

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2008-09 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

Outcome 1

DEEWR Question No. EW 863_09

Senator Hanson-Young asked on 22 October 2008, Hansard page 94.

Question

Government funding to ABC Learning

Can you confirm reports that the government has been asked by ABC Learning for an emergency injection of funds or that it has been approached in any way for a buy-out of the company?

Answer

Since the Estimates hearing ABC Learning has entered into voluntary administration and receivership. Since that time, the Australian Government has committed up to \$22m conditional funding to ensure that the receiver can keep all ABC Learning child care centres open and providing care until 31 December 2008. The \$22m represents the possible costs of supporting the continued operation of the unprofitable ABC centres for two months and will allow the receivers to go through in orderly transition phase.