

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Additional Estimates

23 – 24 February 2011

Question No: AET 2

Topic: Gambling reform and pre-commitment

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Cash asked: How many problem gamblers will be assisted by mandatory pre-commitment?

Answer:

Under a regime of mandatory pre-commitment, all problem gamblers would be part of the system in that they would have a card and would select their own limits.

The Commission envisages that many would use the technology to reduce the harms they their families and the community experience. In moments of lucidity, problem gamblers (assisted by pressures from family members and treatment providers) would have the opportunity to set lower limits on their spending.

Estimates of the number of problem gamblers, as demonstrated in the Commission's report, range around 115,000, with another 280,000 people at risk.

