

To Whom It May Concern;

My issue relates specifically to the repeal of the schoolkids bonus.

I am a single parent and my child will commence formal schooling for the first time in 2014. To send my child to school next year I will need to pay \$100 book levy to the school on top of the purchase of uniforms (\$32 per item for shorts and polo shirts, neither of which are substitutable with items from Kmart or Best & Less), school hat, shoes and a suitable backpack. Going without the schoolkids bonus will place a massive strain on my household budget to send my child to school.

I agree that many parents might see the schoolkids bonus as 'fun' money or a cash bonus to have a good time with and don't spend it on its intended purpose but I believe I am in a majority that rely on the money to actually purchase necessary items so my child can attend school. The schoolkids bonus only partially covers the expense I will incur and I urge you to reconsider repealing the legislation around this item. My child's school is anticipating to be an independent public school in 2014 and should the schoolkids bonus be repealed, many families will struggle to pay school fees and levies in 2014, which means that at the end of the day the children will miss out on valuable learning resources.

Regards

Natalie Chalmers