

**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

OFFICE OF WORKPLACE SERVICES

**Outcome 1 : The rights and obligations of workers and employers under the
Workplace Relations Act 1996 are understood and enforced fairly**

Output Group 1.1 : Education and Compliance Services

Question Number: W368-07

Question:

Senator Marshall asked in writing:

Broken down by month (totals and percentages), how many AWAs has the OEA referred to OWS since May this year due to not meeting the Australian Fair Pay and Conditions Standard? Can OWS please outline the process undertaken to ensure that these AWAs then comply with the Australian Fair Pay and Conditions Standard?

Answer:

1,701 AWAs were referred by the OEA to OWS up until the end of October 2006. These were from lodgements at various times from 27 March 2006.

OWS wrote to the employer and employee party to each AWA advising of the question(s) raised in the OEA referral. Employers were given 28 days to respond to the question(s) raised. If satisfactory information was not provided to OWS at the end of the 28 day period, an investigation may be conducted.

The inspector investigates any additional information provided to determine if in fact the terms of the AWA comply with the Australian Fair Pay and Conditions Standard (the Standard). In instances where the terms of the AWA are considered to provide conditions which would be in breach of the Standard, inspectors seek undertakings from the employer to voluntarily comply with the Standard or re-lodge the AWA. Employees are informed at each stage throughout this process.

Estimated Cost: To prepare this answer has taken approximately 4.1 hours at a cost of \$76.50