

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

**2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING
2ND NOVEMBER 2006**

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 3: Increased workforce participation

Output Group 3.1: Working age policy

Output 3.1.1: Working age policy and legislation

Question Number: W1022-07

Question:

Senator Siewert asked in writing:

What happens to the people who do not meet the remuneration part of suitable work if they are not being breached?

What happens to those people—they have met their activity test but they are not meeting the remuneration test?

Answer:

If a job seeker is not meeting the remuneration part of the sufficient work test they are required by Centrelink and/or their Provider of Australian Government Employment Services (PAGES) to undertake at least some job search activities and to accept offers of suitable paid work. If a job seeker does not undertake job search activities and is below the required remuneration threshold a participation failure may be applied depending on the particular circumstances.

The only exception to the above is for an income support recipient who is a Minister of Religion and either a principal carer or a person with a partial work capacity due to disability. Ministers of Religion in either of these categories only need to meet the hours component of the sufficient work test.

Estimated cost: Based on the FOI calculator it has taken approximately 3 hours at an estimated cost of \$80 to prepare this answer.