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Moratorium Needed for Teacher Registration For Term 1

Shadow Minister for Employment, Education and Training, Dr Richard Lim, warns the government that the start of school will be in chaos unless something is done about the huge backlog of teacher applications for registration.

“It is a disgrace that with just on 5 days before school commences, the government is not able to ensure that all the teachers destined to teach in the Territory are registered with the Teacher Registration Board,” Dr Lim said.

“I am now asking the Government to announce a moratorium on teacher registration requirements, so as to allow Territory teachers not yet registered to be able to teach during the first term of school.

“The additional 3 months will give time for the Teacher Registration Board to get every application fully appraised and registered.

“The government was keen to pass legislation last year, which required teachers to be registered with the Teacher Registration Board before they will be allowed to teach in Territory schools.

“Since the start of this year, I have been contacted by teachers who have been frustrated by their inability to get their registration up to this point in time.

“Obviously there is a log jam in the registration process.

“I have also been informed that teachers who are not registered have been told that they will not be allowed to teach at the start of school in 7 days time, as it would be illegal.

“Some schools have been contacted to find relief teachers to fill the gaps while the teacher registration process continues, but the irony is that some of the relief teachers are also waiting for their registration.

“It is time the Minister for Employment Education and Training get out of his holiday mood and get back to managing is job.” Dr Lim said.

Ends

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