



To Whom It May Concern,

As a Early Childhood Educator, I believe every educator deserves this funding. I don't understand how giving only 30% of the sector funding is going to help stop the child care crisis. Educators will still leave the industry, many will leave for the centre closer to home or the one around the corner that has the funding. How will these centres retain staff? Raise fees even higher to keep their wages in line with funded centres? How will these centres employ more staff if they don't? Either raise fees or take the risk of losing staff and not being able to employ any new ones as they either go to the centres with funding or go to coles where they may be payed more? Parents already pay high enough fees. If a centre has funding and has lower fees, they may take their children there. The centre then has two problems. They lose families to the cheaper, funded centres and lose staff to the higher paying funded centre. Centres will be forced to either cut jobs for staff as the occupancy rate drops or then places for families as they have no staff. Where does that leave the families? All the centres in there area are full. Do they travel half an hour to a centre, use all Mum's/ Dad's wage for the fees or Mum/ Dad quit their jobs as they can't find/afford care? Where does this leave work places? All their staff are leaving because no one can find care for their children. What then happens to the economy when half the workforce leaves? The idea of funding is great, just the handing out of it seems to lack thought. \$1 AN HOUR IS A GREAT START! It might not seem like a lot, but to those who already don't get much, its a great start to a brighter future.

Thank you for your time.

Sheena Biddle.