

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/ 0161) Program 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Cash asked:

How many requests for Labour Agreements for semi-skilled occupations were received in 2010-2011 and the year to date. In what industries? How many were approved? How many have been rejected? How many are yet to be decided?

Answer:

In the 2010-11 program year, the Department received 64 requests for labour agreements which included semi-skilled occupations. Of these, 24 labour agreements have been approved, three have been declined and 30 are yet to be decided. The seven remaining requests were withdrawn.

In the 2011-12 program year, to 31 October 2011, the Department received 18 requests for labour agreements which included semi-skilled occupations. Of these, two labour agreements have been approved, none have been rejected and 16 are yet to be decided.

The following industries represent the majority of requests for labour agreements for semi-skilled occupations: agriculture, fishing, snowsports, manufacturing, construction, meat, fast food and mining.