ANPA

Senate Submission Guide

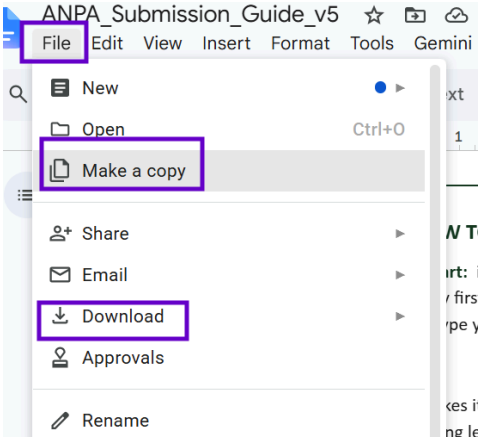
NDIS Amendment (Securing the NDIS for Future Generations) Bill 2026

Submissions close: 29 May 2026 | Senate Community Affairs Committee

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PART 1: HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Before you start: if you opened this from a shared link and cannot type into it, it is **view only**. Make your own copy first (File then Make a copy), or download it (File then Download then Microsoft Word), then type your answers into your copy. Look below for a visual explanation:



This guide makes it easy for any family, carer, or advocate to lodge a formal Senate submission — without needing legal expertise or policy experience.

It works in three steps:

Step 1: Answer the questions in Part 3 below. Type your answers directly into this document after each question. Answer whichever questions feel relevant to your situation.

Step 2: Select all text in this document and copy it (Ctrl+A then Ctrl+C, or Command+A then Command+C on Mac).

Step 3: Open Claude (claude.ai) or ChatGPT. Paste everything. Then type: "Please write my Senate submission based on my answers." The AI will read the Bill context and your story together and write a personalised submission on your behalf.

Once you have your draft, read it through and change anything that does not sound like you. Then lodge it with the Senate committee. See “How to lodge your submission” at the end of this guide for the three ways to lodge and how to keep your submission private. The inquiry page is:

https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/NDISFutureGenBill

PART 2: BILL CONTEXT FOR YOUR AI

This section is pre-loaded information about the Bill for your AI to read. You do not need to read it. Just leave it here when you copy and paste the whole document.

ABOUT THIS BILL

The National Disability Insurance Scheme Amendment (Securing the NDIS for Future Generations) Bill 2026 (the "NDIS Amendment Bill") is currently before the Australian Parliament. The Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs is conducting a formal inquiry and accepting public submissions until 29 May 2026. The Committee will report on 16 June 2026. This submission will be read by Senators and their staff and may be cited in the Committee report.

WHAT THE COMMITTEE IS EXAMINING

The Committee is examining whether the Bill appropriately protects the rights and interests of NDIS participants, whether it complies with Australia's international obligations under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD, ratified 2008) and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC, ratified 1990), and whether the amendments are consistent with the original purpose of the NDIS.

KEY PROVISIONS AFFECTING PEOPLE ALREADY ON THE NDIS

s 25A(2) — Access test change: To qualify for the NDIS, a person's impairment generally has to be permanent, which depends partly on whether there is an appropriate treatment that could remedy it. This clause provides that a treatment may be “appropriate treatment” for a person's impairment regardless of whether the person's individual circumstances restrict them from accessing it, and the Bill states that individual circumstances include a person's financial circumstances and geographical location. In plain terms: a treatment can be counted as available for you even if you cannot afford it or cannot reach it where you live, which can be used to find that your impairment is not permanent and refuse or remove access. This is not means testing: the NDIS is not means tested. The point is that your inability to access a treatment no longer helps you show that your impairment is permanent.

s 25B(4) — Alternative supports: Under this provision, the NDIS rules can declare that a support is an “alternative support” for an impairment. Once that happens, the impairment can be treated as an “excluded impairment,” and a person may be pointed to the declared alternative instead of the NDIS, even if that alternative is not yet fully operational or does not meet the person's individual needs.

s 34(1G)-(1J) — Parental presumption: The Bill creates a legal presumption that parents of children with disability provide "substantial care and support" as a matter of course. The NDIS can use this presumption to reduce the funding it provides, on the basis that parents are assumed to be covering that gap already.

s 34A — Funding below total cost: The NDIS can fund an amount that is "less than the total cost" of a support if a cheaper alternative exists that is judged "reasonable and necessary," even if that cheaper alternative does not fully address the person's needs.

s 59B(4) — Automated decisions: The Bill legally authorises automated systems and algorithms to make decisions that involve "discretion," "evaluative judgement," and forming a "state of mind." This means decisions about someone's NDIS plan may be made by a computer rather than a human decision-maker.

Schedule 5 — Transitional protections not guaranteed: The protections for people affected by the access changes (scheduled to take effect 1 January 2028) are not written into the Bill itself. They sit in a rule-making window the Minister controls. Any rule made under it is repealed within 12 months, and no new rules can be made once the 12-month window closes, so these protections are temporary and not guaranteed in the law.

WHAT MAKES A POWERFUL SUBMISSION

- Personal: Real lived experience is more powerful than abstract argument. Tell the committee what this means for your family.
- Specific: Connect your story to the provision numbers above. Show the committee exactly where the law fails real people.
- Clear ask: End with what you want the committee to do — reject the Bill, amend specific clauses, or require independent review before passage.
- Authentic: Write in your own voice. The committee wants to hear from real families, not polished policy documents.
- Length: 500-1500 words is ideal. Shorter is fine if your story is clear. Longer is fine if you have a lot to say.

PART 3: YOUR STORY

Answer whichever questions feel relevant to your situation. You do not need to answer all of them.

Q1. Who are you?

For example: a parent, a carer, a person with disability, an autistic adult, a support worker, or an advocate.

Type your answer here...

Q2. Tell us about yourself or the person you support.

Their age, diagnosis or disability, what NDIS supports they currently receive, and how long they have been on the scheme.

Type your answer here...

Q3. What do those NDIS supports make possible?

Describe what daily life looks like with those supports. What can you or they do, participate in, or achieve that would not be possible without them?

Type your answer here...

Q4. Which changes in the Bill concern you most, and why?

Look at the provisions in Part 2. Which ones match your situation? Describe your concern in your own words. You do not need to use legal language.

Type your answer here...

Q5. If those supports were reduced or removed, what would that mean?

Be specific and honest. What would change in daily life? What would the human cost be for your family?

Type your answer here...

Q6. Have you already noticed any changes in how the NDIS operates?

Some families are already experiencing changes before the Bill has passed. If this is true for you, share what you have noticed.

Type your answer here...

Q7. What do you want the Senate Committee to do?

For example: reject the Bill entirely, amend specific provisions, delay passage until adequate safeguards are in place, or require independent review.

Type your answer here...

Q8. Is there anything else the Committee needs to know?

Anything that does not fit the questions above. Family circumstances, previous NDIS decisions, impacts on siblings or employment or mental health.

Type your answer here...

PART 4: WHAT TO ASK YOUR AI

Once you have filled in your answers above, copy this entire document and paste it into Claude (claude.ai) or ChatGPT. Then type or paste the following instruction:

> *"Please write my Senate submission to the Standing Committee on Community Affairs, Inquiry into the NDIS Amendment (Securing the NDIS for Future Generations) Bill 2026. Use my answers in Part 3 as the basis for the submission. Draw on the context in Part 2 to connect my experience to the specific provisions of the Bill. The submission should be written in a clear, personal voice — not overly formal, but respectful. Please include: a brief introduction identifying who I am, my concerns about specific provisions connected to my experience, the human impact, and clear recommendations for the Committee. Aim for 600-1000 words."*

The AI will write a draft. Read it, change anything that does not sound like you, and add anything important that was left out. Then lodge it using the steps below.

HOW TO LODGE YOUR SUBMISSION (BEFORE 29 MAY 2026)

There are three ways to lodge your submission with the Senate Community Affairs Committee. Online is the easiest.

- **Online (easiest):** open the inquiry page and select “Upload submission.” You will be asked to sign in or create a free My Parliament account, which is the secure option for personal or sensitive information. Inquiry page: https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Community_Affairs/NDISFutureGenBill
- **By email:** send your submission as a Word document (the committee's preferred format) to community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au
- **By post:** Committee Secretary, Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs, PO Box 6100, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600.

Include your name and contact details. The committee needs these to accept your submission. A submission can be as short as half a page.

You can ask for privacy. Submissions are normally published on the committee's website with your name. If you do not want that, you can ask the committee to withhold your name, or to keep your whole submission confidential. Say so clearly at the top of your submission, or note it when you upload. The committee makes the final decision, and it takes these requests seriously, especially where personal health or disability information is involved.

Need help or have accessibility needs? Contact the committee secretariat on 02 6277 3515, email the address above, or read the official guide: Preparing a submission

Submissions close 29 May 2026. Lodge as early as you can.

Australian Neurodivergent Parents Association | thisisanpa.org

Every submission counts. The committee must hear from real families.