



ABN: 39 070 265 734

National Secretariat

Sydney TAFE
Turner Hall Ultimo College BG.01
695-731 Harris Street Ultimo
PO Box 707 Broadway NSW 2007
Australia

Tel: +61 2 9217 3180

Fax: +61 2 9281 7335

Web: www.tda.edu.au

Committee Secretary
Senate Education & Employment Committees
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra

4 November 2015

TDA Submission to the Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee

RE: Education services for Overseas Students Amendment (Streamlining regulation) Bill 2015 and the ESOS (Registration Charges) Amendment (Streamlining Regulation) Bill 2015.

To the Committee Secretary,

TAFE Directors Australia (TDA) has been actively involved in the eighteen month consultation process regarding the ESOS Amendment (Streamlining Regulation) Bill 2015 and the ESOS (Registration Charges) Amendment (Streamlining Regulation) Bill 2015.

TDA supports the submission made by the International Education Association of Australia (IEAA) to the Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee, regarding the expeditious passage through the Senate of these Bills.

TDA agrees and supports points two and three raised in IEAA's submission, regarding:

- 1) The removal of the 24 week study period limitation and;
- 2) The removal of the requirement that a maximum of 50% of tuition fees can be prepaid to an education provider.

However, TDA does not fully support the first point raised in IEAA's submission, regarding the elimination/ removal of the requirement for private education providers to retain pre-paid student fees in a designated account.

In the current environment where there is so much public concern surrounding the actions of some less reputable private education providers, TDA feels it imperative that the requirement for retaining pre-paid student fees in a 'designated account' remains.

TDA instead advocates that the current requirements (for private education providers to hold student fees in a designated account) be revised to reflect the 'risk-level' of individual providers. At

present the requirements are inequitable, as they impose the same blanket provision to both high and low-risk private providers.

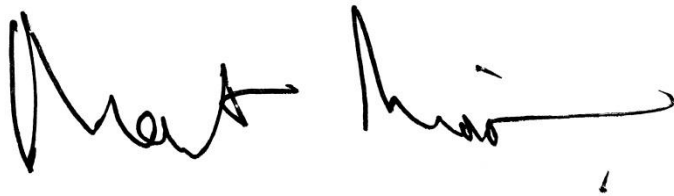
About TDA

TAFE Directors Australia (TDA) is the national peak body incorporated to represent Australia's 58 government owned Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutes and university TAFE divisions, and the Australia-Pacific Technical College (APTC).

Australia's TAFE Institute network is the largest and most diverse tertiary education sector in Australia with more than 1000 campuses located across Central Business Districts (CBD), suburban, regional and remote locations, with many institutes offering further services throughout the Asia-Pacific and other offshore regions.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further comment or information.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Riordan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Martin Riordan

Chief Executive Officer

TAFE Directors Australia