

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Social Services Portfolio**  
**2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 1**

**Question No: 200**

**Topic: Disability Support Pension - Reduced Portability**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Brown** asked:

What evidence, if any, does the Department have that the current portability rules are being exploited?

**Answer:**

Generally, portability of payments is allowed for a defined period of time, unless an extension is granted. Where a person is outside Australia for longer than the allowable period their payment is stopped.

Under current arrangements, Disability Support Pension recipients are able to have multiple absences outside Australia; each absence can be up to six weeks duration.