

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

**2006-2007 BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
29TH AND 30TH MAY 2006
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: W142-07

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing:

Will the industry, including the maritime unions, be consulted on any amendments to Seacare scheme legislation that might arise from the review of Seacare scheme legislation and or changes to the coverage of Seacare scheme legislation, before any amending Bill is introduced into the Parliament?

Answer:

In the independent review of the Seacare Scheme last year, submissions were invited and received from a range of stakeholders, including the maritime unions.

In September and October 2005, the Department met with the Seacare Authority; the maritime unions; maritime industry employer associations; and the States and the Northern Territory to discuss and seek feedback on the Review's findings, among them, that Scheme coverage be defined on a tonnage rather than a voyage basis.

As noted in W139-07, the Government's response is yet to be finalised. It is therefore premature to speculate regarding what, if any, further consultation will be required and/or undertaken.