

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

(142) Output 1.1: Migration and Temporary Entry

Senator Carr asked:

1. Can you provide the Committee with some qualitative information on the kinds of grounds on which employers are commonly refused sponsorship under the 457 visa program?
2. If you have noticed variations between industries in this regard, please provide details.

Answer:

1. Standard Business Sponsorships could be refused on the basis that they do not satisfy one or several criteria under the *Migration Regulations* 1994. Some of the key sponsorship criteria which sponsors could be refused under include the direct employer requirement; the capacity to meet sponsorship undertakings; and the record/commitment to training Australians.
2. The Department does not routinely collect data on reasons for refusals of Standard Business Sponsorships at this level of detail.