

Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES – 29 MAY 2008

Human Services Portfolio



Department/Agency: Centrelink
Outcome/Output Group: Outcome 1, Output 1.1
Topic: Special Disability Trusts

Senator: Siewert
Question reference number: HS31a-c
Type of question: Written
Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 11 July 2008

Question:

HS31a: Under section 1209U the Secretary has the authority to waive one or more requirements in certain circumstances. In relation to that authority how many requests have been made for the Secretary to waive requirements?

HS31b: Under section 1209U the Secretary has the authority to waive one or more requirements in certain circumstances. In relation to that authority has the Secretary made any decisions to waive requirements under that section?

HS31c: Under section 1209U the Secretary has the authority to waive one or more requirements in certain circumstances. In relation to that authority how many approvals have been granted with waived requirements?

Answer:

HS31a: 11 requests have been made to waive requirements under section 1209U of the *Social Security Act 1991* since this came into effect.

HS31b: Yes.

HS31c: Eight applications have been approved to date. Two applications are pending a decision. In one case, the customers chose not to progress the application after a discussion with Centrelink regarding changes required for the trust to meet Special Disability Trust requirements.

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