



Regional skills relocation

Opportunities to address skills shortages in regional Queensland through relocation strategies

Nationally, the Global Financial Crisis has had a significant impact on employment opportunities in regional areas. Some regional areas have fared better than others and some are already experiencing significant skills shortages as industries are again expanding.

The Committee is inquiring into the applicability of government employment policies to address the skills shortages in regional Australia focusing on opportunities to support the relocation of unemployed workers from areas of high unemployment to areas experiencing skills shortages.

While in Brisbane on Friday 4 June 2010, the Committee will be talking to:

- Jobs Australia;
- Queensland Tourism Industry Council;
- Be Next;
- Advanced Cairns;
- Growcom; and
- Queensland Government.

“The House Employment Committee is looking forward to gaining an insight into the Queensland perspective with a view to making recommendations on ways to improve Federal government relocation policies to ensure workers are aware of, and able to benefit from, employment opportunities in Queensland regional areas,” Ms Jackson said.

“Agriculture, tourism, manufacturing and resource industries throughout regional Queensland in particular could benefit from a holistic and practical approach to relocation strategies. The Committee is looking forward to the discussions with industry representatives, employment practitioners and the Queensland Government on the best possible policy approach.”

Everyone is welcome to observe the day’s discussions. Anyone wishing to attend the hearing please contact the Secretariat on 02 6277 4162 before 5.00 pm on Wednesday 2 June 2010 so that access can be arranged. The public hearing will be held on Friday 4 June 2010 from 9.15am until 4.00pm in the Conference Room, 36th Floor, Waterfront Place, 1 Eagle Street, Brisbane.

Written submissions from interested persons and organisations are also welcome.

Further details on the inquiry, including the terms of reference, background documents, membership of the Committee and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee’s website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/ewr> or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4162 or emailing ewr.reps@aph.gov.au.

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair, Sharryn Jackson, on (08) 9359 1188
For background information, contact the Committee Secretary, on (02) 6277 4162