

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 1.1

Topic: New Commonwealth Regulation

Question reference number: F26

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 48, 9 February 2010

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 March 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Joyce asked:

Do you want to hazard a guess at how much new regulation was brought down in Australia last year?

Ms Page—We are only responsible for providing advice to the government in relation to Commonwealth regulation.

Senator Sherry—These officials are highly professional. They are not going to guess. They will take it on notice unless they have got a figure here now.

Ms Page – We do not have a figure.

Answer:

The Australian Government's deregulation agenda is focused on improving the effectiveness and efficiency of regulation to stimulate productivity growth.

The Department of Finance and Deregulation is responsible for providing advice to the Government in relation to the management of Commonwealth regulation. According to the ComLaw database, maintained by the Department of the Attorney-General, in 2009, 127 Commonwealth Acts received Royal Assent. In addition, 3,335 Commonwealth legislative instruments were registered on the Federal Register of Legislative Instruments over this period. This includes many classes of legislative instruments that relate to machinery of government matters or matters of administration that do not have a business regulatory impact.