

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 15 October 2012

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(SE12/0322) PROGRAM – 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance

Senator Hanson-Young (written) asked:

Screening out: For what administrative purposes are people held in immigration detention if not for making an application for protection?

Answer:

Irregular maritime arrivals who do not engage Australia's international obligations are not able to lodge a valid application for a visa and are subject to removal pursuant to s198 of the Act. They may remain in immigration detention while the department arranges their removal. The department is required to effect their removal as soon as reasonably practical.