

COVID-19
ANSWERS TO WRITTEN QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications

IQ20-000011

Division/Agency: COVID Aviation Response Programs
Inquiry: Senate Select Committee on COVID -19
Topic: Quarantine – Human Rights
Proof Hansard Page: 46 (24 September 2020)

Senator Janet Rice asked:

Senator RICE: I just wanted to ask, with the tax that has been imposed and because of inadequate quarantine facilities, whether there's been any analysis of whether they are in breach of our human rights commitments.

Mr Atkinson: I'd have to take that on notice.

Senator RICE: Okay, if you could take that on notice, and compare it with what we are permitted to fulfil under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stating that everyone's got the right to leave any country, including their own, and return to it.

CHAIR: Mr Atkinson, it might be one that you have to refer on to Attorney-General's—

Mr Atkinson: Absolutely.

CHAIR: which is fine, that you have taken it on notice, and we have a process around referring on to a more appropriate department.

Answer:

The requirement for quarantine and the cost of the imposition of quarantine on inbound passengers is a matter for each State and Territory jurisdiction that is implementing these requirements.