Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-2015

Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EM1642_15

Senator Lines provided in writing.

Question

Appellate jurisdiction to the Fair Work Commission

Is this idea still being considered by the Department? What progress has been made since submissions were received? Can the Department give details of; - The structure of the body? - The parameters of the body? - The cost to establish the body? - How the establishment of the body would affect the appellate jurisdiction of the Federal Court of Australia? - When the terms of reference will be released? - Who is being considered as president? - Would this displace the current Full Bench of the Commission?

Answer

The Government is giving active consideration to this issue, consistent with the Coalition's Policy to improve the Fair Work laws.