

## Contact Your MP

### Stop the NDIS Cuts: Act Today

The Federal Government is rushing through **changes** to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). They plan to **cut \$15 billion** and **remove** at least **160,000** people from the scheme by 2030.

These changes are not about fairness or stopping fraud; they are about **saving money** at the expense of people with a disability and their families.

We need you to contact your local Member of Parliament (MP) today and demand they stop these harmful cuts.

### Why We Must Act Now

If the government passes these laws, the impact will be devastating:

- **A Political Choice:** Affordability is a political choice. The cuts to the NDIS almost exactly match the additional funds the government is paying for AUKUS submarines. They could have taxed billionaires or gas exports but chose to target vulnerable families instead.
- **Massive Job Losses:** Cutting the NDIS will destroy local economies. For every \$1 billion spent on the NDIS, it creates approximately 10,200 jobs, compared to just 1,000 to 1,500 jobs in the Defence sector. The planned cuts equal a loss of 204,000 jobs across the nation, mostly impacting women during a severe cost of living crisis.

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- **Dangerous Assessments:** The government wants to replace your trusted doctors and professionals with an assessment tool called I-CAN v6. Unskilled government contractors will make split-second decisions about your funding over brief video calls, ignoring complex physical conditions and communication needs.
- **A Return to Institutionalisation and Block Funding:** To save money, the government is already trialling shared group homes located on the exact same sites as aged care facilities. This forces people with disabilities back into closed institutions and 'selected' providers, removing our right to choose our own care and to live in the community.
- **Functional Capacity Assessments:** The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) requires expensive Functional Capacity Assessments (costing up to \$3500) just to request a plan change. However, wait times are so long that reports often expire before they are processed, forcing participants to pay for new reports repeatedly.
- **An End to Fairness, Choice and Control:** The government has announced new registration categories, which means that we will not have any choice or control over who showers us, who comes into our homes and who supports us day to day. They are also planning to change the original legislation to cut the NDIS by seven eighths – including to who can access the NDIS in the first place, even though there are no other supports in place.

Disabled people and our families do not want luxuries, just what we need to be who we are. We want to make sure that the NDIS is what all of Australia stood up for – to make sure that all Australians are able to be insured against the chance that they may acquire or have a child born with a disability, no matter where they live or who they are.

We want all sides of government to:

- **Keep the Promise:** Honour the original contract made with disabled Australians.
- **Nobody Left Behind:** Care is not a competition. We want certainty and an end to scarcity driven funding where vulnerable groups are pitted against each other.
- **No Disadvantage:** We want a legal guarantee that no one who currently receives or needs support will be worse off. We must not be subjected to postcode lotteries, punitive assessment regimes or algorithmic decision making.
- **Real Choice and Control:** We want participants to have the power to choose their own providers and caregivers, rather than being forced back into block funding, large corporate monopolies or forcing our family members to provide our care.
- **Protect Disability Work:** We want secure jobs and safe workloads for the workforce, working in solidarity with unions like Professionals Australia, allied health providers and small business. The proposed cuts will see **204,000 Australians out of work.**

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## How to Contact Your MP

1. **Find your local MP:** Look up their contact details online.
2. **Write an email or call their office:** Let them know you are a voter in their area.
3. **Share your story:** Use the template below but make sure you add your own personal experience. Your local MP needs to hear exactly how these cuts will hurt you, your family or your business.

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## Email Template

**Subject:** Please vote against the harmful NDIS cuts

Dear [Name of your MP],

I am writing to you as a member of your community to urge you to vote against the proposed NDIS reforms in May and June.

The government claims these changes are necessary to secure the scheme, but the reality is they will destroy lives and our local economy. The planned \$15 billion in cuts will result in a loss of over 200,000 jobs nationwide. It is entirely unacceptable that the government is choosing to fund AUKUS submarines by taking essential support away from people with a disability.

I am deeply concerned about the new I-CAN assessment tool. Replacing trusted medical advice with short video call assessments will lead to unsafe decisions and severe harm. Furthermore, the push to force more disabled people into group homes shared with others, removing our right to our choice of trusted care workers and removing/denying support to those who need it strips away our fundamental right to choice, control and independent living.

These reforms abandon the original promise of the NDIS and punish innocent people for the government's failure to manage the scheme properly. Please stand with your community and commit to keeping the promise of a real NDIS for every Australian who needs it.

Yours sincerely,

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