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**From:** regina penglaze  
**Sent:** Saturday, 1 June 2013 6:04 AM  
**To:** Committee, EE (REPS)

**Categories:** Yellow Category

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing to express my extreme concern at the provisions and implementation of the Early Years Quality Fund. My colleagues and I believe that the Labor government have just given us this "opportunity" as a quick fix solution without thinking about the implications for those extremely hard workers who will miss out. What about those who will return to poor wages at the end of the scheme?

My colleagues and I are extremely hard workers and we believe that this scheme is severely unjust and unfair. To provide funding to approximately 40 percent of the sector based on certain "conditions" is appalling. What about those other extremely hard workers who do exactly the same job?

We certainly did not choose this career for the wages, we chose it for the love of the children and teaching them lifelong learning skills. The extra demands of the new National Quality Framework add to our already tight rules and regulations and more paperwork takes us away from teaching, using our valuable time simply to just meet requirements.

It does not surprise me at all that 180 educators leave the sector each week as I have even taken a second job to make ends meet. I was a full time stay at home mum and due to financial demands on my family with childcare fees and the high cost of living increasing I had to return to work. I am a part time permanent worker, studying part time looking after a young family PLUS my second job takes me away from my family on the weekend ~ in which we do feel the impact on an emotional, financial level as a family starting out. I adore my job but with this incentive scheme for Early Childhood teachers we were excited but the above unfair points I had mention ~ it doesn't leave any hope for acknowledging the hard work we do ~ I want to be a great teacher to implement ideas and skills into our younger generation into our children. I don't want to be seen as a full time "babysitter" ~ our work should be valued and with this your "opportunity pack" is not enough to get my vote for you in our next election. We need to have more concret information and a long term fix on pay wages ~ the short term is NOT enough for families of workers to sustain long term.

Please give us a fair go! we asked for 1.9 billion dollars worth of funding and received 300 million for a small percentage of our sector for only 2 years! This will create extra staffing problems with staff moving to centres who are receiving the pay rise and putting extra stress on centres who are losing staff.

Parents already pay more fees than they should, the costs are becoming ridiculous and they cannot afford to pay more to increase staff wages.

Please take this into consideration and make a well balanced and informed decision. I'm sure that I'm speaking on behalf of every Early Childhood Educator in Australia.

Yours Sincerely,  
Regina Penglaze  
untrained childcare worker