

Senate Standing Committee on Education and Employment

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Budget Estimates 2014-2015**

Cross Portfolio

Department of Employment Question No. EM0306_15

Senator Ludwig provided in writing.

Question

Senate Estimates briefings

- 1) How many officers were responsible for preparing the department, agency, Minister or representing Minister's briefing pack for the purposes of senate estimates?
- 2) How many officer hours were spent on preparing that information?
 - a. Please break down the hours by officer APS classification
- 3) Were drafts shown to the Minister or their office before senate estimates?
 - a. If so, when did this occur?
 - b. How many versions of this information were shown to the minister or their office?
- 4) Did the minister or their office make any contributions, edits or suggestions for departmental changes to this information?
 - a. If so, when did this occur?
 - b. What officer hours were spent on making these edits? Please break down the hours by officer APS classification.
 - c. When were the changes made?
- 5) Provide each of the contents page of the Department/Minister/representing Minister's Senate Estimates folder prepared by the department for the Additional Estimates hearings in February 2014.

Answer

- 1 - 4) The department routinely prepares Senate Estimates briefing material for its Ministers. The specific detail requested is not readily available and would require an unreasonable diversion of resources to provide.
- 5) Details of briefings provided to the Minister are not made publicly available in order to maintain the confidentiality and effectiveness of the advice.