

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

AEC Outcome 2, Program 2.1.1

Topic: Voting for the blind and vision impaired

Question reference number: F39

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 72, 9 February 2010

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

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Fifield asked:

Minister, in that case—given that the commissioner has confirmed that he cannot guarantee a secret ballot for blind and vision impaired people, and at last estimates you unable to—with the benefit of the report and recommendations of the AEC and having had some time to consider those, are you able to give a commitment on behalf of the government that it is the government's intention to ensure that there will be the capacity for a secret ballot for blind and vision impaired electors at the next election?

Answer:

I refer the Senator to the Ministerial Statement tabled by Senator Sherry on 9 March 2010 which provides the assurance the Senator is seeking. A copy of the Ministerial Statement is attached.