Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

1 June – 3 June 2010

Question: BET 58

Topic: Building the Education Revolution - Funding

Hansard Page: E66 (02/06/2010)

Senator EGGLESTON asked:

Senator EGGLESTON—Obviously the department's advice was sought about the need for additional funding and I presume the department's advice was that additional funding should be provided for this program. Or was that not it?

Mr Ray—That is going to what our advice was. I am happy to take it on notice but, as you know, it would be very unusual for it to be provided.

Senator EGGLESTON—We would be interested to know how you felt the program was going.

Senator Sherry—I love the way you say you would just be interested to know. Mr Ray has made the position clear. It is advice to the minister.

Senator BUSHBY—You could provide the answer in accordance with the orders of the Senate.

Mr Ray—I said I am happy to take the question on notice.

Senator Sherry—I am more than happy for the question to be taken on notice.

Answer:

Treasury provided advice in the context of additional funding but the content and nature of that advice cannot be provided as it is a matter of policy.