The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

THE SENATE

Workplace Relations Amendment (Transition to Forward with Fairness) Bill 2008

(Amendments to be moved by Senator Siewert on behalf of the Australian Greens in committee of the whole)

[Ammendments in relation to award modernisation]

(1) Schedule 2, item 9, page 90 (after line 17), after paragraph 576A(2)(b), insert:
   (ba) must ensure award coverage to all employees, except those employees who, because of the seniority of their role, have traditionally not been covered by an award; and

[award coverage]

(2) Schedule 2, item 9, page 90 (line 26), at the end of subsection 576A(2), add:
   ; and (f) must ensure equal pay for work of equal value.

[pay equity]

(3) Schedule 2, item 9, page 90 (line 26), at the end of subsection 576A(2), add:
   ; and (g) must be regularly reviewed to ensure that they remain relevant to the rapidly changing structures of work and the labour market.

[regular review of awards]

(4) Schedule 2, item 9, page 91 (after line 6), after paragraph 576B(2)(a), insert:
   (aa) the need to ensure all employees are covered by modern awards, except those employees who, because of the seniority of their role, have traditionally not been covered by an award;

[pay equity]

(5) Schedule 2, item 9, page 91 (after line 24), after paragraph 576B(2)(h), insert:
   (ha) the need for rates of pay and classifications to provide equal pay for work of equal value;

[pay equity]

(6) Schedule 2, item 9, page 96 (line 8), at the end of subsection 576J(1), add:
   ; (k) exceptional matters where the circumstances of the industry or sector warrant such matters being included in the award.
(7) Schedule 2, item 9, page 99 (after line 23), after subsection 576T(1), insert:

(1A) Despite subsection (1), a modern award may include terms and conditions of employment of the kind referred to in subsection (1) if the AIRC is of the opinion that such conditions are necessary to provide a fair minimum safety net.

[State-based differences in awards]