

Australian Government

Department of Finance and Deregulation

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Ms Christine McDonald Committee Secretary Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms McDonald

Correction: Additional Equipment for the Extra Staff of Independent Members

I am writing to correct my response to a question asked during the supplementary estimates hearing of the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration on the evening of 19 October 2010.

Senator the Hon Eric Abetz, Senator for Tasmania, asked about any additional equipment being provided for extra staff allocated to the Independent Members.

I advised that there had been no consideration of additional equipment at this stage. I would like to correct the record and confirm that there has been some consideration and additional equipment provided to the Independent Members for the extra staff members allocated to each, such as extra phone lines, computer equipment and furniture. Entitlements are being provided for the extra staff members in accordance with the *Members of Parliament (Staff)* Act 1984.

Yours sincerely

Jan Mason Deputy Secretary Asset Management and Parliamentary Services

26 October 2010