



RICK WILSON MP

Federal Member for O'Connor



MEDIA RELEASE

Occasional child care to benefit regional, rural and remote

20 May 2014: Rick Wilson MP, Federal Member for O'Connor, has welcomed the Abbott Government's decision to restore \$12.6 million Occasional Care funding cut by the previous Labor Government.

Occasional Care will provide a vital service for many families who needed emergency or late notice care, particularly in regional, rural and remote communities.

Mr Wilson said this was another example of the Abbott Government delivering on its promises and their commitment to making child care more accessible, flexible and affordable.

"There are many reasons why families might need to access occasional care, such as casual work and last-minute shifts, illness, and other unexpected events that arise in the daily lives of busy families.

"This decision will particularly benefit the O'Connor electorate as the whole electorate is either rural, regional or remote. In O'Connor there are many areas where seasonal work makes it difficult to secure a place in traditional child care options.

"It's important for O'Connor's economic prosperity that we have a child care system that supports greater workforce participation," he said.

Preference will be given to occasional care services in regional, rural and remote areas in recognition of their unique challenges.

Mr Wilson said the Abbott Government's broad ranging Productivity Commission Inquiry into child care was also addressing accessibility, flexibility and affordability issues.

For more information visit www.education.gov.au.

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