

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2010-2011, 23 February 2011

Question: E11-163

OUTCOME 9: Private Health

Topic: PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE REBATES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) The government indicated in last year's budget that it intends to proceed with planned changes to the private health insurance rebates. Given the changes in private health insurance coverage and premiums over that time, what is the latest estimate of the fiscal impact of those changes?
- b) What is the latest revision of the expected number of people to be affected by the government's changes?

Answer:

- a) The most recent estimate to be publicly released was in Budget Paper No.1 2010-11, page 3-19 and 6-4.
- b) Treasury estimates that 99.7 per cent of people will retain their private health insurance. Only 25,000 people are estimated to drop out of hospital cover.