

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 1.3

Question No. 81

Senator Hanson-Young asked the following question at the hearing on 23 February 2009:

The Attorney-General has previously indicated that he is working with his state colleagues to introduce state based civil unions schemes. Please advise any update of discussions regarding states moving to introduce state based schemes to formally recognise same-sex relationships.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The Government supports a state-based nationally consistent scheme for the registration of committed adult relationships that are not marriages. The Government is encouraging those jurisdictions which have not yet developed relationship registrations schemes to do so. The Attorney-General has raised this issue in correspondence with the State and Territory Attorneys-General and at meetings of the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General.