



Independent Schools
Council of Australia

Media Statement

4 December 2008

Statement by Mr Bill Daniels, Executive Director, Independent Schools Council of Australia

Passage of Schools Assistance Bill

“The passage of the *Schools Assistance Bill 2008* through Parliament today provides much valued certainty of funding to independent schools across Australia.”

“TSCA acknowledges the leadership of The Hon Julia Gillard in achieving this outcome. It is pleasing that members and senators have listened to our concerns and have decided to pass the Bill so that funding can flow to independent schools for the New Year.”

“TSCA has consistently argued from the beginning that the *Schools Assistance Bill 2008* needed to be enacted without delay as a first priority. Now that this funding has been secured, we are confident that we can continue to work constructively with the Government in implementing the legislation.”

“School autonomy, diversity and innovation are fundamentally important for the independent schools sector. We also recognise the benefits of working collaboratively with the government and Catholic schools sectors. We look forward to being active partners in the development and application of a high quality national curriculum and an assessment and reporting framework that appropriately recognises the importance of choice and diversity.”

###Ends###

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