

7 August 2025

Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee

Inquiry into the Tertiary Education Legislation Amendment (There For Education, Not Profit) Bill 2025

Dear Committee

Submission to the inquiry into the Tertiary Education Legislation Amendment (There For Education, Not Profit) Bill 2025

On behalf of Universities Australia (UA), thank you for the opportunity to contribute again to the inquiry into the Tertiary Education Legislation Amendment (There For Education, Not Profit) Bill 2025. Since UA last wrote to the committee on this subject (28 March 2025), the University Chancellors Council (UCC) has written to the Minister for Education requesting that the Commonwealth Remuneration Tribunal provide independent, nationally consistent advice to university governing bodies on vice-chancellor remuneration, without displacing their decision-making authority.

In light of this, the committee should know that UA supports the UCC's proposal to seek advice from the tribunal to ensure remuneration settings are transparent, appropriate and publicly defensible. Remuneration decisions have and should continue to be a matter for independent university councils, led by chancellors, and the tribunal could play a very useful role in supporting those decisions and increasing transparency, as it does in other sectors.

We consider the UCC's proposal to be a constructive step in strengthening public confidence in our sector while preserving the autonomy of university governing bodies. Universities are committed to upholding the highest standards of governance, integrity and trust, and we'll continue working with our members and government to achieve this.

If we can be of further assistance to the committee during this process, please don't hesitate to contact my office by emailing ceo@uniaus.edu.au or calling 02 6285 8100.

Yours sincerely



Luke Sheehy

Chief Executive Officer, Universities Australia