

**Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

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

**Department of Education Question No. ED0190\_14**

**Senator McKenzie asked on 20 November 2013, Hansard page 67**

**Question**

**Advice to previous government regarding the first Regulatory Impact Statement**

CHAIR: Was the advice about the 'hard ask', if you like, provided to the previous government when these plans were handed down?

Ms Paul: I am really just referring to the regulation impact statement. I think we have just taken on notice to look at the numbers and so on. That is a public document, but it would have been handled through that process. I think it will be clear in the question we have taken on notice. Otherwise, I will take on notice—I cannot recall offhand—when we might have advised.

CHAIR: I would appreciate knowing if the department did advise the previous minister that this was going to be a difficult ask. I am also aware of concerns raised by childcare providers about the amount of red tape and the burden of paperwork imposed by the National Quality Framework, with reports that childcare educators are spending more and more time filling out forms rather than with children. It sounds like the teaching profession sometimes! Is the department aware of these issues?

Ms Wilson: Yes.

CHAIR: How are you aware of these issues?

**Answer**

The Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) included analysis of the impact of the implementation of the National Quality Framework on each sector. Analysis of workforce was also included in the RIS. [www.coag.gov.au/node/202](http://www.coag.gov.au/node/202)