

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EM0881_15

Senator Lines asked on 3 June 2014 on proof Hansard page 129

Question

Changes to Fair Entitlements Guarantee

Senator LINES: How will the capping of the redundancy be dealt with? Ms Emery: That will need a change to the act. Senator LINES: You were saying something. Did you want to share that with us? Ms Emery: I was just being corrected as to the actual date when it was lodged onto the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments, which was on the weekend apparently rather than yesterday. Senator LINES: When are those changes expected to be before the parliament? Senator Abetz: There is a very good question. I will have to take that on notice.

Answer

Implementation of the Budget measure to pause the indexation of the Maximum Weekly Wage for 4 years will be implemented through the *Fair Entitlements Guarantee (Indexation of Maximum Weekly Wage) Amendment Regulation 2014* (the Regulation). The Regulation was registered on the Federal register of Industrial Instruments on 30 May 2014, tabled in the House of Representatives on 2 June 2014 and tabled in the Senate on 16 June 2014. This measure will freeze the current Maximum Weekly Wage at \$2,451 per week.

Implementation of the Budget measure to cap the redundancy entitlement under the Fair Entitlements Guarantee, in line with the Fair Work Act's National Employment Standard, at a total of 16 weeks will be implemented through an amendment to the *Fair Entitlements Guarantee Act 2012*, along with a parallel amendment to the *Fair Entitlements Guarantee Regulation 2012* which covers textile clothing and footwear contract outworkers.