



Minister for Education  
Minister for Tourism, Major Events,  
Small Business and the Commonwealth Games

9 NOV 2015

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Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to Petition 2429-15 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 13 October 2015 regarding the cessation of the Safe Schools roll out in Queensland schools.

The Palaszczuk Government is committed to ensuring that every student has the opportunity to learn in a safe and supportive school environment so they can reach their potential.

The Safe Schools Coalition Australia program, funded by the Australian Government, works with schools to build confidence and capacity among principals and teachers to address bullying due to a person's sexuality or gender identity.

The Department of Education and Training does not mandate or endorse individual programs or initiatives. Principals, as the leaders of their schools, in consultation with the school community have responsibility for making decisions about the most appropriate programs and strategies to best meet the needs of their students.

Principals may choose to adopt aspects of the Safe Schools Coalition Australia program as one strategy to address the local needs of students. I assure you that the wellbeing of all students is foremost when considering such programs.

I would like to thank the petitioners for raising this matter with me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kate Jones'.

**KATE JONES MP**  
Minister for Education  
Minister for Tourism, Major Events,  
Small Business and the Commonwealth Games