

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Treasury Portfolio**  
Budget Estimates  
2017 - 2018

**Division/Agency:** Law Design Practice  
**Question No:** 234  
**Topic:** Legislative Drafting - additional resources  
**Reference:** Hansard page 47 (29 May 2017)  
**Senator:** Ketter, Chris

**Question:**

Senator KETTER: Regarding the second measure—'Legislative drafting - additional resources', on page 168—can you tell us what that additional funding will be used for?

Mr P Robinson: That measure is designed to allow us to improve and enhance our input into the legislative process. So we prepare for the raft of both taxation, in particular, and financial system legislation—the drafting instructions and the legislative policy side, if you like. In order to help meet the legislative load at the moment, and the measures that are yet to be enacted, this money will enhance our ability to increase the throughput of tax legislation to ensure that we meet the time lines necessary.

Senator KETTER: How many pieces of legislation are anticipated over that time period that would require this—

Mr P Robinson: Sorry, we came back in a bit of a rush, so I do not have that number with me, but we can certainly get it fairly quickly.

**Answer:**

The Government is providing \$16.9 million to the Treasury and \$5.2 million to the Office of Parliamentary Counsel (OPC) over four years from 2017-18 to provide additional dedicated law design and drafting resources for Treasury legislation. The additional resources will ensure Treasury can sustainably deliver a timely pipeline of legislation implementing the Government's economic reform programme.

Treasury estimates this measure will increase the dedicated law design and drafting capacity to progress Treasury measures by around 40 per cent. It is difficult to estimate how many additional pieces of legislation will be developed over the course of the current Parliament as a result of the increase in resourcing as this depends on multiple factors, including the size and complexity of each item of legislation.

As a point of reference, Treasury finalised legislation for 252 measures in the 44th Parliament (November 2013 – April 2016). To date, Treasury has finalised legislation for 69 measures in the 45<sup>th</sup> Parliament (August 2016 – June 2017).