

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 20 OCTOBER 2016 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Age Pension - hardship

Question reference number: 9 (HS 9)

Senator: Smith

Type of question: Hansard page 121

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 2 December 2016

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator SMITH: Have we seen an increase in the number of hardship requests from pensioners?

Ms Campbell: I do not think we have that information with us. I think we have taken it on notice.

Answer:

The department has only recently begun systematically collecting data on the number of hardship claims received. It is therefore not possible to determine whether there has been an increase compared with previous periods.