MEDIA RELEASE
Tuesday, March 22nd, 2011

ACPET Welcomes National VET Regulator, Calls on Senate to Pass Legislation

The Australian Council for Private Education and Training (ACPET) today welcomed the report of the Senate Standing Committee on Education, Employment & Workplace Relations, recommending that the bills to support the establishment of a National VET Regulator be passed in their current form.

ACPET CEO, Claire Field, said ACPET has long advocated for a single national regulator to oversee Australia’s VET sector, and she called upon the Senate to now pass the Bill so that legislation could then be progressed. Ms Field said a National VET regulator would bring greater consistency, efficiency and effectiveness to Australia’s training system. And the sooner the bill was passed the sooner the new regulator could get to work.

“This is a good decision from the Senate Standing Committee on Education, Employment & Workplace Relations. It takes the process of establishing the new regulator another important step forward. The VET sector needs a single national regulator capable of, and accountable for, enforcing the legislative framework governing our industry,” Ms Field said.

Ms Field said an effective national regulator, alongside industry-led initiatives such as ACPET’s own independent benchmarking processes was the best way to ensure Australia maintains its reputation for high quality vocational education and training.

“A National VET Regulator will be good for institutions, good for students and good for employers relying upon consistent national training outcomes.”

“ACPET and its members are committed to a national regulatory approach to education and training, which continues a tough stance on poor quality provision, and which rewards high-performing institutions.”

“We urge the Senate to consider this proposed Bill quickly, and support the introduction of a National VET Regulator to provide confidence and consistency to the national vocational education and training sector.”

Claire Field is available for comment.
Media Contact: Ben Eade – 0406 641 881