EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS

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

Outcome 9

DEEWR Question No. EW99_09

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

Workplace agreements and prohibited content

When varying or extending agreements made prior to 28 March 2008, will it be possible to include content that was previously considered prohibited content under the WorkChoices reforms?

Answer

The *Workplace Relations Act 1996* prohibits the inclusion of "prohibited content" in workplace agreements. Agreements that were made prior to the commencement of Work Choices (ie pre-reform agreements) must comply with the restrictions on content that were in place under the legislation at that time.