

**Submission Number: 89**  
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Dear Committee,

I am actually writing to NOT support the passage of the Early Years Quality Fund Special Account Bill 2013.

The early education and care sector does NOT need this funding to ensure we can recruit and retain educators.

Good quality centres should have been employing appropriately qualified and quality staff prior to this. We have been employing highly qualified Pre-School Teachers for years, because our children deserve it, not because of changes to the Regulations.

I have worked in both the Private and Community Based sectors, this will not achieve anything. The quality of many services will not change. This has been proven by the new Regulations and National Quality Framework. There are still centres operating that should not be.

We need additional funds to make improvements to our centre and to maintain our centre. Not for higher staff wages. I believe we are payed very well, however no-one listens to me or my 26 years experience because I don't have to justify my job like the Child Care Sector Peak Organisations. Highly paid people sit in their offices and make decisions for us. WHY NOT ASK EVERY SERVICE WHAT THEY REALLY NEED and give the funds appropriately.

Please, don't waste this money on wages. Please ask centres what they really need.

WE NEED A NEW BATHROOM/NAPPY CHANGE & HAND WASHING FACILITY for our 2 year olds, NEW DRAINAGE so our pre-school OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENT doesn't flood every time it rains heavily, the INSIDE and OUTSIDE of our centre PAINTED and NEW FLOORING (tiles) THROUGHOUT OUR CENTRE. This is what we really need but can't afford. Yes, we have applied for Grants, but to no avail. WE DON'T NEED FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL WAGES.

WE ALSO NEED FULL FUNDING (not just a percentage) FOR ADDITIONAL STAFF to SUPPORT OUR CHILDREN WITH ADDITIONAL NEEDS.

So, I SAY NO TO THIS FUNDING, but please help us with what we really need to continue to provide a quality service.

Regards

*Donna Easey*  
*Director/Nominated Supervisor*  
*Gumnut Cottage Child Care Centre (not-for-profit community based)*