

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Treasury Portfolio
3 November 2014

Department/ Agency: Treasury

Topic: Inquiry into the Competition and Consumer Amendment (Misuse of Market Power) Bill 2014

Reference: Thursday, 2 October 2014 – Hansard, page 15

Senator: Canavan

Question:

Senator CANAVAN: Have you done any studies on increases in food prices in Australia, relative to other countries? Or has Treasury done that?

Mr Dolman: I would have to take that on notice.

Answer:

Treasury has not undertaken any such studies.

However, we note that on 22 January 2008 the Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Competition Policy & Consumer Affairs requested the ACCC to hold a public inquiry into the competitiveness of retail prices for standard groceries pursuant to Part VIIA of the Trade Practices Act 1974. The ACCC provided its report to the Assistant Treasurer and Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs on 31 July 2008.

In addition, Treasury made a submission 4 October 2011 to the Senate Select Committee on Australia's Food Processing Sector.