

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

**SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE - QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
2008-09 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING**

Outcome 9

DEEWR Question No. EW98_09

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Refers to previous DEEWR Question No EW97_09.

Question

Forward With Fairness

Is it possible for parties to these agreements to take industrial action in support of an extension or variation prior to the nominal expiry date of these agreements?

Answer

The *Workplace Relations Act 1996* (WR Act) does not permit industrial action to be taken in these circumstances. Sections 494 and 495 of the WR Act prohibit industrial action being organised or engaged in by parties to a workplace agreement before the nominal expiry date of the agreement.