

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 17 OCTOBER 2011

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE11/0209) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Cash asked:

In answer to EQON 232, the Department claimed it has previously used the cancellation provisions of the Migration Act to cancel the visas of those protection visa holders who have travelled back to their country from which they claimed persecution. How many visas have been cancelled?

Answer:

Departmental records indicate that 29 subclass 866 Protection visas were cancelled between July 1995 and November 2011 under various provisions of the *Migration Act 1958*. Departmental systems do not allow reporting on the reasons for individual cancellation decisions.