

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee:
Answers to written Questions on Notice Additional Budget Estimates 2013–14
Parliamentary Departments Portfolio
February 2014**

Department Parliamentary Budget Office
Topic Ministerial leave

Senator Senator Ludwig
Question reference number 113
Type of question Written

Question

- 1 Was the minister on leave at any point during the Christmas break (between the last sitting of parliament in 2013 and the first sitting in 2014)? If so:
 - a please table a schedule of the ministers leave. Please include:
 - i the dates the minister was on leave.
 - ii the dates the minister was out of the country (if applicable).
 - b Who was acting in the minister's place?
 - i What date was it decided to have this person act in the minister's place?
 - ii What was the process for selecting this person?
 - iii Who was involved in making this decision?
 - c were there any matters with which the department needed to make contact with the minister during this time? If so:
 - i please provide a list of these matters and the date they occurred.
 - ii please provide a copy of any correspondence, emails, notes etc between the minister and the department during this time.
 - iii were there any times that the department was aware that it would be unable to communicate with the minister?
 - iv were there any times that the department tried to contact the minister but were unable?
 - d were there any matters with which the department needed to make contact with the acting minister during this time? If so:
 - i please provide a list of these matters and the date they occurred.
 - ii please provide a copy of any correspondence, emails, notes etc between the acting minister and the department during this time.
 - iii were there any times that the department was aware that it would be unable to communicate with the acting minister?

- iv were there any times that the department tried to contact the acting minister but were unable?
- e did the department contact the Minister or acting minister during this time? If so:
 - i please provide a list of these matters and the date they occurred.
 - ii please provide a copy of any correspondence, emails, notes etc between the minister and or acting minister and the department during this time.

Answer

Not applicable.