

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

**Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Care**

**Department of Education Question No. ED0425\_15**

**Senator Lines provided in writing.**

*Refers to previous Question No ED246\_15*

**Question**

**TAFE Fee Waivers - impact on early childhood workforce**

I refer to answer to Question on Notice ED0246\_15, where the department seems to indicate that there has been no discussion with the state and territory governments about the continuation of the National Partnership on TAFE Fee Waivers prior to the budget and that none of the states expressed the desire for the NP to continue. (a) Is this correct? (b) Since the decision was made by the Government not to raise this with the states and territories, has the department received any feedback from the sector or from other jurisdictions about the impact on the early childhood workforce of not continuing this agreement?

**Answer**

- a) No formal representations have been received in relation to a continuation of the National Partnership on TAFE Fee Waivers. As advised in response to ED0246\_15, the National Partnership has achieved the agreed objective and will end on 31 December 2014, as per the terms agreed when it came into effect.
- b) No (see answer to (a) above).