

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee —Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearing—October 2010

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services

Topic: **Expenditure against budget**

Question: **P 9 a)–b)**

Written: **Senator Bernardi**

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010

P9

- a) Are there any programs within your portfolio that are likely to exceed their current budget? If yes, please provide details (for example a demand driven program that has had higher than anticipated take up).
- b) Are there any programs within your portfolio that are likely to under spend their current budget? If yes, please provide details (for example a demand driven program that has had higher than anticipated take up).

Answer

- a) There have been recent increases in sitting hours for the House of Representatives and its Main Committee. In addition, there is an increase in House of Representatives committee activity. These changes are the result of the agreements between the Government, other political parties and independent Members.

The changes require increased hours for Hansard officers, Broadcasting officers and Security officers; but we have not yet been able to assess whether there will be budget problems for 2010–11.

- b) No.