

Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011

Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations

DEEWR Question No.EW0595_11

Question

Australian Industry Group letter to the Minister

Senator ABETZ—We in the coalition identified in the committee report on the Fair Work Bill some of these things that are now being considered, but I fully accept that this is a policy issue for the government to consider. Ms Paul, have you seen a copy of the letter that Australian Industry Group wrote to the minister in recent times with an attachment of about four or five pages of policy concerns or workplace relations issues? Ms Paul—I do not believe I have. Senator ABETZ—What about you, Mr Kovacic? Mr Kovacic—I saw it only yesterday. Senator ABETZ—Could you possibly take it on notice? Ms Paul—I think we will need to, because I have not seen it at all yet. Senator ABETZ—Please include any response you might have for the concerns expressed there—are those concerns valid or not? Ms Paul—We are happy to do so

Answer

Ms Heather Ridout, CEO of the Australian Industry Group (Ai Group) wrote to Senator Chris Evans, Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations on 1 October 2010 expressing the Ai Group's concerns regarding a range of workplace relations issues.

The Minister is considering the issues raised in Ms Ridout's letter.