

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

**Agency - Fair Work Commission**

**DEEWR Question No. EW0111\_14**

**Senator Abetz asked on 3 June 2013, Hansard page 96**

**Question**

**FWC - Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal to create training fund**

Senator ABETZ: In the Australasian Transport News of 27 May 2013 it was reported that: The TWU has asked the Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal (RSRT) to create a training fund. Is that report correct? Ms O'Neill: There have been a number of submissions to the tribunal, including submissions from the Transport Workers Union. I do not have that submission in front of me. All of the submissions received by the tribunal are available on its website, and it may be that something of that nature is in the relevant submission on the website. Senator ABETZ: We have Ms Acton making public comments, including that Australia's road safety strategy was to 'reduce crashes involving heavy vehicles, which had resulted in 200 deaths from 185 accident in 2011-12. It seems that there is more to be done in respect of road safety.' I think most of us would agree with that. But these are potentially politically charged comments? How many of these crashes involving heavy vehicles were in fact deemed to be the responsibility of the driver of the heavy vehicle, as opposed to driver of the other vehicle involved? Do we have those statistics? Ms O'Neill: No. Senator ABETZ: So do we know on what basis the president of the tribunal made those comments? Mr Furlong: I can certainly take it on notice.

**Answer**

*The Fair Work Commission has provided the following response.*

In its submission to the Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal (RSRT) of 5 March 2013 regarding Road Safety Remuneration Orders, the Transport Workers Union (TWU) stated that a training levy "...be applied to relevant consignors, consignees and intermediaries to pay for the training requirements of road transport drivers working in connection with..." both the retail sector and the Inter and Intra State Long Distance Sectors.

A copy of the TWU's submission can be located at: [www.rsrt.gov.au/default/assets/File/RSRO%20subs/TWU\\_RSRO%20subs\\_2013.pdf](http://www.rsrt.gov.au/default/assets/File/RSRO%20subs/TWU_RSRO%20subs_2013.pdf).

Australia's road safety strategy is set out in an Australian Transport Council publication "National Road Safety Strategy 2011-2020".

The statistical data is sourced from the Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics Statistical Reports "Road Deaths Australia - 2012 Statistical Summary."