

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE13/0309) PROGRAMME – 1.1: Visa and Migration

Senator Carr (Written) asked:

Explain how the sponsor obligation to undertake labour market testing in the 457 visa program will work in practice.

Answer:

When making a nomination for an eligible occupation under the Subclass 457 visa programme, an approved sponsor must determine if they are exempt from the labour market testing requirements on the basis:

1. of the skill level of the nominated occupation, or
2. that requiring labour market testing for the nominated position would conflict with Australia's international trade obligations.

If labour market testing is required, approved sponsors must provide information about their attempts to recruit Australians, including the details and expenses of any advertising conducted.