QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(195) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash asked:

What actions have been taken in relation to the \$1.7 million integrity enhancements for the Working Holiday-maker Visa program?

Answer.

The Working Holiday Maker integrity enhancements referred to by this budgetary item were subsequently adjusted to ensure that there was no regulatory burden upon employers. The alternative approach implemented by the Department consisted of providing further information to employers regarding the Working Holiday Maker program and compliance requirements.

The \$1.7 million in funding was to be internally derived from the Department's budget. The alternative approach adopted by the Department did not have any budgetary impact.