

FACTSheets

Lessons from other states

TAFE Community Alliance

- Failure of VET reform in Victoria has clearly demonstrated that policies and procedures need to be put in place to protect the quality of VET programs and to ensure access to VET programs for all.
- The Federal Government is the driving force behind the COAG agreement and VET reform, to ensure that tax payer funds are being used in the best interests of VET students and that policies and procedures are in place across all states to prevent any training providers from exploiting the system.
- In Victoria TAFE funding has been reduced by \$300 million per.
- Students in Victoria pay excessive fees, campuses have been closed and 2000 teachers have lost their jobs.
- TAFE provided skills and training to hundreds of thousands of Victorians. Over the past year many students have been denied the opportunity to attend TAFE due to significant fee increases, campus closures and courses no longer being offered – this is what will happen in NSW in 2014.
- Victorian Premier Denis Napthine's commitment to reinvest \$50 million per year into TAFE over the next four years will not reduce fees nor replace jobs lost.
- Premier Denis Napthine acknowledged that the Government's cuts are not in the interests of young people, the community, TAFE institutes or the Victorian economy.
- 'Reforms' in South Australia will result in 150 jobs being cut from TAFE over the next 18 months.
- In SA the State Government's mid-year budget included cuts of \$9.6 million for 2014-15 and forecast cuts of \$21.9m each year.
- The Queensland government is in the midst of closing 38 TAFE campuses cutting \$78.8 million from training, tertiary education and employment.
- Those objecting to these 'reforms' state the importance of maintaining a high-quality, well-funded public TAFE system that is responsive to the needs of communities as opposed to a private VET sector that uses taxpayers money to profit.
- In the 21st century, we need more than ever a high-quality, well-funded public TAFE system that is responsive to the needs of society, not treated as a private business.
- Qld, SA and Victorian governments do not appreciate how important TAFE is to our economy, individual job seekers and the community despite many reviews of VET indicating how important TAFE is to productivity, education opportunities for the disadvantaged, skills for Australian businesses, innovations and partnership programs.

TAFE IS TOO IMPORTANT TO LOSE!