

Australian
Labor



TRANSCRIPT

**THE HON JENNY MACKLIN MP
SHADOW MINISTER FOR FAMILIES & PAYMENTS
SHADOW MINISTER FOR DISABILITY REFORM
MEMBER FOR JAGAJAGA**

**E&OE TRANSCRIPT
DOORSTOP INTERVIEW
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SUBJECT/S: Delays to the rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme; Scott Morrison's cuts to Paid Parental Leave; Canning By-Election; Dyson Heydon

JENNY MACKLIN, SHADOW MINISTER FOR FAMILIES & PAYMENTS: This morning you would have seen reports in the Financial Review that the Abbott Government is considering delaying the full roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

This is devastating news for the hundreds of thousands of people with disability and their families and carers.

This information comes from an Expenditure Review Committee meeting last week where it's reported that the Government considered how they could save money by not proceeding with the same roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme that has previously been agreed.

The Government has previously promised that it will honour the full roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

I call on Tony Abbott and Joe Hockey and Scott Morrison to honour that promise to people with disability.

The Abbott Government must deliver the National Disability Insurance Scheme on time and in full, with no cuts.

People with disability have waited generations for this National Disability Insurance Scheme and they deserve to finally get the care and support that they need.

JOURNALIST: What do you make of Scott Morrison's claim that Paid Parental Leave is a first world problem?

MACKLIN: I think Scott Morrison's comments yesterday show just how out of touch he is with the needs of Australian families.

The changes the Government wants to make to Paid Parental Leave, what Scott Morrison and Joe Hockey call 'double dipping', will see around eighty thousand women lose up to \$11,500 a year.

There are thousands and thousands of women on incomes as low as \$30,000 or \$40,000 a year who will lose some or all of their Paid Parental Leave.

These changes that the Government is trying to force through the Parliament will mean that mothers and some fathers won't be able to spend that really critical first six months with their new born babies. This is really what this is about. It is so important for parents to be able to spend that critical first six months with their babies. And if Joe Hockey and Scott Morrison get their way those mothers and fathers will not be able to do so.

JOURNALIST: How do you think Labor will go in the Canning by-election?

MACKLIN: We understand how difficult by-elections are, particularly after the death, a very sad death, of a member whilst in office. But I will also say that the biggest issue in Western Australia right now is jobs.

We know unemployment going up, youth unemployment going up, underemployment is going up. This is a very serious for Western Australians and its only Labor that will take this issue of employment seriously.

You see every single day the only thing Tony Abbott thinks about how to protect his own job.

Well Labor will be doing everything we possibly can to create jobs and protect the jobs of West Australians.

JOURNALIST: If Labor does take up that by-election, is that the beginning of the end for the Coalition?

MACKLIN: We think it will be a difficult fight, so we understand that history is against us. We also know how important it is to do our best by the people of Western Australia, particularly to do and show that we have a plan for jobs.

JOURNALIST: Do you think the ACTU should move to disqualify Dyson Heydon?

MACKLIN: Well that is really a matter for them. But as we have indicated day after day in Parliament the Royal Commissioner was appointed, and was another captains pick by Tony Abbott. It's up to Tony Abbott to recognise the Commissioner should go and Tony Abbott should do the right thing and remove his commission.

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