

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
FAMILY COURT OF AUSTRALIA

Program 1.1

Question No. 44

Senator Brandis asked the following question at the hearing on 22 February 2011:

Ms Fillipello—The court has actually responded to the exposure draft on the family law bill 2010 and has been given an opportunity to provide comment. I understand the department is in the process of drafting the relevant legislation and that the court was given an in-confidence copy of some of the provisions.

Senator BRANDIS—I just did not understand your answer. Are you saying that the court has provided or has been invited to provide comment?

Ms Fillipello—The court has provided comment in relation to the draft.

....

Senator BRANDIS—Do you have a copy of the court's comments there?

....

Mr Wilkins—As I said, we are happy to release it; it is just, I think, a question of courtesy, if nothing else, of asking the chief justice whether that is okay.

Senator BRANDIS—I understand. You will take that on notice?

Mr Wilkins—Yes.

Senator BRANDIS—What I would like is for there to be produced to the committee a copy of the court's comment on this draft that has been mentioned by Ms Fillipello.

Mr Wilkins—Yes.

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

A copy of the Chief Justice of the Family Court's submission to the public consultation on the exposure draft of the Family Law Amendment (Family Violence) Bill 2010 is attached.