

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Budget Estimates 2013-2014**

**Outcome 3 - Employment**

**DEEWR Question No.** EW0159\_14

**Senator Cash asked on 4 June 2013, Hansard page 61**

**Question**

**Exemptions from the newly arrived migrant waiting period**

Mr Brown: A more practical question might be: how many people have been exempted from the newly arrived migrant waiting period? Senator CASH: Perhaps I should put that question on notice! Thank you so much for that suggestion.

**Answer**

Under the *Social Security Act 1991*, exemption from the newly arrived resident's waiting period (104 week qualifying Australian residency requirement) can be granted in exceptional circumstance.

As at 29 March 2013, 21 898 DEEWR income support payment recipients had been granted an exemption to the newly arrived resident's waiting period.