

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

Output 1.2

Question No. 56

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 18 February:

Parliamentary Privilege Advice

- a) Was the advice, the existence of which Mr Albanese has disclosed, concerning constitutional aspects of the sittings of the House of Representatives on Fridays provided to the government by the Attorney-General's Department or its officers?
- b) Has advice to government concerning constitutional aspects of the sittings of the House of Representatives on Fridays been obtained from counsel?
- c) If advice has been obtained from counsel, please provide the name of the counsel.
- d) What were the instructions to the counsel? Please identify with particularity the question concerning which the counsel's advice was sought.
- e) If advice was obtained from the Australian Government Solicitor, please provide the details of the instructions provided to them.
- f) Was the advice obtained from a private law firm and what were the instructions to them if this was the case?
- g) In each case of advice provided was the advice provided in documentary or oral form?
- h) For each case of advice provided in documentary form please provide the date and the custodian of the document.
- i) For each case of advice provided please specify the date of the request for the advice and the date of the advice itself be included.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

The Attorney-General has indicated that it would not be appropriate for the Department to provide the information sought.