

MINIMUM WAGE, INCREASE

325. Mr BROWN to the Minister for Labour Relations:

- (1) Further to question on notice No 2299 of 2000, did the minister advise that the State minimum wage under the Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993 is \$368.00 per week?
- (2) Is the minister aware that the Western Australian Industrial Relations Commission has now handed down a decision increasing the minimum award wage?
- (3) If so, what is the minimum award wage awarded by the commission in its recent decision?
- (4) In light of the decision of the commission, does the minister intend to review the State minimum wage under the Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993?
- (5) If so, when?
- (6) If not, why not?
- (7) Does the minister envisage revising upwards the State minimum wage under the Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993 before the end of this calendar year?
- (8) If not, why not?

Mrs EDWARDES replied:

- (1)-(2) Yes.
- (3) \$400.40 per week.
- (4) No.
- (5) Not applicable.
- (6)-(8) Section 15(1) of Part 3 of the Minimum Conditions of Employment Act 1993 stipulates that the Minister for Labour Relations must not publish orders less than 12 months apart. The Minimum Weekly Rates of Pay Order 2000 was issued on 1 March 2000; therefore, the Adult Minimum Wage cannot be adjusted until 1 March 2001.