

Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Committee

The committee met on Wednesday, 13 February 2013 from 9.00 am until 11.01 pm.

The committee called the:

- Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and agencies of the Employment and Workplace Relations portfolio, including the Fair Work Ombudsman, Safe Work Australia, Comcare and the Office of the Fair Work Building Industry Inspectorate.

Among other issues, the following issues were discussed:

- the rationale for the name change of Fair Work Australia to the Fair Work Commission and the associated costs involved
- the division of time for the President of the Fair Work Commission between duties at the Commission and the Federal Court
- activities of the Fair Work Ombudsman in relation to compliance in the hospitality industry
- staffing levels at Safe Work Australia
- annual spending on research concerning safety regulations for the use of motor vehicles by children under the age of sixteen
- the role of the Director of the Fair Work Building Industry Inspectorate in comparison with the previous role within the former Australian Building and Construction Commission
- the appropriateness of public statements of the Director of the Fair Work Building Inspectorate in defence of the agency
- employment services
- flexible working arrangements
- protections for paternal leave and pregnant workers.