



## COMBINED PENSIONERS AND SUPERANNUANTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW SOUTH WALES INC.

Founded 1931.

Serving pensioners of all ages, superannuants and low-income retirees.

*Consumer Protection Awards – 2002, 2003, 2004*

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# MEDIA RELEASE

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10 May 2005

## Age Pensioners ignored, Disability Support Pensioners and Sole Parents screwed

“As predicted, the Howard Government’s 2005-06 Budget gave no income relief to Age Pensioners and was clearly aimed at knocking off Disability Support Pensioners and Sole Parents from social security so the figures would look good” said Morrie Mifsud, State President of Combined Pensioners and Superannuants Association of NSW Inc (CPSA).

“Costello smugly announced tax cuts for low income earners. Well, pensioners will get no real tax relief. That’s because the GST will remain and as such, pensioners will continue to be slugged with taxes when they go to the shops.

“Even worse, Disability Support Pensioners and Sole Parents will face ever more relentless harassment thanks to new rules aimed at forcing them into non-existent jobs. All the cajoling in the world will not miraculously produce jobs where people can earn a decent living. And nor will it prevent discrimination against people genuinely looking for work.

“This government’s obsession with surpluses and spending on rich mates through tax cuts and abolition of the superannuation surcharge means that much less funding for services and infrastructure. And speaking of infrastructure, the sale of Telstra will have grave consequences for low income earners, especially in rural areas, when they will have no choice but to cope with high charges by commercial carriers.

“This Budget is an excellent example of Robin Hood – except in reverse” said Mr Mifsud.

**Contact:** Morrie Mifsud 02 9281 3588.