

**From:** [Philip Sumner](#)  
**To:** [Have Your Say](#)  
**Subject:** Judicial Retirement Age Bill  
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After reading the proposed changes to the existing Bill I am in favour of the proposed changes being made in order to assist the courts here in Tasmania to operate more efficiently and fairly for the benefit of all Tasmanians.

I'll note that even though the clearance rate of cases has improved markedly from 72% in 2018-2019 to 92% in 2019-2020 the ability to retain continuity and the inestimable institutional knowledge and experience gathered by our existing judiciary should be enhanced by bringing in the proposed changes.

A word of caution though. In an article "Pitch for judge shortage", Mercury 7/12/2020, written by Amber Wilson, Chief Justice Blow recommended the retirement age be increased from 72 to 75 but at the same time he also flagged for judicial pensions rather than 'only receiving' superannuation like other public servants. As Justice Blow already receives \$468020.00 per year in salary the 9% annual super adds a further \$42121.80 each year to his already considerable income which equates to a total of \$510141.80. Over half a million dollars each year plus a privately plated and fully maintained vehicle on top! The economy may be re-emerging back from the worst events in this Covid-19 society but this tiny state cannot and could never afford such flagrant largesse to any public servant, consultant or politician.

Philip Sumner

