

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

### **(97) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry**

Senator Conroy asked:

1. Are the minimum rates of pay that employers of 457 visa holders required to satisfy gross or net figures?
2. If for example an employee on a 457 visa was being paid \$100 by an employer, but was required for some reason to pay the employer \$20, what would the department consider the employee to have been paid?
3. Is the Department aware of any instances in which the holders of 457 visas being forced to pay sums of money to their employer?

*Answer:*

1. The Minimum Salary Level (MSL) refers to a gross (before tax) annual salary, exclusive of any non-salary benefits or deductions.
2. The employee must be paid the full MSL. No deductions from the MSL are allowable (except Tax).
3. There have been instances where the Department has become aware of salary deductions being made by an employer. These instances are investigated by the Department.