



Media Release
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Youth Allowance Inquiry to Report next Week

The Senate Inquiry into Rural and Regional Access to Secondary and Tertiary Education Opportunities is due to report on 29 October 2009.

The Inquiry received so many submissions relating to the changes to Youth Allowance proposed by the Federal Labor Government, the Committee decided that submissions and evidence will be considered by an additional Inquiry into the Social Security and Other Legislations Amendment (Income Support for Students) Legislation 2009.

“This clearly reflects the very serious concerns expressed by students and parents from both the South West and around Australia,” said Nola Marino.

Similar criticism has been expressed by the Victorian Parliament’s Labor-dominated Education Committee, which said: “the Committee believes that the removal of the main workforce participation route will have a disastrous effect on young people in rural and regional areas...”

“I am confident that both reports will clearly outline the flaws in the legislation and highlight the detrimental affect on regional and rural students. “

“South West students should have the opportunity to pursue a higher education and not be penalised by the Government for living in a regional area.”

Federal Parliament resumed 19 October 2009. Details of the Senate Inquiries can be found at http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/rrat_ctte/inquiries.htm .

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