



EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES TRAINING COMMITTEE

NATIONAL PARLIAMENT OF SOLOMON ISLANDS

Invitation to make a submission to the Parliamentary Education and Human Resources Training Committee inquiry into the extent of teacher absenteeism in primary, secondary and tertiary schools in Solomon Islands and its impact.

On 20 April 2012, the Parliament resolved on motion of the Honourable Mathew Wale, MP that Parliament refers the 'National Parliament Paper No.19 of 2011, Performance Audit Report: Teacher Absenteeism in Solomon Islands Primary Schools' to the Education and Human Resources Training Committee to inquire into and report on the extent of teacher absenteeism in Solomon Islands and its impact. The Committee hopes to hear from individuals, groups and authorities that have special interest, knowledge, or experience in this important issue and invites such individuals, groups and members of the public to make written submission to the inquiry.

Terms of Reference of the inquiry

1. That the committee inquire into and report on the National Parliament Paper No.19 of 2011, Performance and Audit Report on Teacher Absenteeism in Solomon Islands Primary Schools.
2. That in undertaking this inquiry the committee may inquiry into any matters relating to:
 - (a) The extent of teacher absenteeism in secondary and tertiary schools in Solomon Islands
 - (b) The impact of teacher absenteeism on Solomon Islands education system
 - (c) The causes of teacher absenteeism in Solomon Islands schools
3. That the Committee to report to Parliament no later than 19th of December 2012.

Notwithstanding anything contrary in the Standing Orders for the purpose of this inquiry:

4. Members may at any time be discharged from the Committee by the Speaker and other members appointed or added.
5. The Committee shall have power
 - (a) To adjourn from time to time
 - (b) To adjourn from place to place
 - (c) To send for and examine persons, papers, records and things
 - (d) To make visits of inspection,
 - (e) To request the attendance of and examine members of the House.
6. The Committee shall take all evidence in public unless the Committee decides otherwise.

7. The committee may authorize the recording of its public hearings and require an official record to be prepared by Hansard.
8. Any persons or bodies may make written or recorded submissions to the committee with respect to the inquiry and the committee has power to authorize publication, before presentation to the House, of submissions received and evidence taken.
9. The committee may engage persons with expert knowledge to assist the committee on this inquiry.

The closing date for submissions is June 30th 2012.

Submissions are confidential until they are made public by the Committee, which might occur during the inquiry or when the report is tabled in Parliament at the end of the inquiry. This means no one, including the author, may distribute the submissions unless the Committee authorizes it. If your submission contains information you do not wish to be made public, please be sure to clearly mark it '**CONFIDENTIAL**'. The Committee will consider all requests for confidentiality, but is not obliged to grant a submission confidential status if it determines that it is not in the public interest to do so.

A copy of the National Parliament Paper No.19 of 2011, Performance Audit Report: Teacher Absenteeism in Solomon Islands Primary Schools and the Guidelines on how to prepare a submission can be found at the Parliament website. <http://www.parliament.gov.sb> and are also available from the secretariat at the National Parliament Office.

Submissions should be sent to: The Chairman, Education and Human Resources Training Committee, National Parliament of Solomon Islands, PO Box G19, HONIARA; or alternatively, submissions can be sent by email to ehrtc@parliament.gov.sb

Public hearings will commence in May 2012. Details will be made available in the media and the parliament website. Witnesses will also be duly informed.

If you would like further information about the inquiry or making a submission, please contact the Secretary to the Committee Mr Celsus Talifilu by email: celsus.talifilu@parliament.gov.sb or phone (677) 23424.

Hon. Peter Shanel Argovaka, MP
Chairman