

AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

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Vice Presidents:
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11th November 2010

John Hawkins
Secretary
Senate Select Committee on the Scrutiny of New Taxes
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Email: john.hawkins@aph.gov.au

Dear John,

Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Student Services & Amenities) Bill 2010

I am writing to you on behalf of the Australian Olympic Committee and at the request of our President, John Coates.

I have had the benefit of reading the submission by the Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Sydney, Dr Michael Spence. I confirm that the Australian Olympic Committee strongly supports the views contained in that letter from the University of Sydney for the reasons contained therein.

The universities of Australia have provided a substantial and continuous platform for young Australians to achieve their goals in elite sport whilst also prosecuting vocational and academic goals.

The founder of the modern Olympic movement, the Baron de Coubertin, used the example of English universities in the late 19th century as an example of the benefits of the development of a healthy mind in a healthy body. The Australian Olympic Committee submits to your inquiry and the Commonwealth Government that universities and other tertiary institutes should encourage the creation of excellence in all spheres.

For the reasons submitted by Dr Spence, we support the passage of the Bill referred to above through the Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Montgomery,
Vice-President

cc: Bruce Ross, President, Sydney University Sports Union
Robert Smithies, Executive Director, Sydney University Sports Union
John Coates, President, Australian Olympic Committee
Craig Phillips, Secretary General, Australian Olympic Committee

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