



Terms of Reference

Inquiry into E-PET-078-25 and PET-041-26 – Make career guidance a right for every ACT Year 7-10 public school student

The Standing Committee on Social Policy has resolved to inquire into and report on E-Petition 078-25 and PET-41-26: Make career guidance a right for every ACT Year 7-10 public school student, signed by 953 signatories and tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 5 May 2026.

The terms of the petitions are as follows:

‘The following residents of the ACT draw attention of the Assembly:

- 3 of 5 Year 7-10 students in the ACT public schools do not have access to a qualified career adviser at their school;
- 13 of 22 ACT public schools with Years 7-10 do not employ a qualified professional career practitioner in a career adviser’s role at the school; and
- Young people, the school community, industry, business, parents, higher and tertiary education institutions are calling out for high schools to make employment of careers advisers a priority.

Your petitioners, therefore, request the Assembly to call on the ACT Government to:

- Ensure professionally qualified career practitioners are employed in all ACT public schools with Years 7-10 and resourced at 1 full-time equivalent (1 FTE) career practitioner to 450 students;
- Offer targeted scholarships to school staff (teaching and non-teaching) who wish to gain professional level career qualifications to remove barriers to gaining a career qualification; and
- Provide additional funding for schools for this strategy and requisite actions in recognition of budget pressures currently facing public schools in the ACT.’