

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Additional Budget Estimates Hearing—February 2011

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Exemptions to security screenings**

Question: **11**

Hansard reference **F&PA p.25, 21 February 2011**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 15 April 2011

Senator FIFIELD—They are trusted for a day a year. Apart from those sorts of occasions and visiting heads of government and heads of state, are there any individuals in any other capacity who enjoy an exemption from security screening?

Ms Graham—Off the top of my head, no, there is not. I would like to double-check. Certainly the issue of exemptions comes up on a regular basis within the security section and our standard response is that all people and goods entering the building undergo a screening unless exempted.

Senator FIFIELD—If you could take on notice whether there are any other individuals who are exempted at any other times.

Answer

- 1 In addition to one-off ceremonial events, standing security exemptions apply to the following people:
 - (a) the Governor-General, their spouse or partner and accompanying party.
 - (b) the Prime Minister of Australia,
 - (c) any person travelling with the Prime Minister by vehicle when entering the Ministerial courtyard; and
 - (d) on-duty Australian Federal Police Close Personal Protection officers performing official duties.