Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace Relations

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2012-2013

Outcome 4 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0664_13

Senator Abetz asked on 17 October 2012 Hansard page 108

Refers to previous DEEWR Parliamentary Question No 1920.

Question

Related to PQ 1920 - Individual flexibility agreements

Senator ABETZ: I am willing to put all this aside. I am willing to forget about all that. I want to know: is it the government's current position or not that the 28-day rule is an impediment to the use of individual flexibility agreements? Is it? Senator Jacinta Collins: I think I answered this question in part in a response in the earlier discussion about the National Workplace Relations Consultative Council and where we were going with the recommendations of the review. But what I would like to do, looking at this question now, is note your comments about there being a Hansard reference, refer to it and then look at a response.

Answer

The Government is considering this issue in the context of its response to the Fair Work Act Review and has neither ruled in or out amendments to the Fair Work Act 2009 to alter the time frame for the unilateral termination of individual flexibility arrangements (IFAs).