

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates 20-24 October 2014**

**Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Outcome/Program:** Outcome 1: Prime Minister and Cabinet  
**Topic:** Referral of legislation for review

**Senator:** Senator David Leyonhjelm

**Question reference number:** 22

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 5 December 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

1. Under your Act, you may suggest to the Prime Minister that he refer a matter relating to counter-terrorism or national security to the Monitor for review. Will you suggest that the recently passed national security legislation be immediately reviewed by the Monitor?
2. Will you suggest that the Foreign Fighters Bill be reviewed by the Monitor?

**Answer:**

1. Section 9 of the *Independent National Security Legislation Monitor Act 2010* requires the Monitor to give particular emphasis to reviewing any counter-terrorism and national security legislation that has been applied or considered during the financial year or the immediately preceding financial year. While referral is therefore not necessary, the Prime Minister has agreed to refer for review by the Monitor, on appointment, the implementation and operation of the provisions of the *National Security Legislation Amendment (No. 1) Bill 2014* on the disclosure of information related to a “Special Intelligence Operation”, as a matter of priority.
2. Please refer to the answer for Question 1.