

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2012-2013**

Outcome 4 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0936_13

Senator Abetz asked on 13 February 2013, Hansard page 101

Question

Fair Work Act Review- Transfer to a Safe Job

Senator Jacinta Collins: Senator Abetz, the reason I was able to comment earlier on this particular issue is that I know for some years now people have been advocating for this change because they know from industrial experience that women are facing problems, if they do not have the 12-month qualifying period, in getting access to safe work. Senator ABETZ: Did this come up in the Fair Work— Senator Jacinta Collins: The act does not preclude the flexibility but it does and yes, I think it did come up in the Fair Work Act review, if that was your next question. Senator ABETZ: Which recommendation? Senator Jacinta Collins: No, it is not a review recommendation. I will take that one on notice. I certainly know it was in the evidence before the review. Senator ABETZ: If it was, why wasn't it dealt with in the first tranche? Mr Kovacic: There is certainly a recommendation in terms of access to special maternity leave that does not reduce an employee's entitlement to unpaid parental leave. Senator BACK: 'Unpaid parental leave' now, not 'maternity leave'? Mr Kovacic: I am talking about recommendation 4, which is a different matter. I am checking whether there is indeed a recommendation around the transfer to a safe job issue. I think it would be best to take that on notice.

Answer

The transfer to a safe job amendment was not a recommendation of the independent Review of the *Fair Work Act*.