

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

Outcome: Schools and Youth

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000884

Senator Lines, Sue provided in writing on 03 November 2015

Also refer to previous hearing Question No. SQ15-000557.

Australian Education Act

Question

For jurisdictions deemed participating under the Australian Education Act, have states/territories met all their obligations under the NERA in 2014, including obligations to maintain and increase funding? If not, what discrepancies have been identified in what states/territories? Please also provide total commonwealth and state funding for each school in a participating jurisdiction broken down by base and each loading.

For jurisdictions deemed 'non-participating' under the Australian Education Act, has each state/territory maintained their level of school funding in 2014 – both overall and on a per capita basis? By how much and at what rate has each state changes its level of school funding in 2014 compared to 2013?

For each 'non-participating' state/territory does the Department know how much money state Governments allocated to each school in 2014? And can the Department compare this with 2013?

Under current legislation and policy parameters, is it possible for a state deemed 'non participating' under the Australian Education Act to reduce its funding to schools? If a reduction was to take place, would there be any consequences for that state in terms of federal funding?

Answer

The *Australian Education Act 2013* deals with the provision of Commonwealth funding for the purpose of supporting school education. SQ15-000557 details the 2014 Commonwealth recurrent funding for each Approved Authority by base and loading.

State and territory funding is a matter for individual jurisdictions.