

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
FEDERAL COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Question No. 23

Senator Abetz asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2010:

Is the current Hobart District Registrar paid more or less than the previous registrar?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The total remuneration package for the current Hobart District Registrar is less than that for the previous District Registrar.

On 19 November 2009, Parliament passed the *Access to Justice (Civil Litigation Reforms) Amendment Act 2009*. The Act amended section 34 of the *Federal Court of Australia Act 1976* to require the Federal Court Registrar to 'ensure that at least one Registry in each State is staffed appropriately to discharge the functions of a District Registry, with the staff to include a District Registrar in that State'.

Given this statutory requirement, the District Registrar position was reinstated as a Federal Court Legal 1 having regard to the findings of the review of the workload and structure of the Tasmanian Registry.

The remuneration package of the current District Registrar was negotiated with regard to the requirements of the position and the skills and experience the candidate brings to the role.