

FINE DEFAULTERS — INCARCERATION

1832. Mr P. Papalia to the Minister for Emergency Services; Corrective Services; Small Business; Veterans:

I refer to provisions within the *Fines, Penalties and Infringement Notices Enforcement Act 1994* enabling fine defaulters to enter prison under a warrant of commitment to clear fines, and I ask:

- (a) for each calendar year from 2008 to the present date, on how many occasions did offenders enter prison solely to clear fine defaults — please identify only those who entered prison for fine default alone (i.e. no other offence), but include each entry to prison as a separate incident even if the same offender was incarcerated for the same reason more than once in a calendar year;
- (b) how many of these individuals re-entered the prison system for identical reasons (i.e. fine default alone) on more than one occasion during the period 2008 to the present time;
- (c) how many of these individuals re-entered the prison system for identical reasons on more than two occasions during the same period, on more than three, and on four or more occasions; and
- (d) of those offenders who entered prison for fine default identified above, how many (in each calendar year) were:
 - (i) incarcerated for only a four day period from Friday to the following Monday;
 - (ii) flown at government expense from a remote regional community to the prison and then returned to their community;
 - (iii) Aboriginal; and
 - (iv) female?

Mr J.M. Francis replied:

The Department of Corrective Services advises:

- (a) **[See paper 1466.]**
- (b) **236**
- (c) During the period 01/01/08 to 31/12/13:
 - 232 individuals entered the prison system for fine default only on 2 occasions.
 - 4 individuals entered the prison system for fine default only on 3 occasions.
 - No individuals entered the prison system for fine default only on 4 or more occasions.
- (d)
 - (i) [See paper 1466.]
 - (ii) The data recorded via the Total Offender Management System (TOMS) custodial application allows DCS to identify fine default offences. It does not provide the means to identify whether a prisoner was flown from a regional community at Government expense. This information is currently managed and recorded separately and would require manual analysis.
 - (iii)–(iv) [See paper 1466.]