

NORTH REGIONAL TAFE — PROTECTIVE CLOTHING POLICY

455. Hon KEN BASTON to the Minister for Education and Training:

I refer to answers to question without notice 431 regarding the protective clothing policy at North Regional TAFE Kimberley campuses.

- (1) Of the total number of student/apprentices studying at North Regional TAFE Kimberley campuses who are required to wear full-length clothes under the occupational health and safety policy —
 - (a) how many are employed by major resource, major civil construction and local government clients; and
 - (b) how many are employed by clients who do not require full-length sleeves and long pants in their workplace?
- (2) Is the minister confident that that policy is well supported by lecturers, students and employers in the Kimberley and that concerns about heat-related stress during the very humid months have been addressed adequately?

Hon SUE ELLERY replied:

I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)
 - (a) There are three.
 - (b) Sixty-five apprentices are provided with the option of wearing full-length sleeves and long pants in their workplace. One employer requires apprentices to wear full-length sleeves and long pants when working outside in the sun.
- (2) While consultation has occurred with lecturers and employers of students, ultimately the policy is determined by the college in order to meet its duty of care occupational safety and health obligations. North Regional TAFE has 11 campuses spread across the Kimberley and Pilbara and has consistent policies across all delivery sites. I am advised that concerns about heat-related stress during the very humid months have been addressed adequately.