

8<sup>th</sup> June 2016

The Secretary  
Legal and Social Issues Committee  
Parliament House, Spring Street  
East Melbourne VIC 3002

### **Inquiry into Retirement Housing**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a retiree living in a retirement village in Greensborough. The very high rates that Nillumbik Shire charge are unjust.

I contend that:

- The rates I am currently paying for my 2 bedroom unit in Nillumbik, are at least 20% higher than I previously paid for my 3 bedroom home on 800 square meters of land.
- I am a struggling pensioner, having to budget for ever increasing charges.
- I pay a monthly maintenance fee to maintain the roads and street lighting in our retirement village, so it's not fair or just that I should pay such high rates to the shire.
- Rubbish removed from the village is by a private contractor.
- My property is not comparable to similar sized units in adjoining residential areas because there are strict restrictions on what I can do to my property.
- The equity in my property is reduced by 3% each year up to 30%.

I thank you for your time attending to this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Maria Golenko

