

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010

Department of Finance and Deregulation

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 1, Program NA

Topic: Savings

Question reference number: F15

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Senator Joyce asked:

I will go onto another area. Mr Tanner put out a press release on 2 November 2009 in which he stated that the government has now delivered more than \$7 billion in savings from its own operations. Can you list what and where those operational savings are?

Answer:

Since the election of the Rudd Labor Government a number of saving measures have been implemented that have reduced the costs of Government operations. These have included:

- 2008-9 Budget Measure: Responsible Economic Management: Access Card: \$1, 245 million over five years;
- 2008-9 Budget Measure: Responsible Economic Management: Efficiency Dividend: \$2 200 million over six years;
- 2008-9 Budget Measure: Responsible Economic Management: Offshore Processing centres in Nauru and Manus Province- closure: \$68.7 million over five years;
- 2008-9 Budget Measure: Better targeting and Delivery of Family Tax Benefit – Streamlining Administration: \$128.1 million over six years;
- 2008-9 Updated Economic and Fiscal Outlook: Gershon Reforms to IT procurement: \$618 million over five years;
- 2009-10 Budget Measure: Department of Immigration and Citizenship: efficiency improvements - \$120.6 million over five years;
- 2009-10 Budget Measure: Improving English Language and Learning Outcomes for newly arrived immigrants - \$20.4 million over four years;
- 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook: Telecommunication Services: Whole of Government Coordinated Procurement: \$43.5 million over four years;

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- 2009-10 Mid Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook: Centrelink Efficiencies: Reduction in Paper-Based Claims and Correspondence: \$131.3 million over four years.