



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE:**  
**ADDITIONAL ANSWERS**

**Workplace Relations**

**SPEECH**

**Thursday, 30 November 2006**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## SPEECH

<b>Date</b> Thursday, 30 November 2006	<b>Source</b> House
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<b>Questioner</b>	<b>Responder</b>
<b>Speaker</b> Mr ANDREWS,MP	<b>Question No.</b>

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**Mr ANDREWS** (Menzies—Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations and Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service) (3.10 pm)—Mr Speaker, I seek the indulgence of the chair to add to an answer.

**The SPEAKER**—The minister may proceed.

**Mr ANDREWS**—I was asked a question by the member for Perth about a letter containing some advice from the Office of the Employment Advocate to Aboriginal Hostels Ltd. I am advised that an employee of the OEA did write to Aboriginal Hostels Ltd on 16 October, in which advice was provided with respect to the negotiation of a collective agreement. I am further advised that the OEA employee was not authorised to provide such advice, and subsequently the Deputy Employment Advocate wrote to Mr Keith Clarke, General Manager of Aboriginal Hostels Ltd, on 1 November informing him: ‘The OEA unconditionally withdraws the letter of 16 October and the contents of the advice should not be relied upon.’ Once again, the member for Perth has come in here and failed to disclose the full story. He did not tell the House that there was a subsequent follow-up letter from the Office of the Employment Advocate.