

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

Agency - Comcare

DEEWR Question No.EW0028_11

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

TRAINING COURSE

It seems that if a training course was compatible with Commonwealth law in 2007, and it has been well conducted, then it must remain a useful and helpful addition to training choices and it must remain completely compatible today given there has been no change to law and it must remain compatible on an ongoing basis until such a change to law is made. Why should it not be available?

Answer

Comcare has provided the following response:

Under section 27 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Act 1991* (the Act) a health and safety representative must undertake a course of training accredited by the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission (the SRCC).

The *Guidelines – Health and Safety Representatives training in the Commonwealth jurisdiction* (the Guidelines) sets out the SRCC's mandatory requirements for all parties in, or in relation to, the provision of training services for health and safety representatives under section 27 of the Act.

As part of its commitment to continuous improvement, the SRCC revised in 2010 the Guidelines in response to the findings and recommendations of a review of the Health and Safety Representative Training Course Accreditation Program.

The review found that stakeholders were supportive of streamlining and modifying the accreditation process to place greater clarity and expansion on the 2007 guidelines content and requirements. The review also recommended a greater focus be placed on implementing a learner centered approach, including prescribed learning objectives.