

PETITION

Save the Educational Textbook Subsidy Scheme

To the Honourable the President and Members of the Senate in Parliament assembled.

The Petition of the undersigned draws to the attention of the Senate, concerns that the expiration of the Educational Textbook Subsidy Scheme on June 30 will lead to an eight percent increase in the price of textbooks, which will further burden students and make education less accessible.

Your petitioners believe:

- a) a tax on books is a tax on knowledge;
- b) at the very least, textbooks – as an essential component of education – must remain GST free;
- c) an increase in the price of textbooks will price many students out of education, particularly those students from disadvantaged backgrounds; and,
- d) the Educational Textbook Subsidy Scheme should be extended past June 30.

Your petitioners therefore request the Senate act to extend the Educational Textbook Subsidy Scheme indefinitely.

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Please return this petition to:

Senator Natasha Stott Despoja, Democrats' Higher Education Spokesperson
212 Grenfell St, Adelaide SA 5000