



Name: Tim Searles

Date: 3 June 2013

Standing Committee on Education and Employment

RE: Early Years Quality Fund Special Account Bill 2013

The proposed Bill is poorly designed, targeted and executed. As stated by the Prime Minister, the 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 confusion and 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 Approved Provider of a long day care service, I am expressing the unfairness of the Early Years Quality Fund Grant and this Bill.

Many of my staff deserve to be paid a higher rate but the majority are unwilling to join a Union for their own reasons. And some of my staff already in a Union will therefore miss out so it's also discriminatory against them.

The proposed Bill is poorly designed. Surely a much fairer solution would be to provide a lesser pay increase to **ALL** child care workers!!

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,

Tim Searles
Director

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