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MEDIA RELEASE

CCCAV Expresses Concern on Monash University Student Council Working Hours Changes to Its Role Regulations

We noticed the recent changes to its Role Regulations by Monash University Student Council (MONSU Caulfield) on 2 September, which stipulate that *“the required number of hours to be worked in each position to be elected in the Annual Elections, other than President, OSS Officer, Postgraduate Representative and General Representative, has been changed to 22 hours per week.”*

It is known that more than half of Monash University students are international students. As students holding international student visas are permitted to work up to 20 hours per week by law, this “22 hours per week” change means more than half the campus' students are excluded from running for the positions not listed above.

Student council should represent students, both domestic students and international students. Every enrolled student should be eligible to stand in the student council's elections. International students from different countries and regions are an important and indispensable part in the Australian universities, who should be equally eligible in these elections on campus.

We regret that this bias against international students has occurred in a democratic country as Australia. We express our concerns on these changes which have excluded international students from some positions in the MONSU Student Council. We urge the Council to clarify the reasons behind these working hours changes that are unfair to international students and reconsider these changes, to ensure every international student enjoy the same eligible rights as all students.