

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

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

Outcome 4 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EM0124_14

Senator McKenzie asked on 21 November 2013, Hansard page 97

Question

Appointment of Mr John Kovacic PSM to the Fair Work Commission

CHAIR: In relation to the former Deputy Secretary of the department's appointment to the Commission in July, had he previously been considered for appointment in conjunction with other proposed appointments? Who can answer that question for me?

Ms Parker: I do not think we can answer that question; it was under the previous government.

CHAIR: So we do not know if he had been previously considered for appointment in conjunction with other proposed appointments?

Ms Parker: Not that we are aware of. The department would have run its merit selection process. I am not aware that he was an applicant. May we take that on notice? I was not here then, but we can find out that information for you.

CHAIR: That would be great. Whilst you are taking that on notice, Ms Parker, could we also find out what the circumstances were—and I am assuming what the answer will be—for Mr Kovacic being considered a second time.

Ms Parker: Certainly.

Answer

Mr Kovacic was considered for appointment at the same time, and as part of the same selection process, as other persons appointed as Deputy Presidents and Commissioners earlier in 2013.