

## **ADDITIONAL COMMENT BY THE AUSTRALIAN DEMOCRATS**

The Australian Democrats are of the view that competition policy reforms and funding cuts at both Commonwealth and State levels are having a severe impact on TAFE. This has important ramifications for Australia's skill levels in that, not only is TAFE the main *provider* of training, it is also the principal *developer* of training curricula used by private sector training providers. It is imperative that TAFE is enabled to sustain and improve its curriculum development role and that TAFE colleges receive transitional support as they adapt to competition policy reforms.

The Australian Democrats RECOMMEND that the Commonwealth provide an immediate one-off grant of \$100 million to the TAFE sector for curriculum development.

**SENATOR N STOTT DESPOJA**