

Dear Member of the Legislative Council

## **SUPPORT FOR FOREIGN BUYER'S TAX AMENDMENT**

I write in support of amending the State Government's foreign buyers tax legislation to reverse all remaining education cuts, as proposed by The Nationals WA.

Labor promised to introduce the Foreign Buyer's Tax at a rate of 4% in the name of freezing TAFE fees. However, in the latest State Budget Labor announced it would hike the rate of tax to raise an extra \$50 million in revenue.

The facts around this change are laid out simply below:

- A 4% Foreign Buyer's Tax would have raised \$73 million.
- A 7% Foreign Buyer's Tax will raise \$123 million.
- Freezing TAFE fees will cost \$23 million.
- Reversing all outstanding education cuts will cost \$41 million.
- At a tax rate of 7%, the McGowan Government can freeze TAFE fees, reverse remaining education cuts and still walk away with \$59 million in revenue.

The Nationals WA propose using the additional revenue raised to ensure the continued operation of Moora Residential College, camp schools, Landsdale Farm School, Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre and restore the 20% raided from the Agricultural Education Farm Provisions Trust.

I believe all children, including those in regional WA, should have access to education that is affordable and close to home. Moora Residential College is vital for students in the Central Midlands and beyond. Camp schools, Landsdale Farm School and Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre are all facilities that enrich the lives of country and metropolitan students and families that use them. For years, funds raised by agricultural colleges have been reinvested at respective college farms to make sure they remain relevant in a rapidly changing agricultural sector.

WA students and their families face an unjust disadvantage if these education cuts are not reversed, and The Nationals' proposal provides a unique opportunity for the government to reinstate funding, freeze TAFE fees and still walk away with almost \$60 million in revenue.

Thank you for standing up for the education needs of all children in our State.

Yours sincerely