

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. SQ17-000553

Senator Hanson-Young, Sarah asked on 01 March 2017, Proof Hansard page 88

Amount of savings from Family Tax Benefit changes

Question

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: How much are the family tax benefit changes saving?

Senator Birmingham: I do not have that figure in front of me. I could get it for you, but it is a question really in the social services portfolio.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I understand that, except you are putting to us that it is still very much the view of the government that that is hypothecated in some manner to pay for this \$1.6 billion. If you can get some clarification of exactly what that figure is, because we have seen savings found through the changes to the model. We are still being told we need to have cuts to family tax benefits to pay for it, yet it is not actually hypothecated.

Answer

At the time of the Additional Estimates hearings in March 2017, additional Australian Government investment in child care under the *Jobs for Families* Child Care Package was to be offset by family tax benefit measures in the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Omnibus Savings and Child Care Reform) Bill 2017 (the Omnibus Bill). The financial impact of measures relating to family tax benefits included in the Omnibus Bill was outlined in the Financial Impact Statement on page six of the Explanatory Memorandum to the Bill. The Explanatory Memorandum can be found

http://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/download/legislation/ems/r5798_ems_0e111d08-d2c3-4b34-866f-48311d2c7b1a/upload_pdf/618928.pdf;fileType=application%2Fpdf .

Since the Additional Estimates hearings, the Government introduced separate legislation, the Social Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2017, to give effect to family tax benefit changes. The financial impact of this Bill is outlined in the Financial Impact Statement on page four of the Explanatory Memorandum to the Bill. The Explanatory Memorandum can be found

http://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/download/legislation/ems/s1064_ems_dcc97d69-0fb8-4cec-a2a9-444db0feaef0/upload_pdf/17050em.pdf;fileType=application%2Fpdf.