



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Media Release

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Concerns over new Job Network structure

If media reports are correct, the new Job Network structure to help unemployed people find work or training opportunities to be announced next week could actually create unemployment particularly in regional Australia according to the Independent Member for New England Tony Windsor.

A very concerned Mr Windsor wants the Government to be forewarned about the consequences of the rumoured removal of local regional Job Network service providers and being replaced by possibly overseas owned providers.

“It is important for the Government to realise that regionally based Job Network service providers have supported local businesses and their communities with a strong commitment to achieving outcomes not only for the individual but also the broader community and the Government of the day.

These not-for-profit organisations have provided the Government with a service that was previously run directly by Government and delivered that service in a cost effective manner working under strict guidelines set and changed by Government.

The people in these organisations have earned their stripes in this field and now we are heading into tougher times, these local organisations are needed more than ever and should be given the opportunity to continue to serve their communities.

They should not be thrown onto the scrap heap for an alternative unknown quantity with any profits to be repatriated possibly off-shore rather than put back into the local community,” Mr Windsor said.