

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 February 2006**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

### **(106) Output 2.3: Australian Citizenship**

Senator Hurley (L&C 111) asked:

Are there any statistics available on the use of the discretion available under the existing Australian Citizenship Act to waive the residency period and how regularly that has been used?

*Answer:*

Use of the residence discretions has been recorded in respect of 231 applications in 2004-05 and 147 applications in 2005-2006 (to end of January 2006), as follows:

|                     | 2004-05 | 2005-06 (to end January 2006) |
|---------------------|---------|-------------------------------|
| Subsection 13(3)    | 91      | 56                            |
| Subsection 13(3A)   | 14      | 5                             |
| Subsection 13(4)(b) | 125     | 83                            |
| Subsection 13(5)    | 1       | 3                             |

Subsection 13(3) refers to relevant defence service.

Subsection 13(3A) refers to service as a member of an Australian reserve force.

Subsection 13(4) paragraph (b) allows for certain periods of time to be treated as periods of permanent residence spent in Australia.

Subsection 13(5) refers to former Australian citizens.