

MEDIA RELEASE
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Turnbull reignites campaign against 'double dipping' mums

Parents are bitterly disappointed the Turnbull Government has today confirmed its plans to move ahead with its "double dipping" cuts to paid parental leave (PPL).

Social Services Minister Christian Porter told the National Press Club on Tuesday that the government would be bringing forward legislation to cut back PPL for the Parliament to consider.

Ms Briskey said Mr Turnbull needs to rethink his plan to strip time away from mums and their new babies.

"The Turnbull Government's attack on PPL is a slap in the face to thousands of working mums" Ms Briskey said.

"Australia already has one of the least generous PPL schemes in the developed world,

"While other countries are moving forward, our government wants to take us backwards - limiting the paid time new mums can have with their brand new baby.

"Under the current scheme, it is recognised that both government and business have a role in supporting new parents by providing access to both employer and government payments.

"For tens of thousands of women - including teachers, ambulance officers and women working at Woolworths - this has meant they can stay at home for at least six months as recommended by the World Health Organisation

"Under the Turnbull Government's plan, many women won't have any financial support after 18 weeks."

Ms Briskey said this will place huge financial and emotional stress on new parents at time that is already stressful.

"What we don't want is for mums is for them to be forced back to work early when they simply aren't ready," Ms Briskey said.

"It is also unclear if the cuts to PPL could even pass the Senate, causing continuing uncertainty and anxiety for expectant mums and dads.

"Families need certainty to plan their lives - from which parent will take leave to whether to even try for a baby to begin with.

"It's time for the Turnbull Government to permanently drop their cuts to PPL, so women have the time with their babies and their families have the certainty they need."

END

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