

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

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

Outcome 9

DEEWR Question No. EW362_09

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

Forward with Fairness

Have these employees [Wages Policy and Economic Analysis Branch] conducted any analysis on the impact of *Forward with Fairness*?

Answer

The Branch co-ordinated the development of the Department's submission to the Senate Inquiry into the Workplace Relations Amendment (Transition to Forward with Fairness) Bill 2008 (the Bill).

As noted in the Department's response to QoN EW199_09, the Bill was referred to the Senate Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee for inquiry, with particular reference to the:

- a) economic and social impacts from the abolition of individual statutory agreements;
- b) impact on employment;
- c) potential for a wages breakout and increased inflationary pressures;
- d) potential for increased industrial disputation;
- e) impact on sectors heavily reliant on individual statutory agreements; and
- f) impact on productivity.

The Department's submission addressed each of these issues.