

Dear John Carter, Committee Secretary, Senate Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee.

I am writing to submit two concerns about the Senate Inquiry into Schools Assistance Bill currently before parliament.

Specifically, I am concerned that this Bill constrains the ability of schools to decide upon their own curriculum, and to develop innovative learning programs tailored to the specific needs of schools.

In addition I'm concerned that this Bill will have the opposite effect of promoting community contributions to schools, and may in fact shame or allow funding to be cut to schools when they receive gifts or donations.

I feel it would be a great shame if this Bill constrained the independence of school's in this way, and an even greater shame if it had the potential to discourage parents and school communities from giving to their schools.

Yours Sincerely,
Nick Elias