

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 23 February 2015

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE15/052) - Trusted Trader - Programme 1.1 Border Management (ACBPS)

Senator Leyonhjelm, David (L&CA 92) asked:

Senator LEYONHJELM: Following on from your previous answer in relation to the trusted trader system, will this affect the need for licensing customs brokers? Will there be a reduced demand for them or any change in demand for them?

Mr Quaedvlieg: I would have to take that on notice as that is not something I have turned my mind to, unless my colleague Ms Nyakuengama can answer that question.

Answer:

All cargo arriving into Australia must be reported and declared in accordance with the legislative requirements outlined in the *Customs Act 1901* (the Customs Act). This ensures that relevant Customs duties and tax liabilities are met, and that importers are complying with Commonwealth legislation. For imported goods valued above \$1000, the owner of the goods (the importer) is required to lodge an import declaration in respect of the goods.

The only people that can lodge an import declaration under the terms of the Customs Act are the importer themselves, their employees or a licensed customs broker on their behalf. There is no intention to change that. Major companies who are likely to be eligible for the trusted trader program already, in many cases, employ their own licensed custom brokers to do that work for them and those arrangements are expected to continue.