

Australian Government

Office of the Migration Agents Registration Authority

28 February 2011

Julie Dennett
Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600



Cc: Julie Streatfield

Dear Ms Dennett

Subject: Correction to Senate records

I am writing to you to correct information provided to the Additional Budget Estimates hearing in February 2011, and recorded in Hansard (L&C 21 February 2011).

Firstly, in response to a question from Senator Pratt, I replied as follows:

'Currently, under the legislation, people can only be registered as a migration agent with us if they are either Australian or a permanent resident'.

The correct reply is:

'Currently, under the legislation, people can only be registered as a migration agent with us if they are either an Australian citizen or permanent resident, New Zealand Special Category Visa holder or qualifies under the processes set out in the Trans Tasman Mutual Recognition Act 1997'.

Secondly, I would like to clarify my response to Senator Barnett's question in relation to legislative changes and the 2007–08 Review of Statutory Self-Regulation of the Migration Advice Profession (2007–08 Review). In particular, I am referring the following question from Senator Barnett:

'We will certainly do that under that section. Specifically what did they related to? They are set out in the report, aren't they?'

In my response, I indicated the recommendations were set out in the 2007–08 Review. The report outlines recommendations that can be implemented with and without legislative changes. However, it may not be apparent from the report which specific recommendations would be implemented through legislative change.

Should a list of recommendations that are currently awaiting legislative change be required, I am happy to arrange for a copy to be forwarded to you.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Yours sincerely,

Christine Sykes

Chief Executive Officer

Office of the MARA

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