

EDUCATION — BRIDGING VISAS — PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACCESS

827. Hon SUE ELLERY to the Minister for Education:

- (1) Can the minister confirm that WA is the only jurisdiction in Australia that does not allow access to public schools for children on bridging visas seeking asylum without charging international student fees?
- (2) Can the minister confirm that regulations are being prepared to clarify eligibility guidelines so that children on bridging visas seeking asylum will be exempted from paying international student fees once there is evidence that their application for protection is accepted by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection?

Hon PETER COLLIER replied:

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

- (1) Yes.
- (2) This matter is currently under consideration by the state government.