

Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Supplementary Budget Estimates 20 - 23 Oct 2008



Question: PM15

Outcome 1, Output 5

Topic: Has the Department prepared or sought legal advice regarding Victorian Abortion Law Reform Bill 2008

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Senator Boswell asked: Has the department prepared or sought legal advice on this issue; and, if so, will the department release this advice? Has the Prime Minister's office taken steps to ensure that the Victorian legislation is consistent with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights?

Senator Faulkner-Thank you, Senator. All we can do in this circumstance, because none of the officials nor I have knowledge of this, is take them on notice and provide responses.

Answer: The Department sought and has been provided with preliminary views from the Attorney-General's Department on the issues raised in the letters referred to by Senator Boswell. Questions about the views of the Attorney-General's Department should be directed to that department.