

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT, WORK-RELATED FATALITIES AND SERIOUS
INJURIES

985. Hon. C.L. Edwardes to the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection; Training

Does the Minister propose to amend the Occupational Health and Safety Act 1984 to introduce an industrial manslaughter offence, or make any changes on offences and/or penalties for workplace deaths?

Mr KOBELKE replied:

The question of penalties applicable in cases of work related fatalities and serious injuries is under consideration in the context of the statutory review of the Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984 currently being undertaken by former Industrial Relations Commissioner Robert Laing.

WorkSafe Western Australia raised the question of the level of penalties being awarded in its submission to the review, recommending that they be examined with a view to bringing them into line with community expectations.