

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: Cross Outcome - Across Programmes      Question No: SQ15-000329**

**Topic: SSAT Abolition**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Moore, Claire asked:**

Under legislation currently before the Senate, the Social Security Appeals Tribunal will be abolished and its function merged into the working of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.

Does the SSAT have any concerns about this legislation?

Does the SSAT believe that there will be any staff losses as a consequence of this legislation?

Does the SSAT believe that there will be any loss of capacity and efficiency as a result of these changes?

**Answer:**

*Tribunals Amalgamation Bill 2014* includes a financial impact statement which refers to “reductions in back office and property expenses”.