

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 24 MAY 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(BE11/0549) Program 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Crossin (L&CA 64) asked:

In relation to the contract with International Health and Medical Services (IHMS), is there anything in their contract about conditions of employment?

Answer:

The Health Services Contract requires, as a condition of employment, that the Health Services Manager must make appropriate and reasonable investigations of the suitability of prospective employees. These investigations must comprise a review of each individual's criminal, medical, professional and employment history.

The Health Services Contract also requires the Health Services Manager to ensure all personnel are appropriately licensed, qualified and registered to practise with the state and territory board or other relevant body (and observe any conditions imposed on their licence or registration) before delivering health care to people in immigration detention. The Health Services Manager must also ensure that the registration is maintained.

The Health Services Contract also requires that the Health Services Manager must not engage illegal workers and must comply with its obligations under the *Equal Employment Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Act 1999* (Cth).