

457 VISA HOLDERS — PUBLIC SCHOOLS CHARGE

**553. Hon DARREN WEST to the minister representing the Minister for Regional Development:**

My question was lodged last Thursday but I ask it regardless. Given its dramatic impact on rural communities, does the minister support the \$4 000 per child charge to parents holding 457 working visas for their children to attend public schools?

**Hon KEN BASTON replied:**

Does the member have a number for that question?

**Hon Darren West:** C568. It went in last week. If the minister does not have it, I have another one for him!

**Hon KEN BASTON:** That is the problem; the member has so many!

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

The government has made an announcement about the introduction of a charge for education services for children of parents holding 457 working visas. The government is currently examining the implementation of this initiative and will make an announcement in the near future.