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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

Chair: Ms Amanda Rishworth MP Deputy Chair: Mr Rowan Ramsey MP

INQUIRY INTO PROPOSAL TO REASSESS WORK/LIFE BALANCE

On 16 February 2012 the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Education and Employment was referred the Fair Work Amendment (Better Work/Life Balance) Bill 2012.

The Bill was introduced by Mr Adam Bandt (Member for Melbourne) on 13 February 2012. Under the current National Employment Standards, which are part of the *Fair Work Act 2009*, employees have the right to request flexible working arrangements to care for a child under school age or under 18 years of age and has a disability.

The Amendment Bill proposes to extend the right to request flexible working arrangements to all employees and to increase Fair Work Australia's power to determine and enforce reasonable requests under the legislation.

The Committee has called for submissions to the inquiry to be received by 29 February 2012.

For information on the inquiry: contact the Secretariat on (02) 6277 4573 email <u>ee.reps@aph.gov.au</u> or visit the Committee's website at <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/ee</u>