

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment - Education

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 1 - Early Childhood Education and Care

Department of Education Question No. ED0250_15

Senator O'Neill provided in writing.

Question

TAFE Fee waiver program

Doesn't the axing of the TAFE Fee waiver program and the HECS-HELP Benefit program diminish the value of the new fund announced by Minister Sussan Ley?

Answer

The National Partnership for TAFE Fee Waiver has achieved the agreed objective and as per its terms agreed by the former Government and jurisdictions is due to expire at the end of 2014.

The take up of the HECS-HELP benefit has been low indicating it has not been an effective employment incentive for the child care and early learning sector.