

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Treasury Portfolio**  
Budget Estimates  
2016 - 2017

**Department/Agency:** Treasury  
**Question:** BET331  
**Topic:** Sugar Industry  
**Reference:** Hansard page no. 109 - 6 May 2016  
**Senator:** Penny Wong

**Question:**

"Senator WONG: I want to ask about the Queensland legislation dealing with the sugar industry. I think I may have asked you about this before—I certainly asked questions in the trade portfolio. Can you tell me what, if anything, the Treasurer has done in relation to the Sugar Industry (Real Choice in Marketing) Amendment Act 2015.

Mr McCullough: I apologise; I do not have the details of the developments with me. I will have to take that on notice.

Senator WONG: Have you done anything? Have you personally been engaged in any discussions on this?

Mr McCullough: No. I have had some passing conversation with officials but I have not had the personal involvement, so I will have to take that on notice.

Senator WONG: Is anyone responsible for dealing with this? My recollection is the Queensland government wrote to the Treasurer. From memory, I think there has been evidence either at this estimates or the trade estimates that the Treasurer wrote back to the Queensland Treasurer.

Mr McCullough: That matches my recollection, but, unfortunately—I apologise again—I have only been in this role for a couple of months and I do not have those details.

Senator WONG: Fair enough, but does anyone else?

Mr Lonsdale: We do not have the expert here with us.

Senator WONG: Has the Deputy Prime Minister made any representations to the Treasurer in respect of this issue?

Mr Lonsdale: We are happy to take the question on notice, but, as I said, we cannot add anything."

**Answer:**

The Treasurer has been in contact with the Queensland Government on this issue. The details of this correspondence go to the internal deliberations of the Government and as such are not available to the Committee.