

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Budget Estimates Hearing 2014-15
2-3 June 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Trade Support Loans and the FEE-HELP Program

REFERENCE: Question on Notice (Hansard, 2 June 2014, page 76)

QUESTION No.: BI-38

Senator KIM CARR: Why is it that your loans will be cheaper than the higher education loans?

Mr Lalor: It is a decision of the government.

Senator KIM CARR: You had no part in that; it was just a decision of government. Minister, can you explain to me why there is a difference between the loan arrangements for this program and the loan arrangements for the FEE-HELP program?

Senator Ronaldson: I will need to take that on notice to see whether that is indeed correct. In relation to this fantastic system, which I presume has got your support, because you, like me, would want to see us investing in our apprentices and trainees—I assume it is supported by you?

ANSWER

Trade Support Loans will be indexed to the Consumer Price Index, as was set out in *The Coalition's Policy for Better Support of Australian Apprentices*.