

**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 workplace**

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

**Output 2.1.1: Workplace relations policy advice**

**Question Number: W727-07**

**Question:**

Senator Wong asked in writing:

State Wage Case

Could you please explain why the Federal Minister withdrew from the NSW State Wage Case?

**Answer:**

The Commonwealth intervened in the NSW State Wage Case in the public interest and submitted that the NSW Industrial Relations Commission (NSW IRC) defer a decision in the matter until it had the opportunity to consider the deliberations and decision of the Australian Fair Pay Commission in Spring 2006. The Commonwealth withdrew when it became apparent that the NSW IRC was going to continue to hear and determine the NSW State Wage Case regardless.

**Estimated cost:** Based on the FOI calculator it has taken approximately 3 hours at an estimated cost of \$60 to prepare this answer.