



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

27 May 2005

### **Windsor releases amendment to Voluntary Student Unionism Bill for comment**

Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor has today released his draft amendment to the Government's Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Bill 2005.

In releasing his draft amendment, Mr Windsor is asking for feedback from those affected by the Government's legislation to contact him with their comments as to how his proposed amendment will meet their needs.

"I am releasing my amendments to the Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Bill 2005 today to give those impacted on by the Bill the opportunity to provide me with feedback about whether they think that my amendment meets their needs.

I have tried to keep my Amendment as simple as possible and it is designed so that non-political activities can continue to be funded as they currently are and therefore continue to provide the many valuable services to University students and communities.

The Federal Government's real agenda is to prevent the use of the 'General Service Fee' for political purposes and I think my Amendment achieves this.

We don't want to throw the baby out with the bathwater," Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor would be very happy to receive comments by email to

[Tony.Windsor.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:Tony.Windsor.MP@aph.gov.au) or  
faxed to 02 6761 3380 or  
mailed to PO Box 963 Tamworth NSW 2340

2005

The Parliament of the  
Commonwealth of Australia

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*Draft*

## **Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Bill 2005**

*(Amendments to be moved by Mr Windsor)*

(1) Schedule 1, item 1, page 3 (lines 9-17), omit subsection 19-37(1), substitute

(1) A higher education provider must not:

- (a) require a person to be or to become a member of an organisation of students, or of students and other persons; or
- (b) require a person enrolled with, or seeking to enrol with, the provider to pay to the provider or any other entity an amount in respect of an organisation of students, or of students and other persons;

unless the higher education provider has:

- (c) established a fund to be applied by or on behalf of the university towards student welfare, cultural, sporting, health, and artistic purposes; and
- (d) provided that amounts from the fund may be applied:
  - (i) only to organisations and groups to which membership is voluntary; and
  - (ii) only for purposes related to student welfare, culture, sport, health or art.