

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

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012**

Outcome 5 - Workplace Relations & Economic Strategy

DEEWR Question No. EW0502_12

Senator Abetz provided in writing.

Question

Fair Work Act

1. Has the Department provided any advice to the Minister that aspects of the Fair Work Act need clarification? a. If so, please provide details including the date, nature of advice and the aspect of the Act. 2. Has the Department provided any advice to the Minister to intervene in any matters before the courts or industrial disputes? a. If so, please provide details including the date, nature of advice and the aspect of the Act.

Answer

The department provides advice on a wide range of workplace relations issues, including matters relating to the operation of the *Fair Work Act 2009* and regarding possible interventions in matters before the courts and with respect to industrial disputes.

The further information sought in respect of such advice is subject to legal professional privilege and also goes to the nature of advice provided. For these reasons, it would not be appropriate to provide the information sought.