

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2012-2013

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of Finance and Deregulation

Outcome/Program: 3/3.1

Topic: Senators and Members entitlements - publications

Senator: Sterle

Question reference number: F144

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 6 July 2012

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Can the Department confirm that Senators and Members are entitled to the costs of purchasing publications (including electronic publications) of their choice for purposes related to parliamentary, electorate or official business. Can the Minister confirm the Member for Bowman purchased the following publications at taxpayer expense in the period 1 January to 30 June 2011:

- a) 1 Things I Love About Friends 26 Mar 11 \$13.59
- b) 1 When I'm Feeling 26 Mar 11 \$13.59
- c) 1 Blink 8 Apr 11 \$14.54
- d) 1 The Declaration of Independence 8 Apr 11 \$4.50
- e) 2 Lords of Finance: The Bankers Who Broke the World 14 Jan 11 \$100.00
- f) 1 The Swan Thieves 19 Jan 11 \$24.54
- g) 1 Too Big To Fail: Inside the Battle to Save Wall Street 11 Feb 11 \$26.35
- h) 1 Freedom 19 Mar 11 \$27.28
- i) 1 Jasper Jones 19 Mar 11 \$19.84
- j) 1 Lacuna 19 Mar 11 \$19.84
- k) 1 Mister Pip 19 Mar 11 \$27.28
- l) 1 The King's Speech: How One Man Saved the British Monarchy 19 Mar 11 \$24.81
- m) 1 Five Useful Engines 26 Mar 11 \$11.77

Did the Member certify the particular parliamentary, electorate or official business for which these publications were purchased?

Answer:

Senators and Members are entitled to the costs of purchasing publications (including electronic publications) of their choice for purposes related to Parliamentary, electorate or official business, but not commercial business. The cost of the publications listed above has been met from the Member for Bowman's publications entitlement.

The Member for Bowman certified on 28 June 2011 that purchase of the publications were within entitlement. There is no requirement to specify the particular parliamentary, electorate or official business for which the publications were purchased.