



Media Release

Senator Mathias Cormann Shadow Minister for Employment Participation, Apprenticeships and Training

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PICK UP THE PHONE TO SAVE JOBS, MINISTER

A training provider in Rural New South Wales has been left in limbo due to the inaction of the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations, Education and Social Inclusion.

“The part-time Minister for Education, Ms Gillard, doesn’t seem to think the closure of an important rural training center is worthy of her attention,” Shadow Minister for Training Mathias Cormann said today.

“The training and future employment opportunities for rural students around Central-Western New South Wales, not to mention the health and well-being of hundreds of patients in need of remedial massage has been put in jeopardy as a result of the dismissive attitude from Julia Gillard.

“Despite repeated attempts for a meeting and raising the issue in Parliament, by the local Federal Member Mark Coulton, Ms Gillard has failed to address an urgent plea for assistance with navigating the increasingly bureaucratic application process.

The College is the only one of its kind within a 400km radius.

“If Julia Gillard doesn’t sort this out as soon as possible, the Central West of New South Wales will lose its only certified remedial massage training centre due to the neglectful, dismissive attitude of Ms Gillard.

“This is yet another example of Ms Gillard’s failure to follow through on her promises to ensure the bulge in long-term unemployment is reduced.

“I call on Julia Gillard to pick up the phone and sort this out. She should at least make one of her many advisers available to urgently assist the College with their reapplication for funding before the new teaching year commences.

“The trickle-down effect of this institution closing down would have dire consequences for jobs in the area and will affect the hundreds of rehab patients awaiting remedial massage in the Central-West,” Senator Cormann said.

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