

**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.** EW0289\_13

**Senator Abetz asked on 29 May 2012 , Hansard page 77**

**Question**

**Minister Shorten actions**

Senator ABETZ: .. Let us move on. We have Minister Shorten doing his best in the parliament on 19 March in question time in answer to the member for Sturt. He was asked about the Fair Work Australia report into the HSU Number 1 Branch in Victoria and whether he would refer it to the appropriate authorities, and Mr Shorten said: No, I said that I would draw it to the attention of the ATO, which was the earlier question asked. Can I ask, has the minister referred the Health Services Union Number 1 Branch report to the Australian Taxation Office? Ms Paul: I will have to take that on notice. Mr Kovacic: My recollection is that certainly there were further questions the next day in parliament where the minister answered that and certainly indicated that he had, but we will take it on notice to confirm that. Senator ABETZ: He was then asked by the member for Farrer, Ms Ley, and I think you are right, on the next day: ... has the minister referred the findings of this report to the Australian Taxation Office for further investigation? I think that may have been the previous day, in fact, and he said: We are certainly drawing it to the attention of the regulatory authorities to which we can. What is being done in this space by the minister? Ms Paul: I think we have just taken that on notice to check that out.

**Answer**

The report into the Victorian No. 1 Branch of the Health Services Union was drawn to the attention of the regulatory authorities as indicated by Minister Shorten in Question Time on 19 March.