

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

2014 - 2015

Department/Agency: Treasury

Question: SBT 4257

Topic: School Kids Bonus - Deferral Date

Reference: Hansard page no. 7 - 22 October 2014

Senator: Wong, Penny

Question:

Senator WONG: Excellent. Thank you; that will be very helpful. I think this might have been covered with your MYEFO answer, the top five spending decisions contributing to the increase in spending between PEFO and FBO.

Mr Ray: Yes; that was covered by MYEFO.

Senator WONG: That was the MYEFO answer?

Mr Ray: Yes.

Senator WONG: Are you able to indicate to me, apart from the top five, what additional spending decisions were made in 2013-14, over and above MYEFO, that are reflected in FBO?

Mr Ray: Yes, they are in the budget. I think the big one would have been the deferral of the start date for the schoolkids bonus, but I will get that checked.

Senator WONG: I am sorry?

Mr Ray: The deferral of the start date for the repeal of the schoolkids bonus is probably the big one, but we will get that checked.

Senator WONG: You are saying that it is the big one—the big one of what group? We will just make sure that we are on the same page.

Mr Ray: Between MYEFO and the budget, the net impact of policy is about half a billion dollars.

Senator WONG: Correct.

Mr Ray: I think that accounts for a fair proportion of that.

Answer:

In the 2014-15 Budget the net impact of policy decisions was -\$514 million on the 2013-14 underlying cash balance and -\$510 million on the 2013-14 fiscal balance. For more information please consult the Budget papers.