

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee  
—Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2014**

**Answers to Questions on Notice**

**Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services**

Topic: **Portrait sitting fee**  
Question: **192**  
Hansard Reference **p 41-42, 26 May 2014**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2014**

**Senator SMITH:** The previous sitting fee—most immediate to the current sitting fee—what was that?

**Ms Mills:** I would have to confirm this, but I believe it was \$20,000. I believe that had been in place for many years and was obviously out of sync with the current value of such portraits.

**Senator SMITH:** Please correct me if my understanding of what you have shared with us is wrong. The current sitting fee is \$30,000 for official portraits. That current sitting fee has been in place for approximately two years.

**Ms Mills:** Yes. I would have to confirm that date.

**Senator SMITH:** The previous sitting fee was \$20,000 and that had been in place for some time.

**Ms Mills:** Yes, that is my recollection, but I do not have the specifics in front of me.

**Answer**

The current sitting fee of \$30,000 (GST exclusive) has been in place since 11 June 2011.

The sitting fee of \$20,000 (GST exclusive) was in place from 1995 until 11 June 2011.