

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## NDIS inquiry extension welcome

Carers Australia welcomes moves to extend the inquiry into proposed changes to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) until at least August, allowing more time for family and friend carers, and the people they care for, to understand the impacts of the changes, says Carers Australia CEO Joanna Cave.

“These are some of the most significant changes to the scheme since it was introduced and carers are deeply concerned about what it will mean for them. It is important that carers voices are heard during this time and the impacts on them considered. Not doing so risks implementing poor policies, undermining participant and carer outcomes and imposing higher costs on taxpayers in the long run,” she said.

“This Bill relies on carers stepping up to cover fewer supports. Carers are already exhausted and financially stretched; the proposed changes will only add further load. Carers are deeply concerned about what is coming.”

Ms Cave said Carers Australia understands that securing the NDIS for the future is important and supports reforms improving the integrity and sustainability of the scheme.

“We all want the NDIS to be available to future generations, but rushing through changes without adequately assessing the flow on effects for the whole community will do more harm than good.

“We look forward to working with government to provide a carer perspective on the proposed changes,” she said.

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### **About Carers Australia and the National Carer Network**

Carers Australia is the national peak body representing Australia’s carers, advocating to influence policies and services at a national level. The National Carer Network, which consists of Carers NSW, Carers ACT, Carers Victoria, Carers Tasmania, Carers SA, Carers WA, Carers NT, and Carers Queensland, deliver a range of essential carer services across states and territories.