Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates
29 May – 31 May 2012

Question: BET 79

Topic: 'Saves' Wording in Budget Papers

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Senator CORMANN asked:

Senator CORMANN: Where did the word 'saves' come from, Mr Ray? Where was that first used in the context of the budget papers? I looked at our budget papers when we were in government and I couldn't find the word 'saves'.

Mr Ray: I can tell you that this particular table I think goes back to the 2009-10 budget. In terms of whether or not the word 'save' has been used in a budget paper, I am going to need to take that on notice.

Answer:

Determining when the word 'saves' was first used in the context of the budget papers would require an unreasonable diversion of resources.

In relation to the 'spend/save' table, it first appeared in the 2008-09 Budget papers (Budget Paper 1, Statement 3).