

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

**2006-2007 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING  
2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER 2006**

**EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplaces**

**Output Group 2.1: Workplace relations policy and analysis**

**Output 2.1.2: Workplace relations legislation development**

**Question Number: W626-07**

**Question:**

Senator Wong asked in writing:

Amendment of Regulations and Record Keeping Obligations – Reason for Changes

In relation to this matter, on what basis was a 12 month extension considered reasonable? Did the Minister seek or did DEWR provide advice in relation to other periods of time or scrapping the requirements altogether?

**Answer:**

The Workplace Relations Regulations 2006 provided a transitional period of six months during which employers could not be prosecuted for failure to comply with the record keeping requirements to give employers time to adjust to the new requirements.

The Government decided to extend the existing transitional period by another six months to provide employers with additional time to ensure compliance with the new record keeping requirements and to consider representations from stakeholders and constituents regarding the new record keeping requirements as they affected different industries and workplaces.

The Government announced changes to the record keeping requirements on 13 November 2006.

**Estimated cost:** Based on the FOI calculator it has taken approximately 4 hours at an estimated cost of \$80 to prepare this answer.