



Speech by

**Mr S. SANTORO**

**MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD**

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Hansard 5 August 1998

**USER CHOICE TRAINING FUNDING**

**Mr SANTORO** (Clayfield—LP) (10.28 a.m.): A few minutes ago, in common with all other Ministers opposite, the Honourable the Minister for Training sought to rewrite history. In particular, he criticised the user choice policies of the previous Government. He claimed that the previous Government was putting too much into user choice.

If the Minister is sincere about what he said, he should reverse his TAFE policy, and in particular one of the 10 points in the plan, which I now quote precisely. It states that user choice in competitive initiatives will be maintained at January 1998 levels for a three-year period to allow TAFE time to adjust without disruption to other providers. If the Minister is serious about his criticism of our policies, he will reduce user choice funding. Private training providers took up that 33% decline in TAFE training. The Minister really has to look at why that 33% decline occurred. Where did it go? It went to private training providers. I challenge the Minister to go to ANTA and see by how much private training providers increased their delivery of training. If the Minister is fair dinkum, he should reduce the user choice provisions in the budget.

Time expired.

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