

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES – 9 FEBRUARY 2010
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Ministerial pressure on APS staff

Question reference number: HS49

Senator: RYAN

Type of question: Written

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

Number of pages: 1

Question:

The Canberra Times reported on 4/12/09 that ("ministers or their advisers pressured one in four executive-level bureaucrats to breach their duty to be apolitical, impartial or accountable in 2008-09")

- a) Did any Department of Human Services staff report that they felt that ministers or their advisers pressured them to breach their duty to be apolitical, impartial or accountable in 2008-09?
- b) Did any staff report that they felt that the Minister for Human Services or his advisers pressured them to breach their duty to be apolitical, impartial or accountable in 2008-09?

Answer:

- a) The Department of Human Services did not have any staff report they felt that ministers or their advisers pressured them to breach their duty to be apolitical, impartial or accountable in 2008-09.
- b) The Department of Human Services did not have any staff report they felt the Minister for Human Services or his advisers pressured them to breach their duty to be apolitical, impartial or accountable in 2008-09.