



## ***Child Support inquiry to hear from the Family Studies Institute***

THE views of family researchers, single parents and community legal groups will be expressed at the latest hearing of the Federal Parliamentary inquiry into the Child Support Program in Melbourne this week.

The hearing follows on from those held in Hobart and Adelaide earlier this month, as the inquiry examines a range of issues to do with the administration of the Child Support program, in particular payment and enforcement options, flexibility, mediation and links with the Family Court.

The Committee will also hold a community statement session, which allows members of the public to share their experience with the child support program and make suggestions about how it could be improved.

‘The Child Support system helps people look after their family responsibilities at very stressful moments in their lives,’ Committee Chair Mr George Christensen MP said.

‘The Committee is expecting to hear about some of the problems in the current system, as well as some ideas to improve how it works. We are very pleased to be hearing from individuals about how they think the program could work better, and their contributions will help us find solutions for the future.’ Mr Christensen said.

The hearing will be held in **Melbourne on Thursday 21 August from 10.00am-4.00pm.**

The Committee will hear from the Australian Institute of Family Studies, Australia’s leading family research institute, as well as groups such as the Victorian Legal Aid, United Sole Parents of Australia and community legal groups.

Full programs for the public hearings, ‘Snapshots’ of responses to the Committee’s online questionnaire, and further information about the inquiry, can be found on the website at [www.aph.gov.au/childsupport](http://www.aph.gov.au/childsupport).

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For media comment – please contact Lynn Bonanno in the Chair’s office on (07) 4944 0662.

For inquiry information – please contact the Secretariat:

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