

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Finance and Administration Portfolio**

**Department of Human Services and agencies**

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2005-2006, 1 November 2005

**Question: HS39**

**Outcome 1, Output 1.1**

**Topic: Centrelink – Youth Allowance Debts**

**Hansard Page/Written Question on Notice: Written**

**SENATOR EVANS** asked the Minister for Human Services, upon written notice:

Youth allowance debts

1. Please provide full details of the number of and value of debts raised by Centrelink from students receiving Youth Allowance who went from studying full time, to part time? Please provide this information for 2004-05 and 2005-06 (to date).
2. Please provide a summary table showing the number of these debts that were appealed to Authorised Review Officers, SSAT and AAT, and indicate whether the appeal was upheld/rejected at each of these stages.
3. How many youth allowance (sic)debts were referred to the Director of Public Prosecution, in 2004-05 and 2005-06 (to date). Please provide details.

**Answer:**

1. The detailed information required to answer the question is not readily available. To obtain this information would be highly resource intensive and I cannot justify the level of expenditure that would be required to obtain it.
2. The detailed information required to answer the question is not readily available. To obtain this information would be highly resource intensive and I cannot justify the level of expenditure that would be required to obtain it.
3. During the 2004-05 financial year, 501 cases were referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions, where the largest debt involved Youth Allowance. The detailed information required to answer the question is not readily available. To obtain this information would be highly resource intensive and I cannot justify the level of expenditure that would be required to obtain it.

To prepare this answer, it has taken 14 hours and 30 minutes at an estimated cost of \$707.