



**AUSTRALIAN SENATE**  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016-17  
Wednesday, 19 October 2016  
Daily summary

The committee met from 9.00am until 11.00pm.

The committee called:

- the department and agencies of the employment portfolio, including Comcare, the Fair Work Commission (FWC), the Fair Work Ombudsman and the Fair Work Building Industry Inspectorate.

Issues discussed included:

- APS bargaining processes
- Payments to host organisations in the JobActive scheme
- The micro-policy of the Job Active program, including insurance arrangements where welfare recipients are not in an employment relationship but are undertaking an internship
- The death of a Work for the Dole participant at the Toowoomba showgrounds
- The Youth Path program
- Deaths on construction sites
- Former Vice-President Lawler's resignation from the FWC
- Events leading to the government's view that the Registered Organisations Commission is necessary
- Cost of defending Comcare decisions in the courts
- The legal definition of psycho-social injury used by Comcare
- Decisions of the Fair Work Commission in cases involving Ms Kimberley Kitching
- Results of the Fair Work's Ombudsman's survey on backpacker exploitation
- The behaviour of Construction, Forestry, Mining and Energy Union (CFMEU) officials on building sites
- The cessation of a funding MoU between the Commonwealth Ombudsman and the Fair Work Building Industry Inspectorate