

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 23-27 February 2015

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Media leak

Senator: Senator the Hon Penny Wong

Question reference number: 24

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Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 10 April 2015

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Question:

Senator WONG: That is true, but the PM said this is a standard. Perhaps I can go back to the standard, then, in relation to Senator Sinodinos. Senator Sinodinos's resignation from the ministry was leaked to the media ahead of the timetable which had been agreed with the Prime Minister. Was any action taken as a result of that?

Senator Abetz: I will take that on notice. I am not sure whether in my briefs there are—

Senator WONG: I have given you two goes at this, Senator, because I asked you in question time. I assume there has to be something, right?

Senator Abetz: I am without a brief on that matter. I will take it on notice.

Senator WONG: So you cannot tell me if anybody has been sanctioned, or any action has been taken, as a result of the leaking of Senator—

Senator Abetz: No, I cannot. But I will find out.

Answer:

The Department is not aware of what may or may not have taken place in relation to these allegations.