

I have read through the draft on your website in regards to the child care changes and have many issues on this topic. I will start with my own personal issues as this is what affects me the most.

I am classed as a high income earner who currently has one child in childcare. By the current system I pay almost \$100 per day in child care and get 50% of this back quarterly. I have calculated that I could only go back to work 4 days per week as 5 days was not worth the financial gain. So I pay \$400 per week and am entitled to \$200 per week back. However, this is capped at \$7000. So for the first 2 quarters I get assistance but not the last two. Although its already a struggle I manage.

So moving onto my real issue. I CAN NOT AFFORD TO HAVE ANOTHER CHILD!

If I was to have two children in child care it would then cost me \$800 per week. Without any assistance! That is not something that anyone could afford. If I went back full time it would cost me \$1000 per week. Can you now see how I could never have another child. Yes I may get maternity leave at my rate of pay but when I go back to work I get nothing, so I could never even take advantage of the paid maternity leave because I could never afford to go back to work. (But that's another story)

Some people might say "don't go back to work". Well how do I survive being the bread winner in the family? I couldn't. So that is also not an option for me. I have no choice but to not have a child and struggle with the one that is already in care.

In all seriousness if this draft goes through I will have to pull my child out of childcare and have someone look after him at their home for "Cash money". As much as that is also no legitimate, its what I would have to resort to in order to live.

We then move onto the greater issue of everyone pulling their children out of centres and trusting them with non qualified people, this affects the child as well as the future of child care centres.

Imagine all the neglect etc that will happen with non qualified people looking after all these children. And the non legitimate, at home people looking after our children. If anything more funding is needed not less.

Its heart breaking