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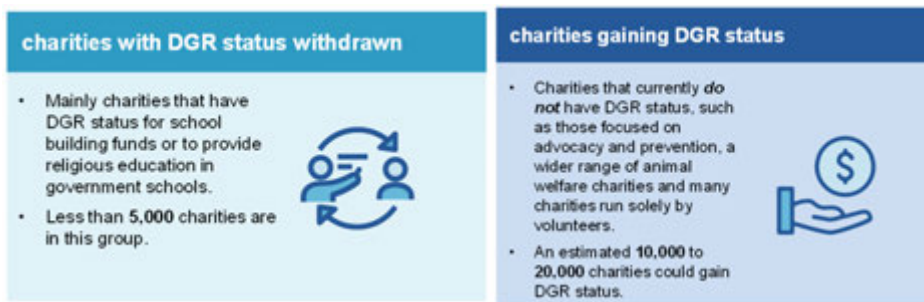
Dear Karen Godfrey

Re Current Philanthropy Enquiry

Dear Karen,

It is with considerable concern that I write regarding the draft report and overview of the enquiry into Philanthropy.

While I recognize this is only a suggestion, I find it outrageous that animal welfare could be put before children



Doing further research, I note the news report by Nicole Flint from Sky News on 20th December 2023 is truly scary. What I think maybe the government doesn't take into consideration is there is a huge number of Australians who while they don't make themselves heard, they are being overlooked in a significant way by the extremely loud noises from minority groups who try to press their views on everyone else.

I noted with interest, that an increase has been registered of 26% from 2017 to 2021 and that it was registered that volunteering has declined over the last decade before COVID-19. As a business owner, a father of 4 and a grandfather of 8, it is no secret that everyone is continually becoming more and more time poor and so the obvious was to care for those less advantaged is to donate where we can.

I also note that the government appears to dictate where funds will be allocated which flies right in the face of the donors' concerns. Typically, a donor will bequeath money to a given charity because they have more detailed "on the ground knowledge" of a given need than a government body who has oversight of each and every charitable organization.

I truly trust that these recommendations to scrap these recommendations to scrap the deductible gift recipient status for non-government schools, aged care and religious organisations.

Yours Sincerely

Brendan Firth