

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Group 1

Program 2.1

Question No. 160

Senator Singh asked the following question at the hearing on 24 February 2014:

- 1) Following a review of the Lending Right programs, the minimum claim has been raised from \$50 to \$100. A criticism of the schemes is that they give greater support to highly successful authors, who by and large do not need it, while authors whose work has more limited appeal do not receive significant support. What is the Department's view of that criticism?
- 2) Does it agree that raising the minimum claim, presumably for administrative convenience, only increases the schemes' perceived inequity?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

- 1) This is a matter of government policy. It would not be appropriate for the department to respond.
- 2) This is a matter of government policy. It would not be appropriate for the department to respond.