

**Senate Economics Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio**  
**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-2006, 2 November 2005**

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**QUESTION No.SBI-77**

**Senator Campbell** asked:

Commission's Recommendation 14.1:

Section 31 of the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* should be amended to clarify that disability standards cannot alter in a fundamental way the scope of the Act. The scope should only be altered via amendment of the Act, not via disability standards." (tabled in Parliament on 14 July 2004)

Will the Government ensure that all new workplaces and existing workplaces undergoing major alterations or extensions will provide equal access for everyone, in-keeping with the Government's workforce participation policies for people with disabilities and older people?

**ANSWER**

The Department is unable to comment as this is an issue for the Government to determine.

**QUESTION No.SBI-78**

**Senator Campbell** asked:

If equality of access and use is not ensured by means of the DDA Premises Standard, how will it be possible for workforce participation of older people and other people with mobility impairments to substantially increase?

**ANSWER**

The Department is not in a position to comment on this matter.

**QUESTION No.SBI-79**

**Senator Campbell** asked:

What date was the latest DDA Premises Standard recommended to the federal Ministers by the ABCB transmitted to the Ministers?

*(For mention "that any Premises Standard will be compliant with the DDA" see Written Question on Notice No.63; Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio, Budget Estimates 2005-2006, 30-31 May 2005)*

**ANSWER**

The ABCB provided preliminary advice on the Premises Standard to the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, the Hon Ian Macfarlane MP, and the Attorney-General, the Hon Philip Ruddock MP, in a letter dated 8 June 2005.