

**Senate Standing Committee on Education Employment and Workplace  
Relations**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011**

**Outcome 4 - Employment & Participation Policy**

**DEEWR Question No.EW0539\_11**

**Senator Siewert provided in writing.**

**Question**

**SOCIAL SECURITY RULES**

1. Are the changes to the Liquid Assets Waiting Period to become a permanent feature of the Social Security rules?
2. Will the changes continue beyond March 2011, the date they were initially scheduled to cease?

**Answer**

In response to the Global Recession, the Liquid Assets Waiting Period thresholds were temporarily doubled for the period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2011. The legislation provides that this period can be extended by Ministerial determination. A decision has not yet been made on whether this period will be extended beyond 31 March 2011.