

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 20 OCTOBER 2009

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(113) Program 5.1: Settlement Services for Migrants and Refugees

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Why does the 2009/10 Budget reflect a reduction of \$20.4 million over 4 years for AMEP? Is this reform or cost cutting?

Answer:

The reduction of \$20.4 million in outlays over four years from 2009-10 is the net savings from the Government's reform of the design and delivery of the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP).

The reforms will be effective on commencement of the next round of AMEP services contracts for the period ending 2013-14, which are to be put to tender before the end of this year.