

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2012-2013**

Outcome 4 – Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0044_13

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

Minister's statement of 23 February

"Reference is made to the Minister's statement of 23 February. 1) Does the Minister stand by his statement that "no responsible Minister can condone or support unlawful behaviour as a way to resolve industrial issues." 2) Does the Minister continue to support trade unions found to have contravened through successful prosecutions industrial relations law – be it the Fair Work Ombudsman or the Australian Building and Construction Commission."

Answer

- 1) The Minister stands by his statement.
- 2) The Minister does not support contraventions of the Fair Work legislation, or the law more generally, by unions, employers, or anyone.