



New South Wales

Technical and Further Education Commission Amendment (Fees) Bill 2014

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to freeze at their 2014 level the maximum fees chargeable by the Technical and Further Education Commission (the *TAFE Commission*) for its courses (subject to indexation for inflation) and to preserve existing fee waivers, exemptions and concessions.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name (also called the short title) of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on the date of assent to the proposed Act.

Schedule 1 Amendment of Technical and Further Education Commission Act 1990 No 118

Schedule 1 [1] makes it clear that the powers of the TAFE Commission to charge fees are subject to proposed Part 7A (Maximum fees payable for courses).

Schedule 1 [2] limits the ability of the TAFE Commission to increase its fees after 2014, as follows:

- (a) maximum fees for courses are frozen at the 2014 level, subject to indexation for inflation,
- (b) maximum fees payable by apprentices, trainees and government benefits recipients are frozen at the 2014 level, subject to indexation for inflation,

- (c) the complete exemption for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and students with a disability that applied in 2014 is preserved,
- (d) the complete exemption for special access courses that applied in 2014 is preserved,
- (e) provision is made for the indexation of fees, where applicable, having regard to changes in the Sydney Education Group Index recorded by the Australian Statistician.

Schedule 1 [3] provides for the making of savings and transitional regulations consequent on the enactment of the proposed Act.