

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2008-09 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

Outcome *PEOPLE, PARLIAMENTARY AND COMMUNICATIONS GROUP*

DEEWR Question No. EW216_09

Senator Abetz asked in writing.

Refers to previous DEEWR Questions No 213 - 215.

Question

Section 24 (1) of the Public Service Act 1999

Do section 24 contracts offer the same flexibility of employment negotiations as an AWA? If so, are they simply AWAs by another name?

Answer

Section 24(1) determinations made under the *Public Service Act 1999* are not Australian Workplace Agreements by another name. They differ from AWAs in a number of respects. One key difference is that they may not override terms contained in other applicable industrial instruments such as an award or collective workplace agreement.