

EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2006-2007 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

Outcome: 2

Output Group: 2.1 – Funding for Vocational Education and Training

DEST Question No. E102_07

Senator Wong asked on 1 June 2006, EWRE Hansard page 44.

Question:

2005-08 Commonwealth State Agreement for Skilling Australia's Workforce

- (i) Was there a time limit in which the Agreement had to be tabled post signature?
- (ii) Does the legislative requirement to table the Agreement relate to the specific bilateral Agreements?
- (iii) Was legal advice taken by the Department about that the Agreement shouldn't be tabled until the bilateral agreements and VET Plans were finalised?

Answer:

Skilling Australia's Workforce

- (i) The *Skilling Australia's Workforce Act 2005* requires:

45 - Presentation of agreement to Parliament

The Minister must cause a copy of the Skilling Australia's Workforce Agreement, and any amendment of that agreement, to be laid before each House of the Parliament within 15 sitting days of that House after the agreement is made or amended.

46 - Publication of agreement on Internet

The Minister must publish the Skilling Australia's Workforce Agreement, and any amendment of that agreement, on the Department's website within 15 sitting days of either House of the Parliament after the agreement is made or amended.

- (ii) The legislative requirement to table the Agreement applies only to the multilateral Agreement and not to the bilateral Agreements.
- (iii) No.