

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

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, TOURISM AND RESOURCES
OUTCOME/OUTPUT: Outcome 1, Output 1.2
TOPIC: IMPLEMENTATION OF SMALL BUSINESS DEBT INITIATIVE
REFERENCE: WRITTEN QUESTION

QUESTION No.SBI-90

Senator Campbell asked:

Does DITR believe that the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) debt recovery strategy will have costs for small business?

ANSWER

The debt recovery strategy is the responsibility of the ATO.

QUESTION No.SBI-91

Senator Campbell asked:

How many small businesses are forced into default as a result of tax debts?

ANSWER

The collection of small business tax debts along with collection of any statistics on this matter falls within the responsibilities of the ATO.

QUESTION No.SBI-92

Senator Campbell asked:

Will DITR be making a formal submission to the Inspector General of Taxation in relation to the ATO's small business debt initiative?

ANSWER

On 5 August 2005, the Inspector General of Taxation identified a review of the implementation of the small business debt initiative as part of the forward work program for 2005-06. This is to be a follow-up review to the Review into Debt Collection Practices of 12 April 2005. At this stage, no submissions have been called for the follow-up review.