



stepping Stone<sup>(SA)</sup>

childcare & early development centres

Tuesday, 4th June, 2013

Dear Committee Members,

**RE: INQUIRY INTO EARLY YEARS QUALITY FUND SPECIAL ACCOUNT BILL 2013**

Stepping Stone (SA) Childcare & Early Development Centre Pty Ltd own and operate thirteen Child Care Centres in South Australia and employ around 420 Educators.

On behalf of our Management Group, Educators and Parents, we submit the following representation to the above Inquiry.

We agree all Child Care Educators in Australia deserve higher wages, however, the Early Years Quality Fund will only see 27% to 40% of the Educators in the Sector rewarded.

The Grant Funding is unfair, inequitable and discriminatory.

It will create a two-tiered wage system and cause division and anger amongst our dedicated Child Care Educators.

Child Care Centres that do not receive the Grant, would need to increase fees to families by at least \$10.00 per day to pay their Educators the same pay rate. This will create discriminatory business competition in the sector and will result in some centres closing especially in regional areas.

The Grant must be distributed equally to **ALL** Child Care Educators and not just a lucky few.

Yours faithfully,

**GEORGE SKREMBOS**  
Company Director

***100% owned & operated by South Australians***