

Submission

to

Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education
Legislation Committee

Inquiry into the Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment Bill 2005

Submission no: 14

Received: 27/07/2005

Submitter: Ms Maria Lemos

Organisation:

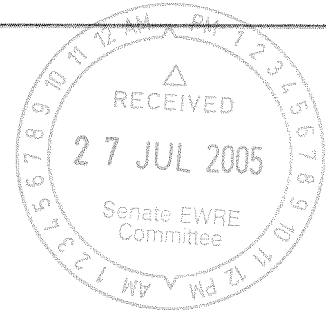
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From: Maria Lemos [maria.lemos@maymurray.com]
Sent: Wednesday, 27 July 2005 11:50 AM
To: EET, Committee (SEN)
Subject: defunding of Indigenous adult education



Dear Senate Committee members

I understand that you are receiving submissions about the bill before the Senate which will de-fund several of the major independent Indigenous community-controlled adult education providers in Australia, including Tranby in Sydney, IAD in Alice Springs and Tauondi in Adelaide, and Aboriginal Dance Theatre Redfern, to provide additional funding for tutorial support to indigenous students who need to move away from remote communities to study.

I want to convey my strong feelings against the appropriation of funds from existing institutions. The argument of scarcity of funding as justification to de-fund sound organisations is intellectually unsustainable and constitutes a bad policy decision. As much as I agree that extra support is needed for students from remote areas I have to say that money is not always the answer and more creative solutions have to be found in consultation with stakeholders including the above institutions in danger of being de-funded.

Yours sincerely

Maria Lemos