Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

23 – 24 February 2011

Question No: AET 148

Topic: ATO's Change Program.

Hansard Page: E 36 – E 37

Senator Xenophon asked:

Senator XENOPHON—Minister, the Inspector-General of Taxation was referred by you on 19 April for a comprehensive review of the implementation of the ATO's Change Program. I understand that report was delivered to government on 3 December and handed to the Assistant Treasurer on 5 December. The government has 25 sitting days to table that report. How close are the parliament and the Australian public to seeing that report of the inspector-general?

Senator Sherry—Firstly, it was referred by me when I was Assistant Treasurer. Obviously, I have had a change of portfolio responsibilities, so my successor, Minister Shorten, now has responsibility. I will have to take it on notice. I will make best endeavours over the next couple of hours to see whether I can be more precise than that.

Senator XENOPHON—I would appreciate that.

Answer:

Under timelines specified in the *Inspector-General of Taxation Act 2003,* the report is required to be tabled before both Houses of Parliament, or otherwise made public on or before 6 July 2011.