STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL POLICY AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

Issued: 21 July 2014

Chair – Mr George Christensen MP Deputy – Ms Sharon Claydon MP

Child Support inquiry travels to Brisbane

The Federal Parliamentary inquiry into the Child Support Program will continue its program of public hearings in Brisbane. The inquiry is examining a range of issues to do with the administration of the Child Support program, in particular payment and enforcement options, flexibility, mediation and links with the Family Court.

The hearing will be held at **9.00am-4.00pm on Tuesday 22 July at Queensland Parliament House.** The Committee will hear from support groups from regional Queensland, as well as representatives of the University of Queensland's Parenting and Family Support Centre, the Australian Family Association, and Women's Legal Services Australia.

The Committee will also hold a community statement session so that members of the public can share their experiences and make suggestions about how the system could be improved.

A full program for the public hearing is available on the inquiry website at: www.aph.gov.au/childsupport.

Committee Chair George Christensen MP said that the hearing is an important opportunity to hear about how the Child Support Program affects families in regional areas.

'We hope that hearings like this, involving such a wide range of people and groups from different regions around the country, will help us find ways to improve the system,' Mr Christensen said.

Programs for the inquiry's public hearings, 'Snapshots' of responses to the Committee's online questionnaire, and further information about the inquiry, can be found on the inquiry website at www.aph.gov.au/childsupport.

For media comment – please contact Lynnis Bonanno in the Chair's office on (07) 4944 0662. For inquiry information – please contact the Secretariat:

Childsupport.reps@aph.gov.au | (02) 6277 2223 | www.aph.gov.au/childsupport