

## Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

### BUDGET ESTIMATES – 3 JUNE 2015 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### Department of Human Services

**Topic:** Child Support – referrals to CDPP

**Question reference number:** HS 33

**Senator:** Xenophon

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 24 July 2015

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

Please provide the number of referrals of to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP) with respect to S119 or the ‘Registration’ Act and S159 and 159A of the ‘Assessment’ Act in:

- a) FY 2012/13.
- b) FY 2013/14.
- c) FY 2014/15 to date.

#### **Answer:**

a) - c) From 2012-13, the Department of Human Services has made no referrals to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP) in respect of section 159 or 159A of the *Child Support (Assessment) Act 1989* or section 119 of the *Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act 1988*. The department has investigated matters for potential offences in respect of these provisions. However, following consultation with the CDPP, the department referred these matters for offences under the *Criminal Code Act 1995*.

The following table records the number of matters that were investigated for potential offences against the specified provisions of the ‘Assessment’ Act and ‘Registration’ Act but referred to the CDPP for offences under the *Criminal Code Act 1995*.

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15 (to date)
S119 the <i>Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act 1988</i>	2	0	1
S159 <i>Child Support (Assessment) Act 1989</i>	0	2	2
S159A <i>Child Support (Assessment) Act 1989</i>	0	0	0