

**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 1: Efficient and effective labour market assistance

Output Group: 1.2 Labour market programme management and delivery

Output: 1.2.2 Employment Services

Question Number: W659-06

Question:

Senator Siewert asked in writing: What incentives are there for employers to provide equipment and facilities to support workers with disabilities?

Answer:

A range of incentives are available to employers considering the employment of people with disabilities under the Employer Incentives Scheme (EIS).

The aim of the EIS is to better support employers remove barriers to the employment of people with a disability and improve opportunities for people with disabilities to work.

The EIS, offers employers support with:

- Wages through the Wage Subsidy Scheme;
- Free productivity based wage assessments under the Supported Wage System for workers with disabilities that due to their disability cannot be paid the full Award rate;
- Targeted workplace assistance under the Workplace Modifications Scheme; and
- Employment recruitment and post recruitment support through the National Disability Recruitment Coordination program.

In 2005 - 06 around \$10 million in assistance will be available to better support employers under these programmes. Around 6,700 job seekers with a disability are expected to be assisted under the EIS this year.

The Welfare to Work reforms have made available an additional \$30.1 million over four years for the EIS. This will increase the total value of the EIS to \$17.8 million per annum in 2008-09.