

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 29 MAY 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Debt Recovery

Question reference number: HS 57

Senator: Siewert

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 27 July 2012

Number of pages: 1

Question:

At 31 December 2010, indicate the number and percentage of standard and non-standard withholding arrangements.

Answer:

As at 31 December 2010, there were 144,922 standard withholding arrangements in place, or 29.3 per cent of the total withholdings arrangements; and 241,030 non-standard withholdings arrangements, being 62.4 per cent.

Note: the remaining 8.3 per cent is withholdings arrangements in place with third parties. A third party, who is also an income support recipient, may voluntarily agree to repay another customer's debt via withholdings from their own payment. Most commonly, this occurs in the case of a spouse or parent.