

Senate Standing Committee on Environment, Communications and the Arts
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings October 2009
Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy Portfolio
Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

Question No: 17

Program No. 1.2

Hansard Ref: Hansard Ref: written

Topic: DO NOT CALL REGISTER

Senator Minchin asked:

How is the legislation progressing to implement the Budget decision to expand the Do Not Call Register?

Answer:

Legislation to amend the *Do Not Call Register Act 2006* was introduced on 26 November 2009.

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Question No: 125

Program No. 1.2

Hansard Ref: written

Topic: DO NOT CALL REGISTER

Senator Minchin asked:

1. I understand the Minister has received a copy of the Access Economics report commissioned by the ADMA that warned of the impact of the expansion of the register would have on the economy and the burden on businesses with compliance costs?
2. Is any consideration been given to moderating the proposed changes as a result of these concerns?

Answer:

1. The Minister has received a copy of the Access Economics Preliminary Report.
2. No. The Access Economics Preliminary Report commissioned by the Australian Direct Marketing Association contains little evidence to support the claims made. The Report states that data to support the claims made will be provided in a final report. As at 9 November 2009 a final report had not been provided to the Department or the Minister.

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Question No: 126

Program No. 1.2

Hansard Ref: written

Topic: DO NOT CALL REGISTER

Senator Minchin asked:

Has the ACMA done any work to implement the policy decision in advance of the passage of the legislation through the Parliament?

Answer:

The ACMA has commenced planning for the implementation of the expanded Do Not Call Register to allow all Australian telephone and fax numbers to be listed.

In consultation with the Department and the Register Operator (Service Stream Solutions Pty Ltd), the ACMA's planning has encompassed proposed:

- amendments to legislative instruments;
- systems changes to the Do Not Call Register;
- variation to the contract with the Register Operator; and
- an education program.