

MEDIA RELEASE

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Peak private training body backs government push to boost VET sector quality

The chief executive of the Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) Rod Camm has welcomed the proposed amendments to the National Vocational Education and Training Regulator Act announced by the Assistant Minister for Education and Training Senator the Hon. Simon Birmingham today.

Mr Camm said the amendments, which strengthen the capacity of regulators to audit registered training organisations (RTOs) and provide advice, would help ensure all VET providers met new quality standards.

“As the peak body representing quality private providers, ACPET has been a vocal supporter of measures that strengthen the VET system,” Mr Camm said.

“These measures are necessary to protect both students and colleges from the harmful impacts of a small number of poor quality providers who undermine the integrity of the entire system,” he said.

“After a necessary and welcome period of consultation by the government, I think we can all agree these reforms are urgent, and must be passed as soon as is practicable.”

Of specific provisions within the Act, Mr Camm said measures that improve the transparency of broker activity reflected the requirements of ACPET’s new Code of Ethics.

“We are working with the industry to identify preferred quality brokers as well as offering a Professional Development program to brokers on the vocational education and training sector.”

Mr Camm said ACPET also welcomed the announcement of a new National Training Complaints Hotline to make it easier for students, employers and others to have issues responded to. ACPET first highlighted the need for a national consumer complaints scheme for the tertiary sector in December.

“The message to all providers is clear: tidy up your act or leave the sector,” Mr Camm said. “There’s no place for unscrupulous behaviour in this sector and we fully support the government’s measures to stamp it out.”

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