

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Department of Human Services

Additional Estimates February 2005

Question: HS51

Outcome 1, Output 1.1 - Effective delivery of Australian Government services to eligible customers

Topic: Disability Support Pension Portability

Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written

Senator Wong asked on 15 February 2005:

Is Centrelink aware of cases of people assessed as severely disabled, who had told Centrelink about their intention to travel overseas prior to the rule changes, but were then caught out by the 1 July 2004 cut off?

Answer:

Yes, Centrelink is aware of some customers who may have been impacted by these changes.

These cases generally involved customers not having notified Centrelink of their return to Australia or a change in their travel plans or customers who were unable to travel before the legislation changed.