

# **Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee — Budget Estimates Hearing—May 2017**

## **Answers to Questions on Notice**

### **Parliamentary departments, Department of Parliamentary Services**

Topic: **Sessional staff**

Question: **121**

Written: **Senator Wong**

#### **Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 7 July 2017**

How many staff of the Department of Parliamentary Services are sessional staff, that is, employees who only or primarily work in sitting weeks?

How many sessional staff voted in the enterprise agreement ballot?

Were any sessional staff ineligible to vote in the ballot by virtue of the operation of section 181(1) of the Fair Work Act 2009 because, in the view of the Department of Parliamentary Services, they did not meet the definition of “employed at the time”?

#### **Answer**

1. DPS had 41 sessional employees on 21 June 2017.
2. DPS is unable to determine how many staff of any classification voted in the enterprise agreement ballot. However all sessional staff employed at the time of the ballot were on the roll and therefore eligible to vote.
3. As ongoing part-time employees no sessional employees were considered ineligible to vote in the ballot.