

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES HEARING: 13 FEBRUARY 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(AE12/0231) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash asked:

How is the proposed Labour Agreement for the Tourism and Hospitality Industry different to a standard sponsorship agreement?

Answer:

Industry template labour agreements provide a targeted and flexible response to genuine skills shortages in the Australian labour market where standard migration programs are not appropriate.

The tourism and hospitality industry has requested a template labour agreement to accommodate occupations not eligible under standard migration programs. During the negotiation phase of a proposed industry template labour agreement, relevant industry stakeholders can also seek other concessions to the standard labour agreement.

In addition, template labour agreements ensure that all employers that request access to an approved industry template labour agreement are subject to the same conditions.