

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2016-2017 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 1.1 Family Tax Benefit**

**Question No: SQ17-000040**

**Topic: Family Tax Benefit**

**Hansard page: 76**

**Senator Nick Xenophon** asked:

When will the Government make a decision on the implementation of penalties for non-lodgement or late lodgement of tax returns for child support clients?

**Answer:**

At Recommendation 7 of the 2015 report by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs, *From conflict to cooperation: Inquiry into the Child Support Program*, the Committee recommended that the Government amend current policy to ensure penalties applicable to non-lodgement or late-lodgement of tax returns are enforced for child support families.

The Government has agreed in principle with this Recommendation.