

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE — SAFE WORK AUSTRALIA

Question without Notice 644 — Answer Advice

HON KEN BASTON (Mining and Pastoral — Minister for Agriculture and Food) [5.07 pm]: I have an answer that I would like to provide on behalf of the Minister for Commerce in response to Hon Kate Doust's question without notice 644 asked yesterday. I seek leave to have it incorporated into *Hansard*.

Leave granted. [See paper 1572.]

The following material was incorporated —

- (1) On 3 July 2008, COAG formalised its commitment to the harmonisation of occupational health and safety laws by means of an Inter-Governmental Agreement which included the provision of funding for the operation of Safe Work Australia the national body tasked with overseeing the development and maintenance of harmonised occupational health and safety laws in Australia. Part 4 of the IGA required States and Territories to provide a 50 per cent share of the funding for the operation of Safe Work Australia, distributed between the States and Territories on a proportionate basis by population.
 - (2) Government resolved for this commitment to be sourced within current budget appropriations.
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