

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 20 OCTOBER 2009**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(49) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance**

Senator Fierravanti-Wells (L&CA 114) asked:

Provide the number of unauthorised air arrivals who have applied for Protection Visas over the last three or four years.

*Answer:*

Reliable data on the number of unauthorised air arrivals (as distinct from authorised arrivals) who apply for a Protection visa is no longer available due to changes to DIAC systems. In recent years, the magnitude had been recorded as in the order of about 100 per year out of total initial applications of more than 3000 each year.