

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2009-2010**

Agency - Fair Work Australia

DEEWR Question No.EW0968_10

Senator Abetz asked on 10/02/2010, Hansard page 64.

Question

FWA - RESEARCH

Senator ABETZ—Of course, I might be interested in whether you are able to commission independent research on superannuation. I ask that question in general terms to see whether that is a possibility. Mr Lee—We do have an overview of the information that the president was alluding to in terms of the research undertaken for the minimum wage, but we are happy to take that on notice and to provide the detail.

Answer

Fair Work Australia has provided the following response:

Section 288 of the *Fair Work Act 2009*, in relation to the conduct of annual wage reviews, refers section 590 which deals with FWA's discretion to inform itself as it considers appropriate, including by commissioning research.

Section 590 provides that FWA may, except as provided by this Act, inform itself in relation to any matter before it in such manner as it considers appropriate including by undertaking or commissioning research.

The legislation does not prescribe the research to be undertaken.

There is currently no research on superannuation being undertaken.