

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING : 24 March 2017

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(AE17/256) - Set of rules behind the period of residency for the citizenship process - Programme 2.3: Visas

Senator Pratt, Louise (L&CA 42) asked:

Senator PRATT: Well, it is not hypothetical if it is being considered by the government. What process does a permanent resident go through before becoming a citizen?

Mr Pezzullo: Mr Wilden happens to be the table; he is the national expert on such matters.

Mr Wilden: In the broad—because obviously we have a large number of permanent resident status through the family program and the skilled program and the refugee and humanitarian program. But there are some very core tenets behind that. The first is a period of residency, which has a set of rules that I will provide on notice, because they can get quite complex about how long you can spend out of the country, how long you need to be in over a period of time.

Answer:

See response provided in AE17/292.