



Your strong and independent
voice for livestock producers

LIVESTOCK SA...

Unit 5, 780 South Road, Glandore SA 5037

P 08 8297 2299 **F** 08 8293 8886

E admin@livestocksa.org.au

livestocksa.org.au

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20 August 2020

Hon David Pisoni MP
Minister for Innovation and Skills
GPO Box 11071, ADELAIDE SA 5001
(Email: officeofministerpisoni@sa.gov.au)
(Copy: DIS.TSDAct.Review@sa.gov.au)

Dear Minister,

Training and Skills Development Amendment Bill

Livestock SA welcomes the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the *Training and Skills Development Act 2008*.

Livestock SA was formed in 2013 to represent the interests of beef cattle, sheep and goat producers across South Australia. Currently Livestock SA has over 3,500 members.

The aim of the Training and Skills Development Amendment Bill is to help develop a more responsive training system for apprenticeships and traineeships. For agriculture, and particularly the livestock sectors that we represent, this is very necessary to attract more employees, especially with skills, to work in the industry. Often agriculture is overlooked when considering apprenticeships and traineeships, but like all other industries new entrants are required. This is particularly required as farming has an older and aging workforce, but there is now an identified need to quickly and readily adopt new agtech.

With Agribusiness Industry Skills Council now being one of the eight Industry Skills Councils that the State Government has recently established, we are very optimistic that the requirement of this industry will not be overlooked but seen as very essential if the State Government is to achieve its objective to lift the sustainable economic growth rate in South Australia to an average of 3% per year. The food, wine and agribusiness sector is one of nine priority sectors that have been identified for growth.

The Training and Skills Development Amendment Bill has a series of worthwhile revised objects. It is hoped that these can be achieved. In particular, we look forward to working in partnership with government so that there are flexible industry-endorsed approaches to training and skills development. So often in the past, we have relied on TAFE-run and driven courses which are not always relevant or flexible to fit in with the seasonal and other demands within agriculture, as well as often the tyranny of distance.

While the establishment of the South Australian Skills Commission is welcomed, there does not appear to be any mention of specific industry representation on the Commission. We would hope that either there would either be relevant agriculture representation or at the very least, good interaction with the Agribusiness Industry Skills Council and any other relevant bodies.

Livestock SA fully supports the Training and Skills Development Amendment Bill. As it is the result of extensive consultation, it is hoped that the Bill will have a speedy passage through the Parliament so that we can begin to work towards a more responsive training system that for agriculture will be flexible, easy to navigate and geared towards the workforce needs of industry.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joe Keynes'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Joe Keynes
President