of dealing with this. There are live issues in relation to the Government Actuary with respect to this. I want to get along-term sustainable outcome."

This offers the potential for a detailed analysis of the real costs of indexation.

The hurdle for us in the Senate will now be the Greens who from the 1st July will hold the balance of power with nine seats. Brown's proposal to fund the indexation from the Mining Tax has led to an impasse with the Coalition.

Attached are the media releases from:

1. [Sen. Humphries - "Lundy Sinks Retirement Bill"](#)
2. [Mr Stuart Robert MP & Senator the Hon. Michael Ronaldson - "Veterans' Fair Superannuation Bill Scuttled"](#)
3. [ADSO - "Senate Turns Its Back On The Nation's Service Men And Women"](#)

We encourage you to express your discontent/disappointment by telephoning, sending an email to or visiting your Federal Labor MP and your State Labor, Green and Independent Senator. Also please contact Sen. Fielding to express your appreciation for his support to our campaign: his term as a Senator ceases on the 30th June 2011. And tell your Coalition and Independent MPs and Senators that you appreciate their support but ask them to engage with the other political parties to get agreement to legislate for fair indexation of all ADF superannuation schemes."

[Ted Chitham](#)

16 June 2011