



Senate Education and Employment Legislation Committee
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2019-20
Wednesday, 23 October 2019
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Education and Employment Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am to 10.40pm.

The committee called the department and agencies of the Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business portfolio, including Industrial Relations. The committee took evidence from the Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business (DESSFB), Australian Small Business and Family Enterprise Ombudsman, and Australian Skills Quality Authority. With regard to industrial relations matters, the committee took evidence from the Attorney-General's Department, Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Corporation, Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency (ASEA), Australian Building and Construction Commission (ABCC), Fair Work Ombudsman (FWO), Fair Work Commission (FWC), Registered Organisations Commission (ROC), Safe Work Australia (SWA), and Comcare.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- DESSFB's Jobactive – statistics regarding job placements;
- implementation of the Migrant Work Taskforce recommendations;
- Industrial Relations Minister's review of industrial relations;
- process by which appointments to the FWC are made;
- worker entitlement matters pertaining to coal miners;
- ASEA's new plan including eight national measurable targets;
- ABCC's actions in relation to breaches of the Fair Work Act;
- work of FWO's newly established Sham Contracting Unit;
- FWO's work to address underpayment of worker wages;
- FWC's role under legislation regarding modern awards;
- FWC's resourcing and staffing levels;
- worker fatalities and the data set of SWA; and
- Comcare's progress in improving its claims management service.

The committee will next meet at **9.00am** on Thursday, 24 October in Senate Committee Room 2S3.