

## **Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee**

### **BUDGET ESTIMATES – 5-6 JUNE 2014 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Department of Human Services

**Topic:** Pensioner Education Supplement

**Question reference number:** HS 37

**Senator:** Siewert

**Type of question:** Hansard page 24, 6 June 2014

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 25 July 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

Senator SIEWERT: Could you take on notice how many single parents have come back on since it started again in March? Are you able to tell us how many dropped off when the latter came in?

Ms Rule: When the parenting payment changes came in?

Senator SIEWERT: When the parenting payments occurred and people were not able to access the card. Actually, you cannot really tell, can you?

Ms Rule: No.

Ms Golightly: There are all sorts of reasons.

Senator SIEWERT: Yes. Just tell me how many people have now taken it up. That would be appreciated.

Ms Rule: Yes.

#### **Answer:**

Between 1 January 2014 and 30 May 2014, 862 single principal carer parents receiving Newstart Allowance began receiving Pensioner Education Supplement for the first time.

In addition, 560 former Parenting Payment Single recipients who had previously lost eligibility for the Pensioner Education Supplement recommenced receipt of the Supplement as a single principal carer on Newstart Allowance.