

PETER DRAPER

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR TAMWORTH

MEDIA RELEASE

Child Protection Code reviewed

2nd July 2003

Independent Member for Tamworth Peter Draper has welcomed reports that the NSW Government has ordered a review of the child protection code for NSW teachers.

The review was announced after Mr Draper recently approached Minister for Education Andrew Refshauge and Attorney-General Bob Debus to have child protection legislation reviewed.

“The current legislation means that in many instances, our students are not receiving the appropriate support and encouragement from their teachers. I was recently approached by one teacher who will no longer see students individually to protect his career,” Mr Draper said.

“This review of the child protection code has been a long-time coming and I am pleased the Government is finally listening to input from the community. Teachers across the Electorate of Tamworth will be hoping that appropriate changes are made to the code so that they can provide the standard of education our children need.”

“Since the election 3 months ago, more than 50 teachers have approached me to have child protection legislation reviewed. I recently wrote to the Minister for Education and the Attorney-General to ask that the legislation be reviewed.”

“I will closely monitor this review and I intend to speak in the NSW Parliament on this issue in the near future.”

“Of course we need to protect our children but I believe the current code can be improved. We need to better balance the protection of students while still providing a framework that helps teachers to provide the best education they can for our children.”

www.peterdraper.com.au

Media Contacts: Peter Draper mob. 0417 290 376 Electorate Office ph. 6766 1422
Shannon Most mob. 0402 13 99 11 Parliament House ph. 9230 2341