



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**SKILLING AUSTRALIA'S  
WORKFORCE BILL 2005**

**SKILLING AUSTRALIA'S  
WORKFORCE (REPEAL AND  
TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2005**

**Consideration in Detail**

**SPEECH**

**Wednesday, 15 June 2005**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## SPEECH

**Date** Wednesday, 15 June 2005  
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**Questioner**  
**Speaker** Macklin, Jenny, MP

**Source** House  
**Proof** No  
**Responder**  
**Question No.**

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**Ms MACKLIN** (Jagajaga) (9.42 am)—I move amendment (1) as circulated in my name:

(1) Clause 12, page 11 (lines 22-27), omit paragraph 1(b).

The purpose of this amendment is to delete the provision in the legislation that requires that all staff in TAFEs around Australia be offered individual Australian workplace agreements. Labor is of the view that this is not the place for the government to introduce its industrial relations legislation. I want at this point to ask the Minister for Vocational and Technical Education, given that he seems determined to pursue the introduction of the requirement that all staff be offered AWAs, what evidence he has that demonstrates the link between this industrial relations provision and improving student outcomes at TAFE. Is the minister listening?

**Mr Hardgrave**—I am listening.

**Ms MACKLIN**—He seemed to be talking to the Leader of the House. So the first question is: what evidence is there that this industrial relations provision will in fact improve student outcomes at TAFE?

Secondly, I understand that some TAFE colleges in some states are not able constitutionally to offer AWAs. I would like to know how the minister intends that this provision will work in those states and what sorts of alternative individual contracts will satisfy this requirement. It would be helpful if the minister could detail the requirements that he will set out for those relevant states before he imposes those conditions. If the minister could respond to those questions at this stage, I would appreciate it.