

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Agency - Fair Work Australia

DEEWR Question No. EW0722_12

Senator Abetz asked on 19 October 2011 , Hansard page 12

Question

Annual wage review 2011-12.

Senator ABETZ: A statement was made in relation to the annual wage review 2011-12. Paragraph 3 informs us: The process will include: • the identification of resource materials; • brief written submissions by interested parties; ... What is meant by the term 'interested parties', and that term is also used in paragraph 4. Are they what we might crudely describe as 'all the normal suspects' or will individuals be able to make submission as well? Is it up to anybody who is generally interested? Mr Giudice: As you know I do not normally canvass statements and decisions in this forum. Senator ABETZ: This is not a decision. This is a statement to the public saying that the process will include brief written submissions by interested parties. If I am Joe Bloggs, punter on the street, saying, 'Hey, Mr Giudice, I'm interested,' will I have the right to make a submission? That is what I am asking. What does the term 'interested parties' mean? Mr Giudice: What is the heading on that statement, Senator? Senator ABETZ: It is the Fair Work Australia Statement Annual Wage Review. It was by yourself, Senior Deputy President Watson, Senior Deputy President Harrison, Commissioner Hampton, Mr Vines, Professor Richardson and Mr Dwyer. It was dated Melbourne, 7 October 2011. I do not think it was a judicial determination or anything of that nature, but was a statement about the minimum wage panel. Mr Giudice: I must say that I am slightly at a loss, Senator. Senator ABETZ: You were in the other part of the continent, and that is understood. If you could take it on notice.

Answer

Fair Work Australia has provided the following response:

The Statement referred to by Senator Abetz is Fair Work Australia *Annual Wage Review 2011–12 Statement* (7 October 2011) [2011] FWAFB 6887. The Statement can be found on the Fair Work Australia website via the following link:

<http://www.fwa.gov.au/decisionssigned/html/2011fwafb6887.htm>