

**SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
2 and 3 NOVEMBER 2005**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.1: Workplace relations policy and analysis

Output 2.1.1: Workplace relations policy advice

Question Number: W624-06

Question:

Senator Marshall asked in writing

According to page 7 of *WorkChoices*: “Minimum and award classification wages will be protected at the level set after the inclusion of the increase from the AIRC’s 2005 Safety Net Review. Minimum and award classification wages will not fall below this level and will increase as decided by the Fair Pay Commission.”

In this statement please define ‘wages’? Does ‘wages’ mean nominal wages or real wages?

Answer:

Minimum and award classification wages in the context of this statement refers to nominal wages.