

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2006-2007 ADDITIONAL SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
15 FEBRUARY 2007
EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.1: Workplace relations policy and analysis

Output 2.1.1: Workplace relations policy advice

Question Number: W1223-07

Question: Senator Wong asked in writing:

Unlawful termination and unfair dismissal

A) How many unlawful termination applications have been made since the commencement of the WorkChoices Act?

B) What have been the outcomes in these cases?

C) How much has it cost the applicant and the employer for legal fees in each of these cases?

Answer:

A) How many unlawful termination applications have been made since the commencement of the WorkChoices Act?

For the period 27 March until 31 December 2006, there were 2,049 unlawful termination applications lodged with the Australian Industrial Registry (including 14 matters lodged under the old section 170CE).

B) What have been the outcomes in these cases?

The Australian Industrial Registry recorded 2,042 outcomes in respect of these applications. The most common outcomes were the issue of certificates to applicants under either section 643 (1) c) or section 643 (1) b) of the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* or that the matter was settled or withdrawn prior to the conciliation process.

C) How much has it cost the applicant and the employer for legal fees in each of these cases?

This information is not available to the Department as any legal fees are confidential to the parties.

Estimated cost: Based on the FOI calculator it has taken approximately 9 hours and 20 minutes at an estimated cost of \$167 to prepare this answer.