

**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

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE AGENCY

Outcome 1: Equality of Opportunity in employment for Women

Output Group: Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency

Output: Encouragement of Australian employers to improve equal opportunity outcomes for women in the workplace

Question Number: W527-07

Question:

Senator Wong tabled supplementary budget estimates questions on notice asking: has EOWA made an assessment about possible effects that may result from reporting every two years rather than every one?

Answer:

The Act currently allows organisations to be waived from reporting for more than two years. Reporting every two years recognises the time required to develop, implement and evaluate an employer's workplace program.

The Government's response to the Taskforce's recommendations is sensible and practical, reducing the paperwork, whilst maintaining Businesses' mandatory responsibility to have in place ongoing workplace programmes for women to address issues of equal opportunity.

The proposed change will also enable EOWA to provide more assistance and offer more resources to employers to help them develop their EO programs to advance women and business.