

**Queensland Council of Unions submission to the Standing Committee on  
Education, Employment and Workplace Relations into the Fair Work Bill 2008**

**20 February 2009**

**Questions on Notice  
Inquiry into the Fair Work Bill 2008**

Senator Abetz on 27 February 2009 page 34

**Question**

*Would you be able to live with limitations being placed on the accessing of records? That is, access being limited just to specific issues. For example, if the allegation is only underpayment that it only be the wages record that is made available as opposed to all other matters that I have just referred to?*

**Response**

When investigating a suspected breach there may be a range of material that will assist in assessing whether the suspicion of the breach correlates to an actual breach. By indicating at the outset limitations on the employer records to be accessed may limit the affective investigation of that suspected breach.

Senator Cameron on 27 February 2009 page 37

**Question**

*Could you give us some examples of the problems that workers have had in not being able to access union representation under the previous work choices legislation and why the new legislation is a better proposition for workers' rights? ...*

*Have there been any specific problems for access in remote construction or mining operations?*

**Answer**

The size and distribution of workers in Qld has meant that in rural and remote areas (this would include construction and mining operations) instances where an employer denies access can result in an extended time delay in securing a settlement around these issues.