

BLOG in THE AUSTRALIAN

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AUSTRALIANS are fair-minded and generous to a fault. That they are served by a piecemeal and inadequate disability system is largely the result of their ignorance of the subject. They do not know that if they have a disabled child they will not be able to access support services and they will care for that child until they die. They do not understand that if they become seriously injured, they will be left to cope alone. When Australians learn of these things, they are uniformly outraged and appalled.

Now there is a way of providing a disability service system that will both make us proud and give us peace of mind. With the proposed insurance scheme ("Support is still in short supply for the disabled", Opinion, 7/5), we will have a way of offering disabled Australian citizens and their caring families the same opportunities that most of us take for granted. We will become a truly civilised society, because the support of a disabled person must be a community responsibility. Let us call with one very loud voice for this Bright Idea to be made a reality, with the utmost urgency.

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