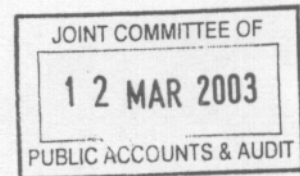




Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services



facs making a difference

THE SECRETARY

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The Secretary
Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Secretary

The Department of Family and Community Services offers the following information in relation to the review of the draft Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Bill.

The Department of Family and Community Services has no concerns with the redrafting of its financial framework based upon the terms of the proposed Bill. However, AGS advice indicates it may be necessary for the Child Support Agency to seek an amendment to s.75 of the *Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act 1988* to enable the Account to be debited to represent repayment of appropriated amounts from the Account to the CRF generally. It may be necessary that such amendment be retrospective. CSA will seek the assistance of the Department of Finance in making any such amendment as part of the legislative process of finalising the Financial Management and Accountability framework.

If you require further information, please contact Rob Porteous at Child Support Agency on 6272 8363.

Yours sincerely

Mark Sullivan

10 March 2003