

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Supplementary Budget Estimates 15-18 October 2012

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Outcome/Program: 1.1.1 Domestic Policy

Topic: Australian Education Act - Drafting

Senator: Senator the Hon Mason

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Question:

Senator MASON: Sure, I was just wondering what the limbs of it will be. I understand about school autonomy-fair enough, the Prime Minister has spoken about that-principals having more autonomy and so forth, and I appreciate that, but I was wondering whether the Melbourne goals and standards, which are very important and which were set just a couple of years ago, would be replaced. Is that likely to happen?

Ms Wilson: I think it is too early to say.

Senator MASON: Can you take that on notice?

Ms Wilson: Yes.

Answer:

No, the Melbourne Declaration on Educational Goals for Young Australians will not be replaced by the introduction of the National Plan for School Improvement. The National Plan for School Improvement builds on and is consistent with the reform directions of the Melbourne Declaration.