

Australian Government

Department of Home Affairs

Senator the Hon Sarah Henderson Committee Chair Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee PO Box 6100 Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Senator Henderson

The Home Affairs Portfolio appeared at the Senate Budget Estimates Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee hearing on 24 May 2021.

In my capacity as First Assistant Secretary, Immigration Programs Division, I gave evidence to the Senate and have reviewed the Hansard record. In relation to my testimony, I have become aware of the need to correct a response I made to a question from Senator the Hon Kristina Keneally.

The particular reference for correction is on page 88 from 24 May 2021 in response to the question from Senator Keneally "On the visa allocations and the changes?"

My response to this question was in part, "... The distinguished talent category increased to 350."

This response is not an accurate reflection of the matter and I am providing the following correction of evidence in response to this question:

"The distinguished talent category increased to 300."

I appreciate the opportunity to provide this clarification, which will ensure the correct information has been provided to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee.

Yours sincerely

Michael Willard First Assistant Secretary Immigration Programs Division

/6 June 2021