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New Aged Care Act strikes balance between needs of older Australians without leaving financial burden for younger people

Southern Cross Care Queensland's (SCCQ) CEO, Jason Eldering, welcomed the new Aged Care Act, highlighting its potential to ensure high-quality care for older Australians while avoiding a significant financial burden on future generations.

Mr Eldering expressed gratitude to both sides of politics for agreeing on this crucial legislation, which places older people at the centre of the aged care system.

"We believe in an aged care system that treats every older Australian with love and fairness," he said.

"However, we must also acknowledge the financial pressures this system may place on younger generations, particularly Millennials and Gen X. It is vital that the system remains sustainable and fair for all generations."

He emphasised that the new legislation strikes a careful balance, ensuring older Australians receive the quality care they deserve while managing an ageing population's economic and social impacts.

"As a nation, we are facing complex, interconnected challenges, particularly in how aged care services integrate with the health systems of our States and Territories. This requires not only strong national leadership but also collaborative efforts across all levels of government to ensure seamless, sustainable care solutions for older Australians."

In addressing the future needs of the aged care sector, Mr Eldering underscored the importance of investing in new models of care, particularly in areas like low care and dementia care.

"As the needs of older Australians become increasingly diverse, it's critical to focus on developing care models that cater to those requiring lower levels of assistance, as well as specialised services like dementia care. Investment in these areas will ensure that we are providing tailored, compassionate care that meets the unique needs of each individual."

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