

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON
EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2008-09**

Outcome/Agency **Outcome 9**

DEEWR Question No. **EW1065_09**

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

Fair Work Bill s596(4)

If the practice to be legislated by s596(4) is already 'in effect', then:

- a. Would it remain 'in effect', were the remainder of s596 to be legislated?
- b. Why is it considered necessary and/ or appropriate to lengthen the Act by expressly legislating (in s596(4)) that which would continue in effect in the absence of s596(4)?

Answer

Clause 596 of the Fair Work Bill deals with representation before Fair Work Australia. The practice to be legislated by clause 596(4) of the Fair Work Bill reflects the current position under the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* of representation before the Australian Industrial Relations Commission.