

**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. EW0285\_13**

**Senator Abetz asked on 29 May 2012, Hansard page 73**

**Question**

**media story in the Age of 12 April 2012**

Senator ABETZ: Oh well, lockdown. If you do not think there are problems, then I dare say Mr Thomson's speech is looking great as well. Can we talk about the media story in the Age of 12 April 2012 on page 7? A pre-emptive story by Michelle Grattan stated: The federal government is expected to consider strengthening the penalties against union leaders who are found to have acted corruptly, after it sees the full extent of breaches by the Health Services Union.' Are we able to be told, Parliamentary Secretary, whether the minister's office provided a brief to Ms Grattan as to what was on the government's mind? Senator Jacinta Collins: I will have to take that on notice.

**Answer**

The Department has been advised that the Minister's office did not provide a brief to Ms Grattan.