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

QUESTION ON NOTICE

Outcome 2: Higher productivity, higher pay workplace

Output Group 2.1: Workplace relations policy and analysis

Output 2.1.1: Workplace relations policy advice

Question Number: W612-06

Question:

Senator Marshall asked in writing:

What will be required to terminate a 'transitional agreement' that was previously a State agreement? Upon being terminated, will the employees covered by such an agreement become award free?

Answer:

The Workplace Relations Amendment (WorkChoices) Act 2006 provides that the termination of preserved State agreements (transitional State agreements) may only occur using the same termination procedures that applied immediately before the commencement of the reforms.

If a preserved State agreement, whether individual or collective, is terminated, employees will be protected by the Australian Fair Pay and Conditions Standard.