

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO
2015-16 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 2.2 Paid Parental Leave

Question No: SQ15-000911

Topic: Cuts to Paid Parental Leave

Hansard page: Written

Senator Moore, Claire asked:

1. How many parents per year are likely to have their PPL reduced or cut entirely as a result of this measure?
2. Please provide the number of paid parental leave recipients likely to lose access to all their paid parental leave
 - a. By state
 - b. By electorate
3. Please provide the number of paid parental leave recipients likely to lose access to part of their paid parental leave
 - a. By state
 - b. By electorate
4. Widespread comments from business suggest that they will simply change their behaviour and provide alternative methods of supporting new parents if the government proceeds with this measure.
 - a. Did the government build this into its assumptions for costing before the original measure was introduced?
 - b. Has the Department done any further costings, since the budget was handed down, which take into consideration the fact that the save is unlikely to be as high as previously thought?
 - c. What is the size of the difference?

Answer:

- 1) Around 47 per cent of PPL-eligible mothers (or 79,000) are estimated to have access to employer-provided paid maternity leave.
 - Of these mothers, around 20 per cent (or 34,000) have access to employer-provided paid maternity leave valued greater than the full PPL entitlement (18 weeks at national minimum wage). These mothers would no longer be entitled to PPL.
 - Of these mothers, around 27 per cent (or 45,000) have access to employer-provided paid maternity leave valued less than the full PPL entitlement (18 weeks at national minimum wage). These mothers would be entitled to a partial PPL payment.

2) Approximately 34,000 parents would no longer be eligible for PPL.

a) Parents who would no longer be eligible for PPL by state.

NSW	30%
VIC	24%
QLD	21%
SA	8%
WA	9%
TAS	2%
NT	1%
ACT	5%
Grand Total	100%

b) The distribution across electorates is not available.

3) Approximately 45,000 parents would be eligible for a partial PPL payment.

a) Parents who would be eligible for partial PPL payment by state.

NSW	33%
VIC	27%
QLD	20%
SA	7%
WA	8%
TAS	2%
NT	1%
ACT	2%
Grand Total	100%

b) The distribution across electorates is not available.

4) a) The costing approach does not take behavioural changes into account.

b) No

c) This is not available (see 4) a.)