

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research Portfolio  
Budget Estimates Hearing 2010-11  
31 May 2010

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**AGENCY/DEPARTMENT:** INNOVATION, INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

**TOPIC:** R&D Tax Laws

**REFERENCE:** Written Question – Senator Eggleston

**QUESTION No.:** BI-81

Given the recent hearings into the new R&D Tax Laws, do you accept that this legislation was rushed to the Parliament with insufficient consultation, poorly drafted and large numbers of unintended consequences? (Australian Financial Review 15/3/2010, 11/5/2010; Canberra Times 13/5/2010)

**ANSWER**

No.

Consultation on the R&D Tax Credit has been extensive, featuring the following:

- 2009-10 Budget announcement;
- Consultation paper released in September 2009 – 197 submissions received;
- Exposure draft legislation released in December 2009 – 131 submissions received;
- Exposure draft legislation released in March 2010 – 54 submissions received; and
- Senate Economics Legislation Committee inquiry – 31 submissions received.

Submissions made in relation to the consultation paper and exposure draft legislation are available on the Treasury website. Submissions made in relation to the Senate Economics Legislation Committee inquiry are available on the committee's website.

While some referencing errors in the explanatory memorandum have been corrected, the Bill itself does not contain drafting errors.