

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

### SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

#### IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

#### **(38) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration**

Senator Crossin (L&CA 43) asked:

In relation to 410 visa holders, is the Australian Government Actuary working with representatives of the British ex-pat retirees in Australia?

*Answer:*

The Australian Government Actuary (AGA) is developing a model of the potential direct costs to the Commonwealth of granting permanent residence to holders of the Retirement (Subclass 410) visa.

The British Expat Retirees In Australia (BERIA) have also developed their own costing model and produced a report titled 'The Case for Permanent Residency'.

As there were significant differences in the assumptions each organisation was incorporating into their models, the outcomes were substantially different. A decision was therefore taken to facilitate contact between representatives of these two organisations in order to ascertain whether there was some room for movement on either side.

This culminated in the Department facilitating a meeting between representatives of the AGA and BERIA in November 2009 at which they discussed the sources of their data and many of the assumptions built into their respective models, resulting in both organisations making changes to their models and their draft reports.

The latest version of BERIA's report was provided to the Department in January 2010, however, we understand that like the AGA they may be in the process of updating their report with data current as at 30 June 2010.