

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES – 26 – 27 MAY 2014**

**IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO**

**(BE14/134) PROGRAMME – 1.2: Visa and Citizenship**

Senator Singh (L&CA 94) asked:

Senator SINGH: [...] Okay, so we are taking on notice the number of people affected by directive 62. But it sounds like it is quite a large number of people. Mr Bowles has put it on the record that this has been a policy decision to deter people coming to Australia as IMAs, when it actually applies to people who are already here and to their being able to reunite with their family and rebuild their lives and settle here. Mr Bowles: That is correct,

*Answer:*

It is not possible to report on the number of applicants currently affected by Direction 62. A sponsor's status (whether they are an Illegal Maritime Arrival or not) is only assessed once processing of an application has commenced. As the Family Stream is oversubscribed, there is a pipeline of on-hand applications that await processing.