

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND**  
**INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO**  
**2013-14 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number:** 3

**Question No:** 153

**Topic:** Problem Gambling

**Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Cash** asked:

In terms of problem gambling regulations, is there any further legislative hurdle that needs to come before the parliament to be overcome before the Government is able to pass regulation?

**Answer:**

Consistent with the consultation requirements under the *Legislative Instruments Act 2003*, the Department is undertaking targeted face-to-face consultations with industry, community groups and state and territory government to seek their feedback on what might be prescribed in the regulations, where these parties may be affected by proposed regulations. It is intended that exposure draft regulations will also be released and consulted on before the regulations are finalised, where appropriate.

The text of the instrument is to be approved by the relevant Minister. The instrument is then made by the Governor General in Executive Council. As soon as practicable after making a legislative instrument, the maker must lodge the instrument and its explanatory material with the Office of Parliamentary Counsel (OPC) for registration – instruments are not enforceable unless they are registered.

The instrument is registered and made public on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments. Once an instrument is registered, it is taken to be enforceable from the date of commencement. OPC must arrange for the instrument to be tabled in each House of Parliament within six sitting days of being registered.

Once tabled, a legislative instrument is normally subject to a disallowance period of 15 sitting days. Further information on a motion to disallow a legislative instrument is available on the Parliament House website, [http://www.aph.gov.au/About\\_Parliament/Senate/Powers\\_practice\\_n\\_procedures/guides/briefno01](http://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/Senate/Powers_practice_n_procedures/guides/briefno01).