SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATIVE APPEALS TRIBUNAL

Question No. 78

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2006:

Can you provide statistics on how many self-represented litigants appeared before the AAT last financial year?

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

Whilst the Tribunal does keep records as to the representation status of litigants, we do not currently have a report that can be generated to provide such information. In order to answer the question, a manual search would need to be undertaken of AAT case records. The Tribunal at 30 June 2006 had over 8000 current applications.

In addition, representation status may change once (or even more times) during the course of a matter with the tribunal. For example, a person may be initially self represented and later have representation. Equally the reverse may occur. A person may initially be represented but later not have representation.

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