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22 July 2005

Mr John Carter
Committee Secretary
Senate Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee
Department of the Senate
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Sir

Skilling Australia's Workforce Bill 2005
Skilling Australia's Workforce (Repeal and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2005

Attached please find the submission of the ACTU into these two Bills.

In summary the ACTU has called for a rejection of both Bills on the grounds that they:

- Do not adequately provide for a basis for the operation of the Australian vocational education and training system;
- Do not adequately reflect the required roles, responsibilities and make up of various bodies necessary to support the vocational education and training system;
- Improperly link funding of vocational education and training to the government's ideological push for individual contract arrangements governing employment;
- Do not provide for adequate growth funding for TAFE.

The ACTU would welcome the opportunity to expand on our submissions before the Committee.

Please contact me on 03 9664 7347 or at mbissett@actu.asn.au should you require any further information regarding this submission.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Bissett
Industrial Officer