



Political parties are demanding local action on the ongoing TAFE SA crisis.

A 2017 audit of 16 TAFE SA courses found 14 of them were below par, plunging the organisation into crisis.

South Australian education minister, Susan Close has stated that it is 'highly likely' that there are quality problems with more than the 16 courses sampled so far - with more audits to be conducted soon.

A Federal Government inquiry has been set up; but its one and only hearing is happening in New South Wales - a move labeled as 'bizarre'.

The Liberals, Greens and Nick Xenophon Team supported the parliamentary inquiry into the failures of TAFE SA. Labor opposed it.

Senator Birmingham called on Federal Labor to move the Senate inquiry hearing to Adelaide.

"Labor are running scared from the scrutiny of the SA public and media," he said.

"This is a blatant attempt to keep the hearings out of sight and out of mind."

Greens Senator, Sarah Hanson-Young said, "The fact Labor is deliberately wasting the time and money of taxpayers by frustrating the process of shining a light on its failures just shows how much of an embarrassment this has become for a party that says it supports the vocational sector but fails to fund it".

Demands For Local Action

Nick Xenophon is demanding a South Australian parliamentary inquiry be convened immediately after the state election to get to the bottom of the TAFE debacle.

Mr Xenophon said the snap inquiry would need to have answers about how to fix the TAFE crisis by the end of May in a bid to stop another cohort of higher education students from being caught up in the scandal.

He said the inquiry would have the power to subpoena documents and must involve independent experts as well as politicians.

Additionally, Liberal education spokesman, John Gardner has announced that, if elected, the Liberals will dismiss the entire TAFE board - and appoint a new one.

The new board would be subject to a much stricter selection process and more rigorous performance reviews.

What do you think?

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