

Senate Standing Committee on Economics
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio
Additional Estimates Hearing 2010-11
23 February 2011

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

TOPIC: Paid Parental Leave

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 23 February 2011, E65)

QUESTION No.: AI-24

Senator RYAN—Have the organised labour groups—unions, state trades hall councils and the ACTU—raised any issues relating to the bill currently in the House of Representatives to change paid parental leave?

Senator Sherry—As I have said, to the best of my recollection those organisations have not. I will double check, but that is to the best of my recollection. Certainly small business organisations have—there is no doubt about that.

Senator RYAN—Otherwise you will take it on notice and inform us?

Senator Sherry—Yes.

ANSWER

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs has portfolio responsibility for Paid Parental Leave and would be better placed to answer the question regarding stakeholder representations on Paid Parental Leave.

However, in regards to direct representation to Senator the Hon Nick Sherry, there are no records of trade unions making representation to the bill currently before parliament which aims to change the paid parental leave arrangements and the Minister has no recollection of trade unions making representation on this bill.