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**To:** Skills and Training Boost <SkillsBoost@TREASURY.GOV.AU>  
**Subject:** SKILLS AND TRAINING BOOST

Response to Draft Legislation

I am responding as a micro-business owner, sole trader and contractor:

This would be a great idea for those who are already doing so or who wish to upskill/ train employees however, the draft legislation stating the following:

"It is not available for the training of non-employee business owners such as sole traders, partners in a partnership and independent contractors

(who are not 'employees' of the business within the ordinary meaning)" would appear to be unfair and discriminatory against the obvious cohort as stated above

and simply makes absolutely no sense whatsoever.

It is just emblematic of the narrow-minded and unedifying attitude of the previous government (despite always claiming a superior posture towards business over the worker),

to have devised such a scheme in this manner.

There seems to me to be no justifiable reason for this approach as, especially in our now (hopefully) post-Covid business environment, those businesses still need

as much assistance as possible, not just larger businesses who, one could argue, would have greater resources i.e. could afford those costs more readily, in the first place.

So, in my opinion, it would be a very prudent approach for the new Labor Government to allow those small...and micro....businesses to claim an extra 20% tax deduction on eligible expenditure as well.

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