

**Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee**  
**Inquiry into Welfare Reform and Reinstatement of the Racial Discrimination Act**  
**Canberra Hearing, Thursday 4 February 2010**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Question No: WR1**

**Topic:** Legal advice on whether the proposed income management regime meets the requirements of the *Racial Discrimination Act 1975* (RDA).

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**Senator Siewert** asked:

Can I clarify that you have received advice, and did that advice say that it does qualify to meet the RDA?; and

.... can you please take on notice that I would like the Government to confirm that its advice was that this would meet those requirements?

**Answer:**

The Government has received legal advice about whether the proposed new income management regime complies with the RDA. The Government will not generally disclose the content of legal advice.

The proposed new income management regime is a non-discriminatory scheme and will operate, from its proposed commencement on 1 July 2010, without the suspension of the RDA.