

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2011-12 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 5**

**Question No: 160**

**Topic:** Better Start for Children with Disability

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Fifield** asked:

Is the Department satisfied that the Better Start assistance absorbs most of the costs per child of this support over and above “normal” costs incurred in raising a child?

**Answer:**

The Better Start initiative was introduced to supplement services that state and territory governments currently provide. It is intended to augment disability support services that are being provided by state and territory governments in each jurisdiction.