From: Privacy
To: IncomeInsurance
Subject: Feedback on NZIIS

Date: Saturday, 23 April 2022 7:37:05 am

Hi,

You asked for feedback on NZIIS. To be honest, I think the focus is wrong. From what I can see, people who are already too disabled to work will be stuck with our current disability benefit. Not only is that benefit deplorably low, I've heard from disabled New Zealanders that you lose your benefits if you get married, get into a serious relationship or even flat with someone. That's trapping disabled New Zealanders in poverty, and NZIIS isn't addressing that.

There's also the fact that people on minimum wage and the like are already struggling to afford food, rent and other necessities, especially now. That means they can't pay into the system, and even if they do, they'll get less.

And on a personal note, anything that requires contribution from New Zealand employers disadvantages people like me. Due to the poor job market in New Zealand, I am working remotely for an offshore employer while living in New Zealand. I bring foreign currency into our tax coffers and our economy but every time the New Zealand Government sets up a social service to be funded by New Zealand employers and not taxes, the playing field is tilted against me further.

I think that the Government should instead add that rate to employers' taxes and distribute the money more equitably to our unemployed and disabled people.

Regards,

Julie Rose