Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2012-2013

Outcome 3 - Employment

DEEWR Question No. EW0925_13

Senator Sinodinos asked on 13 February 2013, Hansard page 85

Question

Growth of national employment over the next 5 years

Senator SINODINOS: I have just a couple of quick questions. I was going through the minister's electorate material. He makes a reference here to it being predicted that national employment will grow by 830,000 over the next five years. Do you remember when that commitment was made or that prediction was made? I cannot find it in this material, but is that a government— Ms Paul: No. We could take it on notice, if you would like. No, I do not know. Senator SINODINOS: Yes. I do not recall but maybe the parliamentary secretary does. Senator Jacinta Collins: I do not recall the details of that particular prediction. Ms Paul: It may come from Treasury. So it is probably best if we take it on notice. Senator SINODINOS: Please take that on notice. Senator Jacinta Collins: It might be helpful if you more precisely source what you are referring to. Senator SINODINOS: I can give you the material, if that is okay. Ms Paul: That would help. Senator SINODINOS: It was not sourced. I did not know whether it was DEEWR or Treasury and I was not sure about the time line. Ms Paul: No. It most likely would be Treasury. On the other hand, it could be us, which just goes to show that we should take it on notice. Senator SINODINOS: That would help.

Answer

The projected employment growth of almost 830 000 over the five years to 2016–17 was prepared by DEEWR in early 2012, based on ABS Labour Force Survey data for November 2011 and forecast/projected employment growth rates published in the Australian Government's November 2011 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook.