

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(84) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration**

Senator Cash asked:

With reference to the provisions in the Migration Act 1958 and relevant regulations and in particular to the obligations imposed on a sponsor and the sanctions available when a sponsor fails to satisfy their sponsorship obligations:

- a. In each of the past 5 years how many business sponsors have had sanctions applied against them for failing to satisfy their sponsorship obligations?
- b. What was the nature of the failed obligations and what was the sanction applied?

*Answer:*

- a. Number of Subclass 457 sponsors sanctioned between 2005-06 and 2009-10:
  - o 2005-06 – 3
  - o 2006-07 – 95
  - o 2007-08 – 192
  - o 2008-09 – 190
  - o 2009-10 – 164
- b. The nature of failed obligations and the sanction applied are not reportable events on DIAC systems.

If a sponsor fails to satisfy a sponsorship obligation (eg. failure to pay travel costs, provide equivalent terms and conditions of employment or cooperate with an inspector), DIAC may impose a sanction, depending on the circumstances. This might include:

- (i) barring the sponsor from sponsoring more people under the program;
- (ii) cancelling approval as a sponsor; or
- (iii) serving an infringement notice.