

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: SMALL BUSINESS INTEREST RATE RELIEF
REFERENCE: WRITTEN QUESTION

QUESTION No.SBI-94

Senator Campbell asked:

- (a) I refer to the Small Business Interest Rate Relief Program. I understand that there were 452 applications for this program and 182 businesses approved for the program?
- (b) Did Centrelink record electorate information on these businesses? In response to a question on notice to the Member for Hunter the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources was able to provide an electorate breakdown of the approved businesses but did not provide details on applications.
- (c) Can your department provide me with a breakdown of the applicants by electorate?

ANSWER

- (a) Correct. Centrelink (the deliverer of the Small Business Interest Rate Relief Program) has advised that 452 applications were received and 182 businesses were approved for the Small Business Interest Rate Relief Program.
- (b) In response to Parliamentary Question on Notice No. 2035 (refer House of Representatives Hansard, 31 October 2005), the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources noted that Centrelink was able to provide an electorate breakdown of the businesses which received funding under the program, but could not provide an electorate breakdown on all applications.
- (c) No. As set out in the response to Parliamentary Question on Notice No. 2035, electorate information was not recorded on Centrelink's computer system for all of the applications received seeking funding under the program. Therefore this information is not available.