



**THE HON ANDREW GILES MP  
MINISTER FOR SKILLS AND TRAINING**

MC25-000028

Mr Mike Southon  
Executive Director  
Freedom for Faith

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Dear Mr Southon

Thank you for your correspondence of 24 December 2024 regarding the revised Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) (revised Standards.). The letter raised concerns that explanatory materials accompanying Standard 2.5 may have a deleterious effect on faith-based RTOs.

The revised Standards will operate in conjunction with existing laws and do not override them. I can confirm that the explanatory statement to the Outcome Standards legislative instrument will include wording that makes clear that the requirements on Diversity and Inclusion (Standard 2.5) do not alter, impair or detract from the operation of sections 37 and 38 of the *Sex Discrimination Act 1984*. The explanatory statement is a public facing document that will be available on the Federal Register of Legislation and is used to interpret the revised Standards for RTOs.

To allay the concerns raised in your correspondence, this clarification will also be included in the policy guidance document.

Thank you again for bringing your concerns to my attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Giles'.

ANDREW GILES

4/3/2025