



2 May 2013

Manager
Philanthropy and Exemptions Unit
Indirect Philanthropy and Resource Tax Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600
Email: charities@treasury.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Release of Exposure Draft Charities Bill 2013

The Association of Independent Schools of South Australia (AISSA) welcomes the inclusion in the Exposure Draft *Charities Bill 2013* of 'the advancement of education' as outlined in Section 7 'Certain purposes to be for the public benefit' and the clarification in the Explanatory Memorandum that it includes:

- the provision of formal education through preschools, schools and tertiary education institutions, including the provision of building and related educational facilities;
- vocational training such as farming or technical training...

I write to seek an assurance from the Australian Government that there will be no changes to the Bill in this regard.

The AISSA represents the interests of 95 SA not-for-profit Independent schools, the vast majority of which are registered charities. Charitable status provides important benefits for Independent schools, including in the areas of income tax exemptions, Deductible gift recipient (DGR) status and State Government concessions such as land tax, stamp duty and payroll tax. Hence, it is essential that schools remain covered by the definition.

Yours sincerely

Carolyn Grantskalns
Chief Executive