

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. EMSQ16-000849

Senator Di Natale provided in writing.

Question

Migrant Workers - exploitation by franchisees

With reference to some of the other actions announced by the government in relation to migrant workers:

Introducing new provisions that capture franchisors who fail to deal with exploitation by their franchisees.

- What is the timeline for this?
- What is the process?

Answer

A bill to implement the Government's Protecting Vulnerable Workers Policy is currently being drafted. It will include the policy to introduce new provisions that capture franchisors or parent companies who fail to deal with exploitation by their franchisees or subsidiaries.

The Government expects to introduce this legislation in the 2017 Autumn sittings of Parliament.

Consultations to inform the development of the bill were held with representatives from employer groups, unions, community groups and academics on 24 and 25 October 2016.

In accordance with standard practice for amendments to the *Fair Work Act 2009*, a draft bill will be considered by a meeting of the Committee on Industrial Legislation in early December 2016.