

Senate Committee: Education and Employment

**QUESTION ON NOTICE
Additional Estimates 2014 - 2015**

Outcome: Higher Education, Research and International

Department of Education and Training Question No. SQ15-000172

Senator Carr, Kim provided in writing

alternative indexing arrangements

Question

Has the department been asked to model or has it considered alternative indexing arrangements for the repayment threshold? Can this be provided?

Answer

The department monitors research in this field and proposals canvassed by Higher Education stakeholders and experts as a matter of standard, ongoing practice. Alternative indexation arrangements for HELP repayment thresholds is one of a number of options that has been identified, for example as part of such work, canvassed in the April 2014 "Doubtful Debt" report prepared by the Grattan Institute.