

Dear Senator,

RE: Vote against \$5000 Cap VET Student Loans

Thank you for the political leadership you provide for our nation. As a citizen who is concerned about the Vocational Education and Training (VET), I value the role you play in shaping the policies that can lead to greater jobs, growth and prosperity of our great nation. I believe that with right policies and good management the VET sector made-up of Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) and TAFEs can both create jobs and improve the economy.

Therefore, our organisation is urging you to lobby against the proposed cap of \$5000 on VET Student Loans for BSB51915 Diploma of Leadership & Management and similar Diploma courses as such a cap would have dire consequences both in RTOs and the public VET sector due to it being impossible to sustain a viable training course under this economic restraint.

I am very concerned that RTO's and TAFEs in our area of management training could be forced to shrink or close, which would have a devastating impact on the VET industry and the local community with administrative and training staff being dismissed.

Such a cap of \$5000 on VET Student Loans for the BSB919515 Diploma of Leadership & Management course and similar courses would mean that many of the RTOs & TAFEs responsible for teaching these courses to completion will be reduced as they could not remain financially viable.

Students could easily find themselves with nowhere to complete their Diploma, despite borrowing thousands of dollars in VET FEE-HELP loans for their education and future.

RTOs and TAFEs have already borne a 55% increase in administration and training costs due to legislation passed in December 2015 increasing the number of units for a Management Diploma from eight units to twelve units, with Language, Literacy and Numeracy requirements.

Operating under the proposed \$5000 cap on VET Student Loans will mean that RTOs and TAFE colleges will force many to look at ways to reduce costs which could mean spending less money on student services and on improving training.

The last thing that the reputation of VET and the unemployment sector needs now is the upheaval this \$5000 cap on VET Student Loans would unleash.

Therefore we urge you to vote against the \$5000 cap on VET Student Loans placed on the BSB5191 Diploma of Leadership and Management and similar Diplomas and lobby for the cap to be raised to \$15000.

Thank you for attention to this matter,

Yours Sincerely

Dr Tony Keys

Director

Trinity Leadership Products