

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017**

Outcome: Early Childhood and Child Care

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ17-000072

Senator Collins asked on 01 March 2017, Proof Hansard page 93

Employee representation on child care package implementation discussions

Question

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: What about employees?

Ms Wilson: Employees is one of the considerations around the implementation.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: No. In the discussion is there any representation of employees?

Ms Wilson: At this stage, we were planning to bring the provider groups in to have a conversation. We are certainly happy to take that on board and extend our conversations beyond that group.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS: I would have thought the potential impact on employees is a significant element in that picture and you would not want to be solely relying on the provider perspective there.

Ms Wilson: I am happy to take that on notice.

Answer

Employees and their representative organisations have been engaged at numerous stages throughout the development of the *Jobs for Families* Child Care Package (the Package).

Through the 2015 Regulation Impact Statement consultations, members of the public, including employees and employee representative organisations, were invited to review the implementation options for the key components of the Package and provide feedback through a national process. The department received 1700 responses, including submissions from United Voice and the Independent Education Union of Australia.

There have also been opportunities to provide input through Senate Inquiries. For example, the ACTU, Australian Services Union and United Voice provided submissions to the December 2015 Inquiry. The ACTU and United Voice provided submissions to the September 2016 Inquiry, and the ACTU, Queensland Nurses Union, Australian Services Union and United Voice provided submissions to the February 2017 Inquiry.