**18/605: Education (Child Safety in Schools) Legislation Amendment Bill 2018**

|  |
| --- |
| **Summary of Impacts** |

|  |
| --- |
| **Amendments to the Education Act (2004) to:**   * require non‑government schools to implement agreed recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission) regarding the Child Safe Standards, record keeping, complaint handling and responding to incidents; and * enable certain enrolment information about a child to be shared with other state and territory education authorities as recommended by the Glanfield Inquiry of 2016.   **Amendments to the Teacher Quality Institute Act to:**   * require a teacher employer to notify the Teacher Quality Institute (TQI) when the employer notifies an approved teacher of the decision to proceed with a formal investigation; * require a teacher employer to notify the TQI when an employee resigns during a preliminary factual enquiry or formal investigation; * require a teacher employer to notify the TQI when the employer removes, cancels or ends the access of an approved teacher to casual employment; * grant TQI the power to obtain information or advice from teacher employers that is relevant to whether a registered person continues to meet the requirements of their registration; * make it an offence for a teacher employer to fail to provide the information or advice within the established timeframe; and * add a requirement that in order to remain registered teachers must maintain a current Working with Vulnerable People registration. |

*Key to impacts: Red – negative, Blue - neutral and Green - positive.*

**Social**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Community and individual health** | These amendments focus on the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in schools by improving the regulation of non-government schools, and information sharing with other jurisdictions. It also assists the TQI to respond to any action or behaviour of a teacher which negatively impacts the safety of children. |
| **Access to services** | Improvements that flow from these amendments may result in increased access to services through earlier identification of need. |
| **Access to social networks and community activities** | Information sharing provisions provide a protective factor for a child or young person at risk, by ensuring their continued engagement with the education system. Improved regulation of non-government schools will ensure children are better protected and supported within all schools. |
| **Justice and rights** | The amendments support the rights of children to be safe, and to an education. They balance the right to privacy in the *Human Rights At* 2004 with the need to protect the rights of children.  The amendments also assist in identifying possible threats to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in education, which will trigger appropriate action. |
| **Disadvantaged and vulnerable** | Information sharing is critical to identify threats to life, health and safety of children and young people at risk. Improved regulation will also facilitate better support for vulnerable children and young people in non-government schools.  Requiring information will assist TQI to make a decision regarding the action or behaviour of a teacher which negatively impacts the safety of vulnerable children. |

**Economic**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Skills and education** | These amendments will enable children and young people to safely remain engaged in education. With education being one of the clearest indicators of life outcomes such as employment, income and social status, and a strong predictor of attitudes and wellbeing, there are expected economic benefits to the ACT. |

**Environmental**Nil impact