

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Additional Estimates 8-11 February 2010

Question: PM22

Topic: Community Cabinet - Opposition duty senators' attendance

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Senator JACINTA COLLINS-Yes. Senator Ludwig, while we are on this, since your change of policy has there been a change in attendance?

Senator Ludwig-I do not keep records myself as to whether duty senators attend. That is why I asked Senator Ryan if he attended.

Senator JACINTA COLLINS-Maybe the department can tell us if any opposition duty senators have attended since the minister's change of policy.

[...]

Ms Beauchamp-From my understanding and my observations, there has been no noticeable change. I will have to take the details on notice.

Answer: The department has no knowledge of which opposition Senators are duty senators for which electorates, nor does the department comprehensively record the attendance of Members of Parliament or Senators. However, the department is aware that Senator Julian McGauran (Lib) attended the Ballarat meeting on 18 February 2010.