

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Additional Estimates 2016 - 2017, 1 March 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000016

**OUTCOME:** 4 - Individual Health Benefits

**Topic:** Hearing Loss

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 32, 1 March 2017

**Senator:** Siewert, Rachel

**Question:**

Senator SIEWERT: I understand that point. I am concerned about what happens beyond that. I want to go back to a question I asked earlier. There is some discussion around where unilateral hearing loss is going to sit and whether people with unilateral hearing loss are going to get supported through the NDIS. That is still under review. Where are you at with unilateral hearing loss?

Ms Garrett: I will have to take on notice to find out the current rules for the program.

**Answer:**

Within the Hearing Services Program, eligible clients are assessed to determine if they require a hearing aid for either ear or both ears. A program client who has a unilateral hearing loss that meets the Minimum Hearing Loss Threshold (greater than 23dB) and could benefit from a hearing aid will be offered a hearing aid.