

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2014

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE14/111) PROGRAMME – Australian Customs and Border Protection Service

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

What is the current Government policy on the importation of asbestos into Australia?

a. Is the Department aware of any plans to alter the existing legislative or policy framework regarding the ban?

Answer:

The *Customs Act 1901*, the *Customs (Prohibited Import) Regulations 1956* and the *Customs (Prohibited Exports) Regulations 1958* prohibit the importation and exportation of asbestos or goods containing asbestos, unless certain permissions are granted or exemptions are met.

The ACBPS has been approached by the Department of Employment and the Department of Defence seeking minor technical amendments to the import and export regulations to align them with recent name changes to referenced legislation. ACBPS is not aware of any proposals for substantive policy change.