

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**QUESTION NUMBER 2853 [NW3321E]**

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**Mr P J C Pretorius (DA) to ask the Minister of Finance:**

Whether he intends to introduce differentiated grant amounts when social grants are increased in future, so that recipients in urban areas who elect to receive their grants by way of electronic funds transfer (details furnished) will receive marginally more than those electing to receive grants at contractor-operated pay points despite being within reasonable range of banks and post offices; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

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**REPLY:**

Modern banking systems offer many advantages to beneficiaries of social grants including convenience, safety and flexibility. For this reason government wants to encourage beneficiaries to select the banking payment option. The UIF and RAF have already migrated exclusively (100%) to electronic payment while social grants are currently at around 47%.

Your suggestion will be discussed with the Minister of Social Development and SASSA. SASSA is currently adjudicating a tender for a mix of payment systems and once the outcome of this is clear we may be in a position to consider the viability of this proposal.