

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Budget Estimates Hearing – May 2010

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 1, Program 1.1

Topic: Finance Minister – FMA Regulation 10 authorisations

Question reference number: F8a and F8b

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 27, 26 May 2010

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 9 July 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Ryan asked:

For the number of authorisations provided by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation (Finance Minister), over the past two financial years, under Regulation 10 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Regulations 1997* (FMA Regulations).

Answer:

FMA Regulation 10 provides that if any of the expenditure under a spending proposal is expenditure for which an appropriation of money is not authorised by the provisions of an existing law or a proposed law that is before the Parliament, an approver must not approve the proposal unless the Finance Minister has given written authorisation for the approval.

The Finance Minister has delegated his power to provide authorisations under FMA Regulation 10, within limits, to the Chief Executives of agencies under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*. The Department of Finance and Deregulation tabled a summary of the limits under the delegation at the 26 May 2010 hearings of the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee.