

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2014-15

Finance Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Special Minister of State

Outcome/Program: General

Topic: AEC – non-judicial member

Senator: Wong

Question reference number: F291

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 11 July 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

- a) When did the non-judicial member's position fall vacant?
- b) What caused the vacancy?
- c) Why did was the vacancy not announced by way of a public statement?
- d) Can the process for filling the position be outlined?
- e) When will the position be filled?
- f) With reference to section 6(5) of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918* which provides that a person shall not be appointed as the non judicial appointee unless the person is the holder of an office of Agency Head or an office established by or under an Act and having, in the opinion of the Governor General, a status equivalent to that of an Agency Head: What offices have previous appointees to the position held?
- g) With reference to the vacant position and the temporary status of the Electoral Commissioner, when did the three member Australian Electoral Commission last have just one permanent member?

Answer:

- a) 12 January 2014.
- b) The term of the non-judicial member expired.
- c) N/A.
- d) Refer to section 6(5) of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*.
- e) In due course.
- f) Australian Statistician.
- g) From 23 October 2008 to 5 January 2009, during the period of the first Rudd Government.