

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN TRANSACTION REPORTS AND ANALYSIS CENTRE

Question No. 139

Senator Stott-Despoja asked the following question at the hearing on 31 October 2006:

Can AUSTRAC or AGD provide estimates of the expected increase in suspect matter reports likely under the proposed new AML-CTF legislation (which will replace the Financial Transaction Reports Act), given the increased type and number of reporting entities – especially under the second tranche covering real estate agents and jewellers – and the change in reportable event from suspect transaction to suspect matter?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Due to the expanded number of reporting entities which will provide designated services under the proposed AML-CTF legislation, it is estimated that the number of suspicious matter reports provided to AUSTRAC will possibly double. As work has not yet commenced on the second tranche regime it is not possible to provide any estimate of the expected increase.

The change in reportable event from suspect transaction to suspect matter will not result in any change in volume. It is the expansion of the services covered by the Bill which will result in an increase in the number of reports.