

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2015-16 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 2.2 Paid Parental Leave**

**Question No: SQ15-000680**

**Topic: Paid Parental Leave**

**Hansard page: CA07, 4 June 2015**

**Senator Collins, Jacinta** asked:

Perhaps you could provide us with the broader explanation that makes the point about income levels. It still does not assuage my concerns here, because the design of the scheme and the Productivity Commission's recommendations were focused significantly on lower income families. My understanding from the private sector is that this will have some significant effects on families such as part-time workers in the retail industry who have been receiving 18 weeks of PPL, plus roughly about eight weeks of employer funded parental leave, and they will lose out from these changes. If you can alert me to the fact that the minister has taken into account the concerns, needs and interests of families such as those, I would be glad to see it.

**Answer:**

The Department provides regular ongoing advice to the Minister about the Paid Parental Leave (PPL) scheme, including impacts of the PPL Budget measure on families.