

We are a small Australian owned family business in Perth. We make our products in Perth and we sell our goods all over Australia.

Your proposal to increase the fees charged by the TGA will only add more to the cost of manufacturing our products.

Our products are designed for the elderly and infirm, as well as handicapped people. By increasing the TGA fees, we will need to put our prices up, and this will increase the cost to our customers, who are already disadvantaged.

I do understand that we need the TGA and their staff to carry out their important work in a timely manner, but I do not know if all of the funding comes from the fees the companies pay. As the TGA is working on medical items for the general public, I think a lot of the funding should come from the Federal budget, as the TGA is there to protect the public. Perhaps this happens now, but it would be good to know.

I appreciate that the staff at the TGA may not have had a pay increase for some time, but then many employees working for many companies in Australia, have also not had a pay increase in the last two or three years. In an ideal world, we should all have a pay rise every year, but the company profits may not be enough to Make this possible.

I hope there is another way that can avoid any staff reduction at the TGA, without putting the burden on the companies that are currently paying the TGA.