

Name: Annette Enright

Standing Committee on Education and Employment

RE: Early Years Quality Fund Special Account Bill 2013

The objective of the Federal Government's Early Years Quality Fund Special Account Bill 2013 does not reveal the true facts of this \$300 million Grant Fund to be paid over a two year period nor does it consider the outcome it will have on the Education and Care sector.

As stated by the Prime Minister, this fund will provide grant funding to "up to 40% of the long day care sector" and paid on a "first in first served" basis. This is causing division in a sector that is already under stress and striving to meet the legislative requirements of the National Quality Framework.

I believe it is unfair and discriminatory for a government to create such an inequity through taxpayer funds by increasing pay for a minority of educators in the sector by up to \$6 *per hour* leaving over 60% of dedicated educators in the long day care sector receiving no increase at all.

As an Educator in a long day care service, I am expressing the unfairness of the Early Years Quality Fund Grant and this Bill because it does nothing to help all educators receive a fair wage. It only segregates the sector and forces unfunded centres to lose good quality staff to centres who have received the funding.

The Early Years are so important in a child's development and I request that this Bill be rejected until the federal government agrees to distribute the Early Years Quality Fund Grant monies equally amongst *all educators* who care for, educate and support our nation's children - not just a select minority.

Yours sincerely,

Annette Enright

Early Childhood Educator and Director

Name: Susan Mansell

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I believe it is unfair and discriminatory for a government to create such an inequity through taxpayer funds by increasing pay for a minority of educators in the sector by up to \$6 *per hour* leaving over 60% of dedicated educators in the long day care sector receiving no increase at all.

As a Director in a long day care service, I am expressing the unfairness of the Early Years Quality Fund Grant and this Bill. I believe that each of my staff deserves a fair and equitable increase in wages for the wonderful work they do in caring and educating the children in our Centre. All educators across the sector should be recipients to any Grant monies being distributed by the Early Years Quality Fund. To exclude over 60% of the sector is a disgrace and will create a 2 tier wage system which will result in disgruntled employees for those Centres who are not successful in their applications. Further to this, Centres who endeavour to right this inequity for their employees will be forced to raise fees which will cause financial stress to families. The Government is saying that the fund is about keeping fees down for families however it will in fact have the opposite effect for over 60% of the sector. How does this make any sense?

The Early Years are so important in a child's development and I request that this Bill be rejected until the federal government agrees to distribute the Early Years Quality Fund Grant monies equally amongst *all educators* who care for, educate and support our nation's children - not just a select minority.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Mansell

Standing Committee on Education and Employment

RE: Early Years Quality Fund Special Account Bill 2013

This proposed Bill is grossly unjust and unfair to the Childcare Centre providers who strive to provide high quality services, the stability and equity in the Childcare Industry, and most importantly to the talented and devoted Educators that do the amazing work of nurturing and developing our children for us while we are at work. All of the negative impacts from this legislation to the above stakeholders will unavoidably have flow through effects on children and families.

This is exceptionally poor quality legislation that clearly does not have the highest interests of the children, the Educators or the Industry as its core focus, and needs to be greatly adjusted if it is to achieve its stated objectives.

The proposal is completely at odds with the various current Industrial Relations legislation such as the anti-discrimination and equal opportunity legislation, as well as the aim of the Fair Work Act 2009 which was to create an Industrial Relations system which balances the needs of employees, the unions and employers.

The proposed Fund and legislation has been presented in a way that from a general business perspective, is very misleading and does not have any basis in equity and fairness or transparency and accountability, which are supposedly the ideals that are to be embraced in the current economic environment and through legislation and best practices.

This industry is so important both for our children's welfare now as well as future economic implications that flow on from current childcare practices. This profession needs to be valued and supported in a real way and not used to generate conflict and division.

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I believe it is unfair and discriminatory for a government to create such an inequity through taxpayer funds by increasing pay for a minority of educators in the sector by up to \$6 *per hour* leaving over 60% of dedicated educators in the long day care sector receiving no increase at all.

As a parent of a child attending a long day care service, I am expressing the unfairness of the Early Years Quality Fund Grant and this Bill.

My child's educators play a vital role in my child's development and I request that this Bill be rejected until the federal government agrees to distribute the Early Years Quality Fund Grant monies equally amongst ***all educators*** who care for, educate and support our nation's children - not just a select minority.

Yours sincerely,
Lee Ducker



June 4, 2013

Standing Committee on Education and Employment

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As an Approved Provider of a long day care service, I am expressing the unfairness of the Early Years Quality Fund Grant and this Bill. This inequity is going to cause widespread division amongst my educators. They do not see how giving a pay rise to some is beneficial to our industry. We implore the senate enquiry to apply the Australian spirit of a fair go for all and to split the limited money there is available amongst all educators equally.

Not only does this inequity extend to educators as the government is discriminating against families and children. They are aggrieved that the people who provide fantastic care for their children are by in large being shut out from any part of the funds available. They call on the senate enquiry to ensure that equity is achieved and that the government is not allowed to implement such a discriminatory process.

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equally amongst ***all educators*** who care for, educate and support our nation's children - not just a select minority.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Mondo

Name: Janice Mazar

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I believe it is unfair and discriminatory for a government to create such an inequity through taxpayer funds by increasing pay for a minority of educators in the sector by up to \$6 *per hour* leaving over 60% of dedicated educators in the long day care sector receiving no increase at all.

As an Educator in a long day care service, I am expressing the unfairness of the Early Years Quality Fund Grant and this Bill.

I do not see this raise for only a % of educators to be fair, all educators care and educate children, working with the same ratios. How can some educators receive a pay rise while others working just as hard and in the same conditions miss out? This raise also brings up many questions such as what will happen after the 2 years of funding runs out. If childcare fees need to rise when funding is over, it will become unaffordable for many families. If parents start to remove their child from care this will also mean many educators will be out of a job.

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Yours sincerely,

Janice Mazar