

## ISOLATED CHILDREN'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA



### 2022 FEDERAL CONFERENCE RURAL SCHOOLS/SCHOOL TRAVEL PORTFOLIO MOTIONS

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#### **A47. Alpha Branch (QLD)**

**CARRIED**

“That ICPA (Aust) continues to lobby relevant bodies for an affordable ‘Student Concessional Fare’ for students attending educational institutions within Australia who need to travel between their home residence and the educational establishment they attend.”

#### **Explanation:**

Regional airfares are increasing in price all the time and students are sometimes paying exorbitant prices which are sometimes unaffordable when they are trying to compete with the prices mining companies and other business travellers will pay. A university student flying to Emerald left booking until two weeks before to fly home for Easter. The flight one way was \$712 which is unaffordable for a university student.

The bus and rail fares are also increasing and the number of these services being offered in regional areas are decreasing.

#### **A48. Walgett Branch (NSW)**

**CARRIED**

“That ICPA (Aust) lobbies the relevant Federal Ministers and the Education Ministers Meeting to implement a national funding program that would guarantee no young geographically isolated children are left on school or childcare buses by installing sensor devices that sense sound and movement, to detect and alert drivers if young children have been left in the vehicle.”

#### **Explanation:**

Despite numerous incidents occurring over the years of children being left on school/childcare buses, this continues to be a major issue. These incidents occur on a far more regular basis than reported to the public. These incidents have caused distress and heat exhaustion but have also caused major physical injury and unacceptable death.

Whilst thoughtful Policies and Procedures are continually put in place in schools and childcare centres, there needs to be a procedure implemented to counteract unfortunate human error.

A Sensor Device that monitors sound and movement just like a home monitoring device could be set during the hours that the bus wouldn't ordinarily be transporting children. Alerts could be made to the bus drivers and centres or schools by mobile phones should the sensor detect anything.

Human error is inevitable, we urge the Government to act on implementing movement monitors as a matter of urgency on all school and childcare centre buses.