

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2014-15 Supplementary Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 5**

**Question No: 531**

**Topic: BSWAT**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Moore asked:**

Labor has circulated a number of amendments to the Bill, designed to protect people's legal rights by allowing them to participate in both the Government's scheme and any representative hearing. Importantly, Labor's amendments enable to Commonwealth to recover moneys paid through the scheme if a larger sum of money is awarded by the courts. This is effectively how the compensation rules under the Social Security Act 1991 operate.

- a. Has the Department provided any advice to the Government on Labor's amendments?
- b. Can the Committee please be provided with a copy of that advice, or could you please describe to the Committee the nature of that advice?

**Answer:**

The Department has provided advice to Government on Labor's proposed amendments.

Departmental advice to Government is confidential.