TEACHER EDUCATION

A 41. TAMBO BRANCH

"That ICPA Qld Inc. lobby the Minister for Education to provide a financial bursary, similar to the Future Teachers' Bursary Pilot Program, which allows Senior Students in ALL Queensland schools to apply for assistance when completing eligible university subjects relative to Education degrees.'

Explanation:

The Future Teachers' Bursary program was piloted by the Department of Education over the past few years in order to encourage Queensland senior secondary students to pursue a career inteaching. However, this bursary was limited to State School students only, and therefore excluded thosesenior students from rural and remote areas who are most likely to return to these areas in their futurecareers. It is vital that all students in Queensland be offered the same opportunities when they show interest in a career in teaching, and therefore Independent and Catholic schools must also be included in any future programs. The success of the Future Teachers' Bursary pilot program can in no way be accurately assessed due to the exclusion of so many senior students across the state. Financial supportcan prove a powerful incentive for students who may be interested in a career in education, but be unable to pay the associated fees to get a head start while still at school. A fully inclusive bursary program could prove a powerful tool, not only to encourage more potential teachers, but to encouragemore that will teach rural!

Carried