

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Supplementary Budget Estimates 2016 - 2017

Outcome 2 – Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000837

Senator Marshall asked on 19 October 2016 on proof Hansard page Hansard page 93

Question

Domestic Violence Leave clauses in Enterprise Agreements

Senator MARSHALL: How many enterprise agreements have domestic violence leave in them?

Ms O'Neill: I cannot help you there, either. We do not collect that data. It would require an analysis of all agreements that have been approved. To my recollection we have actually answered a series of questions on that precise question. So I will take the question on notice.

Answer

The Workplace Agreements Database is managed by the Department of Employment and contains information about every federal collective agreement made since 1991.

For agreements approved prior to 1 January 2016, the Workplace Agreements Database records only the incidence of agreements that mention domestic violence provisions. 8.0% of all current enterprise agreements (that is, not expired or terminated) as at 30 June 2016 had a clause which mentioned domestic violence. Relevant provisions may include an entitlement to use already-existing leave (paid or unpaid), additional leave (paid or unpaid), flexible working arrangements or access to counselling or other support.

For agreements approved after 1 January 2016, the Workplace Agreements Database captures more detailed data. This shows that of the 2,153 enterprise agreements approved between 1 January 2016 and 30 June 2016, 124 (or 5.8 per cent) provided for some paid domestic violence leave in addition to all other leave entitlements.