



The Hon Sarah Mitchell MLC
Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Mr John Dixon
General Secretary
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Attn: Amber Flohm, Senior Vice President

RML21/25

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Dear Mr Dixon

I write in response to your letter of 7 January 2021, requesting an urgent discussion on the NSW government position in relation to Automatic Mutual Recognition (AMR) for the teaching profession (your ref: 1/2021/AF:jep).

Prior to the Christmas break, I wrote to the NSW Treasurer to express the concerns raised by the teaching profession in relation to AMR. These include significant issues for child safety and the potential to adversely impact quality standards for teachers working in NSW schools. Given these concerns, I have sought the Treasurer's support for a five-year exemption from AMR for the teaching profession.

As noted in your letter, the Commonwealth released the exposure draft of the AMR legislation in December 2020. The Department convened a stakeholder meeting to discuss the legislation and ongoing concerns on 22 January 2021. A draft of the Department's feedback to the Commonwealth was subsequently circulated to stakeholders for comment. Contributions from the NSW Teachers Federation and other groups have been provided to the Commonwealth process and will inform our position going forward, including and any exemptions that will apply in NSW when the scheme commences.

I thank you for your continued engagement in this work.

Yours sincerely

 Sarah Mitchell MLC
1 March 2021