

**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 3.2: Labour market strategies

Output 3.2.1: Labour Market Analysis

Question Number: W832-07

Question:

Senator Wong asked in writing:

457 Visas

Keeping in mind that approximately 30 per cent of workers on any Australian Meat Plant are deemed skilled workers. If employers have numbers surplus to their needs and are able to pay at low rates, can they use skilled persons in unskilled jobs?

Answer:

All temporary business (subclass 457) visa holders must be engaged at the gazetted minimum salary (referenced to a standard 38 hour working week) applicable to the region in which their operations are based or the relevant industrial instrument, whichever is the higher. Subclass 457 visa holders must be provided with full-time employment in the skilled occupation to which they are recruited.