

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Additional Estimates 8-11 February 2010

Question: PM84a-b

Topic: Ministerial pressure on APS staff

Type of Question: Written

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

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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 PM&C 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 Prime Minister or his advisers pressured them to breach their duty to be apolitical, impartial or accountable in 2008-09?**

Answer:

- a) There have been no reports of such pressure.**
- b) The Department has not received any such reports.**