

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 18-22 November 2013

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1 Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Government Staffing Committee

Senator: Senator the Hon John Faulkner

Question reference number: 20

Type of Question: Hansard

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 17 January 2014

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator Abetz: They have a look at the applications and try to match applications with the specific jobs. But, at the end of the day, all they do is recommend; they do not decide.

Senator WONG: To whom do they recommend?

Senator Abetz: To the Prime Minister.

Senator WONG: But presumably the Prime Minister does not sign off on every appointment—or does the Prime Minister consider and sign off on every appointment across the 420?

Senator Abetz: It is ultimately the Prime Minister's decision.

Senator WONG: That was not my question.

Senator Abetz: I will take that on notice and see whether he does or does not.

Answer:

The Prime Minister approves all personal staff appointments.