

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Additional Estimates 2015 - 2016

Outcome 2 - Workplace Relations and Economic Strategy

Department of Employment Question No. EMSQ16-000074

Senator Cameron asked on 11 February 2016 on proof Hansard page 90

Question

Non-publication direction

Senator CAMERON: That is good. So, Minister, because there is no non-publication direction, a crossbench senator, for example, would be free to say whatever they like about it to whomever they like about it, without any consequences, no sanctions. Am I correct?

Senator Cash: No. My understanding is that if you breach—and I would need to go away to make sure I do not mislead you—a direction made by the commissioner under, I think it is the Royal Commissions Act, you can be liable to a penalty. I would need to go away and actually ensure that I have the right—

Answer

The confidential volume of the interim report was subject to a non-publication direction made under s 6D(3) of the *Royal Commissions Act 1902*, by Commissioner Heydon on 11 December 2014. Under s 6D(4) of the *Royal Commissions Act 1902* any person who contravenes the direction would be guilty of an offence punishable, upon summary conviction, by a fine not exceeding \$2,000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding 12 months.