

## Senate Standing Committee on Economics

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

#### Treasury Portfolio

#### Budget Estimates

31 May – 2 June 2011

**Question No:** BET 98

**Topic:** Education Tax Refund

**Hansard Page:** Written

#### **Senator Bushby asked:**

On 24 July 2010, the Australian reported that the number of eligible children for the ETR the Government were using at estimated at 2.1 million, when the assumptions were previously said be 2.7 million, a difference of 600,000 children.

The article reported that the ATO tax office told the government some two weeks earlier that a more accurate estimate was that only 2.1 million students were eligible for the education tax rebates.

1. When did the ATO first become aware of more accurate estimates for eligible children?
2. Why was the 2.1 million figure deemed to be more accurate by the ATO than the 2.7 million?
3. What was the basis for the change?

#### **Answer:**

Please refer to Question on Notice BET 54 for the answer to this question.