

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2010-11 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross - EOWA

Question No: 205

Topic: “Making it Fair” Report Recommendations

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Cash asked:

With reference to the House of Representatives, Standing Committee on Employment and Workplace Relations, Report, *Making it Fair*, dated November 2009 to which the Agency made a submission and ask in respect of Recommendation 32: *That the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Act 1999 be repealed and the functions of the office be incorporated in the proposed Pay Equity Act.*

- Does the Agency support the recommendation?
- Has the Agency undertaken any research, received any advice or commissioned any consultancies to enquire into this issue?
- What would be the impact of such a change?
- What are the underlying public policy issues that would support such a change?
- What are the advantages of such a change?
- What are the disadvantages of such a change?
- What policy decisions have been made on this issue and what the proposed timelines are?

Answer:

The Government’s response to the House of Representatives, Standing Committee on Employment and Workplace Relations, Report, *Making it Fair*, is being developed. This is a matter for Government and not for the Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency (EOWA). Until an announcement is made on such matters, EOWA will continue with its principal role of administering the *Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Act 1999*.

The EOWA has not undertaken any research, received any advice or commissioned any consultancies to enquire into this issue.