

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 17 June 2009

Chair – Sharryn Jackson MP

Still not there... Legislative reform further required for pay equity

The Law Council of Australia and the Victorian Bar will appear before the House of Representatives Employment and Workplace Relations Committee at a public hearing on Thursday 18 June for its inquiry into pay equity and associated issues related to increasing female participation in the workforce.

Committee Chair, Sharryn Jackson MP, said today "legislative reform is back on the agenda with a call for further legislative change to address pay equity issues with two of the Committee's terms of reference specifically focusing on:

- The adequacy of recent and current equal remuneration provisions in state and federal workplace relations legislation; and
- The need for further legislative reform to address pay equity in Australia.

The evidence from the Law Council of Australia and the Victorian Bar draw on expertise and advice from the Equalising Opportunities in the Law Committee and the Equal Opportunity Committee respectively.

The Committee looks forward to discussing possible strategies and solutions to addressing the challenges that face women within the legal profession and in the wider community."

Event:	Public hearing – Pay equity and associated issues related to increasing women's participation in the workforce.
Date/Time:	Thursday, 18 June 2009, 11.15 am
Where:	Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Canberra
Webcast:	(Audio only) Live on http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/

The Committee will continue to welcome submissions to the inquiry.

Further details on the inquiry, including the terms of reference, background documents, membership of the Committee and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee's website at <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/ewr</u>, by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4162 or emailing <u>ewr.reps@aph.gov.au</u>.

For media comment, please contact the Committee Chair, Sharryn Jackson, on (02) 6277 4044 **For background information**, contact the Committee Secretary, on (02) 6277 4162