

Senate Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio
Additional Estimates 2005-2006, 16 February 2006

QUESTION No.AI-97

Senator Campbell asked:

Is the Department considering other schemes to reduce the compliance burden?

ANSWER

The Department is investigating proposals to reduce the red tape associated with ABN and business name registration and searching for trade marks. The project is being undertaken in consultation with a number of other Government agencies, including the Australian Taxation Office and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.

The Department is also leading the development of a new-to-business checklist that will provide information on the regulations small businesses need to comply with when starting out. It is expected that this will encompass information from all levels of government.

Both of the above initiatives will require further consultation and cooperation with state and territory governments.

For further information on what the Government is doing to reduce the red tape burden, see the press release issued by the Prime Minister and the Treasurer on 7 April 2006, when releasing the Government's interim response to the report of the Taskforce on Reducing the Regulatory Burdens on Business.

QUESTION No.AI-98

Senator Campbell asked:

How much consultation is done with stakeholders, when considering schemes to reduce small business compliance?

ANSWER

Consultation with stakeholders is standard practice in the policy development process for any new scheme or program.