EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Notice of approval pursuant to subsection 11(1) of Schedule 1A of the Higher Education Support Act 2003

VET Provider Approval No. 13 of 2009

Issued by the authority of the Minister for Education

Subject: Higher Education Support Act 2003
VET Provider approval pursuant to clause 6 and subclause (11)(1) of Schedule 1A of the Higher Education Support Act 2003.

Notice of Approval
The Notice of Approval is made pursuant to subclause 11(1) of Schedule 1A of HESA. The purpose of this notice is to approve and give notice of approval of TAFE Commission as a VET provider.

Background
VET FEE-HELP is an income contingent loan scheme for the vocational education and training (VET) sector that is part of the Higher Education Loan Program (HELP). It is an extension of the higher education FEE-HELP arrangements.

VET FEE-HELP assists eligible, full fee-paying students to pay for all or part of their VET tuition fees when studying one or more of the following eligible accredited VET courses of study: diploma; advanced diploma; graduate certificate; and graduate diploma.

Bodies corporate which are also Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) are able to apply to become approved as VET providers. If approved, a VET provider will be able to offer VET FEE-HELP assistance to their eligible students.

Commencement
In accordance with clause 12 of Schedule 1A of HESA, the approval takes effect on the day after the last day on which a House of Parliament could have passed a resolution disallowing the notice.

Consultation
Consultation was not undertaken and was not considered necessary in this case because the notice confers a benefit on TAFE Commission and this body is the only body affected by the notice. This notice will not have a direct or substantial indirect effect on business, nor will it restrict competition.