

TAFE Staff Cuts

Ms BADGER question to MINISTER for SKILLS and TRAINING

I have been contacted by multiple constituents who work in the TAFE Tasmania's automotive department. I cannot use their names as they are under a Public Service gag order. These staff believe that they are set to have their jobs made redundant tomorrow, 13 March.

They point out that it was only a few years ago the Liberals pledged to employ 100 new TAFE teachers, and they wonder how things went so wrong. These educators know that slashing jobs will have detrimental long-term effects on the automotive industry which is already demanding more apprentices. Tasmania is also lagging well behind mainland states in providing adequate EV courses. Our state should be building an automotive centre of excellence, not slashing critical jobs.

Will you provide industry and employee certainty and detail your plan for automotives in Tasmania? For the interim, where and how are you planning to train automotive apprentices, and will some apprentices be dropped?