Senate Standing Committees on Legal and Constitutional Affairs

Commission of Inquiry into Antisemitism at Australian Universities Bill 2024 QUESTION ON NOTICE Date of hearing: 20 September 2024

Outcome: Higher Education, Research and International

Department of Education Question No. IQ24-000038

Senator Sarah Henderson on 20 September 2024, Proof Hansard pages 71,72

Documentation in relation to the Minister's engagement with the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)

Question

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Senator HENDERSON: To the officials from the Department of Education who are here today: does anyone know anything about these meetings the minister had with TEQSA? Ms MORTON: No.

Senator HENDERSON: On notice—and I note that obviously the secretary of the department is not here— could you please provide the committee with any notes, file notes or other documentation in relation to these meetings and any other actions in relation to the minister's engagement with TEQSA.

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Senator HENDERSON: Alright. On notice to the department: could I ask for any records of those meetings. I would also extend that to asking if, on notice, we could please be furnished with a copy of any correspondence to or from the minister or his office in relation to antisemitism in Australian universities.

Ms MORTON: I'm happy to take that on notice.

Answer

The Department does not hold records of these meetings, including file notes or other between TEQSA and the Minister for Education and his office, in the circumstances where officers of the Department did not attend that meeting.

The Department does not have any records of correspondence between the Minister or his office and TEQSA in relation to antisemitism in Australian universities.