SENATE EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

2005-2006 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET SENATE ESTIMATES HEARING 2 and 3 NOVEMBER 2005

EMPLOYMENT AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.1: Workplace relations policy and analysis

Output 2.1.2: Workplace relations legislation development

Question Number: W590-06

Question:

Senator Wong asked at *Hansard* page 104:

What aspects of the Legislation are, in effect, the same as provisions of the 1996 bill referred to as 'WROLA', not passed by the Senate at that time?

Answer:

There are a number of provisions in the Workplace Relations Amendment (Work Choices) Act 2005 that are similar in content or intent to provisions that were initially proposed in the Workplace Relations Amendment and Other Legislation Amendment Bill.

However, the provisions in the 2005 Act do not necessarily reflect exactly the 1996 proposals. Changes have been made to reflect changes in circumstances (including subsequent amendments to the Workplace Relations Act), and the need for the provisions to interact appropriately with the WorkChoices framework generally.

It would involve an unreasonable diversion of the department's resources to identify each provision.