

## QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

**ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(AE12/0216) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration**

Senator Cash asked:

With regards to Skills Select: What review mechanisms are in place for those who submit an EOI that languishes in the system for 2 years without any action?

*Answer:*

As an expression of interest (EOI) is not a visa application there are no review rights associated with an EOI under the *Migration Act 1958 (Cth)*. SkillSelect will issue invitations based on the information relating to the points test scores provided by intending migrants. There is no assessment of this information by the Department until an application is made. This automatic selection process is subject to the possibility of judicial review.

Intending migrants can update their EOI at anytime to show changes in their skills and attributes. For example, if during the two year period they obtain an additional year of work experience, then they can update their EOI which can enhance their likelihood of being invited to apply for a points tested visa or to secure sponsorship for an employer sponsored visa.

Regular information will be provided to those people who have submitted an EOI about the invitation rounds. In addition SkillSelect will be able to provide specific information to particular groups of users. For example, sponsorship opportunities for particular occupations can be targeted.