

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

**Outcome 4 – Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0275\_13

**Senator Abetz asked on 29 May 2012 , Hansard page 68**

**Question**

**HSU**

Senator ABETZ: Very close to Anzac Day, is it not? Well done. So on 26 April the minister announced that. When did the minister reach the conclusion that the HSU was dysfunctional? Ms Paul: We have taken on notice when we first discussed it with him. We will come back with that. Senator ABETZ: Senator Collins will need to take that on notice because that is a question direct to the minister— Ms Paul: We could answer the timing question. We have already taken that on notice. Senator ABETZ: Yes, as opposed to the department. Are we able to be told with whom the minister had met or discussed this intervention prior to the actual intervention? Mr Kovacic: I have to take that on notice. Senator ABETZ: Parliamentary Secretary, are you able to tell us because you represent the minister? Senator Jacinta Collins: I will have to take that on notice. Senator ABETZ: Did he meet with anybody from the Health Services Union or the ACTU prior to taking this action? Senator Jacinta Collins: Who the minister may have met with is not to my knowledge. I will need to take that on notice.

**Answer**

The Minister discussed the Federal Court proceedings with Cabinet colleagues, the Department and legal advisers.

The Minister did not meet with representatives of the HSU or ACTU prior to making his application to the Federal Court.