

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Additional Estimates

14 February 2013

**Question:** AR15

**Topic:** Tourism Industry

**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Ronaldson asked:**

**3. Tourism Taxes and Charges**

Please answer the following questions:

- a. Does the department accept the Department of Immigration and Citizenship's view that there is no negative relationship between increased visa charges and demand for them? Alternatively, does the department agree with the Treasurer that there will be 'marginal' impacts?
- b. Given tourism operators' slim profits are at the margin (as stated by the Tourism and Transport Forum's CEO in 2012), does the department accept that this measure (combined with all other tourism taxes and charges) will wipe out profits made in the 2012-13 financial year, leading to greater uptake of 'tax loss carry back'?
- c. Cannot the government's increased taxation of tourism, combined with its tax loss carry back initiative, be described as a "money-go-round" (in which funds are taken from tourism businesses and then given back)?

**Answer:**

- a. The Department has not done any analysis on this issue.
- b. The Department has not done any analysis on this issue.
- c. No.