

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Innovation and Science Portfolio
2015-16 Additional Budget Estimates
11 February 2016

DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND SCIENCE

TOPIC: Letter of Support

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 11 February 2016, page 85)

QUESTION No.: AI-12

Senator KIM CARR: Thank you. I am advised that there were also quite productive meetings with the state governments in Victoria and South Australia. They received letters of support or they indicated that letters of support would be provided by the state governments. Are you aware of that?

Senator Sinodinos: I am not. I do not know whether Mr Chesworth is.

Mr Chesworth : I am not aware of those letters and I have not witnessed—

Senator KIM CARR: My question goes to whether the Prime Minister would be providing a letter of support. I understand that the minister of industry has provided a letter of support. Will there be a prime ministerial letter as well?

Senator SINODINOS: I would be surprised. There has been no request, as I understand it—no formal request—but in normal circumstances I do not think that would be the case.

Senator KIM CARR: I know that Mr Shorten has provided a letter of support. There was a request, and I would be surprised if there has not been a letter—

Senator Sinodinos: Minister Pyne is at least equivalent to Mr Shorten.

Senator KIM CARR: I suspect we could do a bit better than that. I understand that there was a request for a letter of support.

Senator Sinodinos: I will have to check for you.

Senator KIM CARR: Would you take that on notice?

Senator Sinodinos: Yes.

ANSWER

A letter of support was requested. However, Punch Corporation withdrew the request following a meeting with General Motors' management.

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