

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 21 FEBRUARY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(115) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash asked:

How many onshore protection visa applications, by nationality, were lodged by people who were not IMAs who arrived with visas and were lawful at the time of application? How many of these were later found to have fraudulent documentation?

Answer:

Historical point-in-time information about the lawfulness of Protection visa applicants at the time of application is not readily available in consolidated form. The practice of successive governments has been not to authorise the expenditure of time and money associated with this major task in assembling the information.