

Please see below template to write a letter to your local [Member of Parliament](#). Please select this link to find out who to contact. [https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators\\_and\\_Members](https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members)

Please also write to your local State Member.

<https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/about/people-in-parliament/ministers>

Scott Morrison has recalled parliament sometime next week (probably Wednesday) to pass the new stimulus package including the Early Childhood Education and Care Relief package.

This package cannot be passed unopposed. Please make sure your local member knows the personal impact this will have on you

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Dear (insert Member Name)

I am writing to request your URGENT assistance to ensure childcare remains means tested. Families that continue to earn an income should pay a fee proportionate to their income.

**Childcare workers are on the frontline in this war against COVID19. They are being asked to risk their lives every day to stay open to support the children of essential workers. Any minister that supports a policy that takes money from frontline soldiers in this war on COVID19 is un-Australian.**

On the 1st April Scott Morrison announced that all childcare would be free from Monday 6th April. THIS IS A LIE. More accurately, Mr Morrison announced that he was going to take my money to pay the parent childcare levies.

I can tell you with absolute certainty that transferring money from my bank account to the parents of my services is not FREE. I can also tell you with absolutely certainty which families are suffering financially and which ones are not. This policy is not targeted, appropriate or equitable. It is a poorly thought out reaction to gain popularity amongst working families.

I understand that the policy was written for Childcare centres without any consultation with the Family Day Care sector. Childcare centres have different operating costs and economies of scale to Family Day Care.

I am an FDC educator that works under an ABN and my income is made up by a percentage of the Child Care Subsidy and parents pay the gap fee to me via my service provider. The CCS is 'means tested' up to 85% of \$11.10 and the parents pay a minimum GAP of 15% plus my fees in excess of \$11.10. Under the announced model, I am restricted from charging families the GAP and Mr Morrison will cap my income at \$5.55 per hour minus the service fees I pay to the registered service provider.

This will have tragic consequences. FDC is perfectly situated to support essential workers during COVID 19 as we are a distributed network caring for an average of 6 families. Should a member of

my FDC become sick we can easily quarantine without disrupting the other networks of Educators. This policy will force many FDC educators to close their doors.

When Mr Morrison announced the package he stated that I would be eligible for the Jobkeeper payment. It is unclear that I will be eligible for this payment but let's assume that I do get the \$1500 fortnightly payment to offset the decision at the end of May - I am still going to suffer considerable hardship.

Please see below for a detailed breakdown of the effect the announced BCP will have on my income.

The below table has been taken from my income statement for the fortnight prior to Sunday 1st March

Hourly Charge	
FDC Scheme service fee	
Total hours billed	
Gross Income before expenses and tax	\$ (Hourly charge X total hours) - (fdc fee X total hours)

The below table represents my income under the Business Continuity Payment.

BCP = 50% of total hourly fee or 50% of \$11.10 whichever lesser

Business Continuity Payment	\$ (auto calculated)
FDC Scheme service fee	(auto input same as above)
Variance between CCS and BCP	%
Jobkeeper Payment (only if variance greater than 30%)	\$1500
Gross income before expenses and tax	\$ (BCP- FDC service fee + Jobkeeper)

I understand that we are living in extraordinary times and that I am being called into service and will need to make sacrifices to support the battle against COVID-19. I am ready, willing and able to do so.

If this policy is allowed to pass parliament and I have to subsidise the care for families that I know are earning sufficient money to afford my fees, then this will have a significant psychological impact on me and my ability to perform my duties.

Please make sure that any child care fees paid by families continue to be means tested. Families that continue to work from home and earn an income should pay a fee proportionate to their income.

Please ensure you consult with the industry. You can call Family Day Care Australia or Ignite Minds Family Day Care on 1300683456 should you need any further technical explanation