

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0275) Program 3.1: Border Management

Senator Eggleston (L&CA) asked:

What is the procedure for using the card for entry to and exit from the United States?

Answer:

As a transitional member of the APEC Business Travel Card (ABTC) scheme, the United States provides cardholders with 'fast track' immigration processing lanes.

ABTC holders are entitled to use these immigration lanes, also designated for aircrew (or diplomats depending on the airport layout), upon entry at an international airport in the United States.

There are no arrangements for ABTC holders upon departure as the United States does not have exit immigration procedures at international airports.