CHRISTIAN HERITAGE COLLEGE

30 October 2019

Email: eec.sen@aph.gov.au

Dr Jane Thomson
Committee Secretary
Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr. Thomson,

RE: Higher Education Support (HELP Tuition Protection Levy) Bill 2019 and Related Bills

Thank you for the invitation to make a submission in relation to the above-mentioned Bills. These Bills raise a number of serious concerns to students and institutions across the higher education sector, including Christian Heritage College (CHC).

Christian Heritage College (CHC) was established in 1986 with the purpose of fostering, promoting and undertaking education, scholarship and research. CHC currently offers 27 accredited higher education courses in multiple disciplines, that lead to undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications in Education and Humanities, Business, Ministries, Liberal Arts, and Social Sciences.

We are in support of the government’s aim to provide tuition assurance but the proposed 2019 amendments to the Education legislation related to Tuition Protection and other measures raise serious concerns about equity. These amendments discriminate against students who do not access FEE-HELP for their education; while providing protection only for the FEE-HELP students.

We advocate for an equitable and efficient measure that will provide protection to all students which is government supported with higher education providers making proportional and fair contributions. The lack of such a vehicle actually increases risks and costs across the higher education sector. This will also ensure that our accrediting body (TEQSA) protections are met without the burden of having multiple institutions report on their individual protection arrangements.

Please provide serious consideration to make the appropriate changes to the proposed amendments that will extend the government’s FEE-HELP tuition assurance coverage to all students to address the issues and proposal outlined above.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Jeannie Trudel
President