



## 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

## Budget to attack low-income earners

“The Federal Budget is likely to be nothing more than a mean-minded attack on unemployed people, sole parents and Disability Support Pensioners” said Morrie Mifsud, State President of Combined Pensioners and Superannuants Association of NSW Inc (CPSA).

“Clearly the Australian Government wants to deliver a surplus at the expense of some of the lowest income earners in our society. They are not really interested in finding jobs for social security recipients. What Howard and Costello want to do is to knock them off income support so they can find more money for upper class welfare.

“CPSA understands a cut to the superannuation surcharge paid by high-income earners is in the works. And it is likely they will also receive further tax cuts.

“If Howard and co were really interested in getting people into jobs they would provide funds from previous surpluses and put them into training and public education. As it is, the Federal Government now spends more money on private schools than public universities. And TAFE funding has suffered as well. Talk about hypocrisy!

“What use is a surplus if it is not used? The money needs to go to services such as Medicare, public housing, public education and other areas of infrastructure. More tax cuts mean less services and poorer service delivery – its basic mathematics and the Federal Treasurer at least should know that.

“CPSA and other community sector organisations will not stand idly by as our members and the constituents we serve are attacked while at the same time the rich and privileged receive welfare benefits at the expense of services,” said Mr Mifsud.

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