The proposed bill pertaining to Paid Parental Leave is ultimately pushing Mothers back to work as soon as possible by paying them for only 18 weeks, and only if they do come back to work. I have worked in Child Care myself and therefore have a firsthand experience of what children in Child Care are like, how much they miss their parents, how much they learn compared to how much they miss out on in all the time they are not with their parents is naught. They will eventually learn all that they need to at home from their parents and it will be a lot healthier for them emotionally also. Furthermore studies have proven that children who have been in childcare –especially those from a very young age- are less able to have stable relationships and have a lot of trouble with attachment and trust, they don't learn to trust in the beginning of their lives and then learn to misplace their trust in latter life, which can lead to instability and law breaking. Additionally children who drink breast milk for at least the first year of their lives and preferably the first two years, are healthier and physically stronger. Which means they will be less likely to get sick or hurt. When they must go to Childcare from such a young age it is often very hard for a mother to continue breastfeeding and often mothers will give up, either because they don't have the time or the energy or even the milk when they are working so hard. Good healthy people are definitely good when they grow up so they can be a help to society and not spending their time and money on drugs to keep them healthy or using up all their sick days at work. Please consider carefully and research and look into this matter before you make a decision.

Yours Sincerely

Felicity Vieira