

Submission to Review of Retirement Villages Act.

We purchased an apartment in a high rise block from [REDACTED] in 2017 as “Independent Living”. We have requested from [REDACTED] a definition of the term “Independent Living” many times over a two-year period with no clear definition forthcoming. We believe that such a definition is essential for the development of a cohesive community which is capable of moving forward into the future.

We find any reference refers to many terms such as ‘eligible person’, and ‘discrimination’. It is possible to have definitions of both ‘Aged Care’ and ‘Assisted Living’, but not, it appears to ‘Independent Living’.

Without this definition it is not possible to decide a guiding philosophy of the kind of dwelling, and community, which are essential in determining our own identity. There is a wide gap between what we were told before purchase and the reality now. Any attempt to vary the entry criteria produces discrimination itself.

The definition of ‘Independent Living’ is critical to the revised “Retirement Villages Act”.

Carmel & Peter Harris, [REDACTED]