



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Main Committee

APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 1) 2009-2010

Consideration in Detail

SPEECH

Thursday, 18 June 2009

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPEECH

Date Thursday, 18 June 2009
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Questioner
Speaker Smith, Anthony, MP

Source House
Proof No
Responder
Question No.

Mr ANTHONY SMITH (Casey) (10.44 am)—I thank the minister for his answer and for referring to the paper which he released I think on his final day as Assistant Treasurer—late on a Friday before his appointment to higher duties.

Mr Bowen—Fortuitously!

Mr ANTHONY SMITH—Fortuitously—he is right. What I would like to do is take him back to the decision on budget night. I accept the minister's valid point that the costings are done by Treasury, sometimes with tax office advice. I would like to ask the minister whether the Treasury or the tax office in fact considered in their calculations how many employees would withdraw from employee share ownership plans, whether they gave the minister any of that advice or whether they simply did not consider that there would be any behavioural effect with respect to the budget decision.