

Media Release

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Independent schools welcome review into funding impacts on regional and remote schools

The Independent Schools Council of Australia (ISCA) has welcomed today's announcement by the Minister for Education, The Hon Dan Tehan, of the upcoming review by the National School Resourcing Board (NSRB) into the funding impact of Schooling Resourcing Standard (SRS) loadings on students and schools in regional and remote Australia.

ISCA Chief Executive Officer, Dr David Mulford, today said that, "We acknowledge the new Direct Measure of Income (DMI) funding methodology may disproportionately impact regional and remote schools compared to some metropolitan schools. We welcome the NSRB's input and look forward to working with them on the review process."

"Regional and remote schools already face many challenges not always shared by their urban counterparts, particularly with many having been adversely affected by natural disasters like drought and bushfires. In addition, regional and remote schools cannot always offer the same range of choice in non-government schooling options as metropolitan areas," Dr Mulford said.

ISCA also welcomed the announcement by the Minister of a robust process to allow schools to apply to have their DMI assessment reviewed to address unexpected or unique circumstances affecting their community's financial capacity.

Approximately 35 per cent of the Independent sector's 1,148 schools are in regional and remote areas.

ENDS

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