



Isolated Children's Parents' Association of Australia (Inc)
FEDERAL COUNCI
"Access to Education"

February 28 2013,

Submission Number: 52
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Standing Committee on Education and Employment,

In response to questions asked by Mr Tudge and Mr Hawke that were taken on notice in regards to whether or not Isolated Children's Parents' Association State Councils had been consulted on the loadings proposed- after consultation with my state counterparts it appears that they have not been consulted on the value of the loadings.

Government has indicated, no school will lose funding and considering the recommendations in the Gonski report that the base funding for Schooling Resource Standard for high school students being set at \$13 000 per student, the loadings for a very remote school with a large indigenous population and low SES score would continue to attract funding at a similar amount to what they now receive.

ICPA NSW has further outlined their concerns regarding the formulas used for small provincial schools within their submission to you.

It is therefore extremely important to the future of rural and remote communities that the funding models for rural schools and boarding schools are structured and quantified so as to allow rural and remote students to achieve their potential in learning. In order to do so, funding will need to be sufficiently targeted so as not just to maintain the status quo, but to actively reduce the currently entrenched disparity in educational outcomes due to location of school which remain despite the considerable efforts of school teachers and administrators.

I would also like to provide additional information around questions asked by Mrs Andrews in regards to teacher training for distance education schooling. Overall throughout Australia, teachers provide a great program, although there have been problems particularly in Queensland with the introduction of the national curriculum due to issues around writing the program. ICPA has for many years promoted that a distance education skills component be available in teacher training courses and schools of distance education provide pre-service courses to new staff ensuring they have a thorough understanding of the students' environment and challenges associated with this mode of education.

If you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs Judy Newton

Federal President ICPA