

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 30 October 2006**

IMMIGRATION AND MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

### **(164) Output 1.1 Migration and Temporary Entry**

Senator Evans asked:

On 6 September 2006 in Question Time the Minister stated that she would investigate the allegation that a pregnant family member on a 457 visa was forced to return to China. The principal 457 visa holder was employed by ABC Tissues at its Queensland site.

1. Has the Department investigated this case? What was done to investigate this allegation?
2. What was the outcome of the investigation?
3. Can the Department confirm that a pregnant family member was required to return to China?
4. Can the Department confirm that if that person had remained in Australia the employer would have been liable for all medical expenses related to the birth of the child?
5. Is the Department aware of similar cases?

*Answer:*

1. Yes. The Department found that the pregnant family member was covered by health insurance.
2. The Department was advised by ABC Tissue that the pregnant family member returned to China of her own free will to have her child.
3. See answer to part 2.
4. Please refer to answer to part 1.
5. No.