

TAFE SECTOR — STATE MANAGEMENT

**757. Mr F.M. LOGAN to the Minister for Training and Workforce Development:**

I have a supplementary question. Given what the minister has just said to the house, she has already handed over group training in Western Australia to the commonwealth and she has sacked all the staff at WA's apprentice centres and given over their work to the federal government as well. Why would we trust the minister not to hand over WA TAFE to the Feds, given what she has already done?

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:**

The member for Cockburn is referring to the change in the way we provide apprentice support in the federal —

**Mr F.M. Logan** interjected.

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** We had to ask ourselves what the sensible thing to do was. If the commonwealth government says it has money and wants to take over the mentoring services and some of the support services for apprentices and is happy to fund that service, does the state government then run a duplicate service or do we hand over that service? Apprentices in Western Australia are being managed through a contract system coordinated from Canberra, but the important thing is that the quality of the support services being provided to apprentices is still there, is still very high and, in effect, member for Cockburn, a large number of the people who were previously employed by the state government in our present support centres have been re-employed by the commonwealth providers, so we have the same people performing those services.

**Mr F.M. Logan** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Cockburn!

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** I have had no complaints about the transition from a state-based apprenticeship support system to the commonwealth-based system, but I reiterate that we are not handing over the management of our TAFE system to the commonwealth and neither will the commonwealth be providing traineeships or any form of training in Western Australia through our TAFE system.

**Mr F.M. Logan** interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Member for Cockburn, I call you to order for the first time. Minister, are you finished?

**Mrs L.M. HARVEY:** The commonwealth comes up with these ideas and floats them, but without the agreement of all the states it will not happen. I can assure the house that I have had a number of conversations with my counterparts in other states and they are not handing over their TAFE system to the commonwealth either.