QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 1 November 2005

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(173) Output 1.3: Enforcement of Immigration Law

Senator Ludwig asked:

- 1. Does the department make a determination each year on what is an acceptable or inevitable number of detained persons who will later be found to be lawful?
- 2. If the Department accepts that it will detain individuals who will later be found to be lawful- does the department include possible compensation payments into its budget projections? If yes, what is the figure?

Answer:

- 1. No.
- 2. No. Circumstances may arise from time to time where a person taken into immigration detention may later be determined to be a lawful non-citizen or to have become lawful. Any payments which might be made to any individuals in these circumstances would be considered on a case by case basis as they arise. The department does not include in its budget projections, provision for funds for people in these circumstances.