

Question on notice no. 344

Portfolio question number: 114

2021-22 Budget estimates

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee, Defence Portfolio

Senator Janet Rice: asked the Department of Defence on 2 June 2021—

Earlier versions of the Army Dress Manual have included the "Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade (first Saturday in March, including the week preceding the parade) -Army Pride Pin" in the list of authorised occasions to wear a "poppy/badge/ribbon/pin", while the current version does not.

When was it removed?

Whose decision was it to remove it?

What was the prompt for removal?

Answer —

Answer attached

Defence Portfolio

SENATE ESTIMATES QUESTION

(Question No. 114)

Senator Janet Rice asked the Department of Defence the following question, upon notice, on 9 June 2021:

Earlier versions of the Army Dress Manual have included the “Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras Parade (first Saturday in March, including the week preceding the parade)—Army Pride Pin” in the list of authorised occasions to wear a “poppy/badge/ribbon/pin”, while the current version does not.

When was it removed?

Whose decision was it to remove it?

What was the prompt for removal?

Senator Janet Rice – The Department of Defence provides the following answer to the Senator’s question:

The decision to withdraw the authority to wear the Army Pride Pin was made in 2018.

The decision was made by Army Headquarters.

The removal of the Army Pride Pin was prompted by negative media attention following reports detailing an initiative to use the rainbow flag to identify LGBTI allies in the Defence Corporate Directory.