

**Senate Committee: Education and Employment**

**QUESTION ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016**

**Outcome: Schools and Youth**

**Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000352**

Senator O'Neill, Deborah asked on 04 June 2015, Proof Hansard page 100

***Low SES funding in Victoria***

**Question**

Senator O'NEILL: The NERA says:

From 1 January, Victoria will continue to contribute its existing funding for schools and school systems. This equates to

\$5.623 million in 2014. The contribution escalated by 1.35 per cent from 2014 to 2015 and three per cent thereafter. In addition, Victoria will also contribute \$1.318 million over six years, 2014 to 2019, which includes 35 per cent of the additional investment required to transition schools and school systems under the SRS over this period.

And 24A states:

This includes ensuring that schools that would have received full funding under the low socioeconomic status school communities national partnership 2014-15 will continue to receive at least an equivalent level of support.

Do those extracts from the Victorian NERA still apply?

....

Mr Cook: I am happy to take it on notice. I will come back to the point that Victoria is not a participating state. So, in terms of the act, what applies to Victoria is not the same as it is for participating states. The NERA is part of the participating states.

**Answer**

Victoria is a non-participating state under the *Australian Education Act 2013* (the Act) and therefore not bound by the NERA.

The Australian Government determines funding for all schools, participating or non-participating, in accordance with the same calculations under the Act from 2014 to 2017.

State funding to schools is a matter for the Victorian Government.