

SENATE LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 1.3

Question No. 23

Senator Carr asked the following question in writing at the hearing on 24 May 2006:

Mrs Lavarch's media release also says that the Commonwealth agreed to *consider* changes to the Privacy Act so that the operations of databases are fully regulated. What form will this consideration take? Is it a firm commitment by the Attorney or is it still to be discussed further within the Commonwealth?

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

Standing Committee of Attorneys General (SCAG) Ministers agreed to the recommendations in the report of the joint SCAG/ Ministerial Council on Consumer Affairs working party, *Report on Residential Tenancy Databases* and the Regulation Impact Statement. The report recommended that the Commonwealth consider taking supporting action to clarify the application of the *Privacy Act 1988* to residential tenancy databases.

The Department will provide further advice to the Attorney-General about giving effect to this recommendation.