

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Social Services Portfolio
2014-15 Budget Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 1

Question No: 352

Topic: Asset test

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

Please compare the current asset test cut-offs (beyond which no pension is paid) with those that would apply today if the 2007 easing of the pension assets test had not been implemented.

Answer:

The current pension cut-out points (the point where pensions cease to be payable under the assets test) compared to the cut-out points that would apply today if the 2007 easing of the pension assets test had not been implemented (i.e. the assets test taper had not been reduced from \$3 to \$1.50 per fortnight for every \$1,000 of assets above the free areas), are shown below:

	From 1 July 2014 – Assets Test Cut-out Points	
	Current Cut-out Points (\$1.50 taper rate)	Cut-out Points if the \$3.00 taper rate had remained in place
Home owner, single	\$764,000	\$483,000
Home owner couples, combined	\$1,134,000	\$710,500
Non-home owner, single	\$910,500	\$629,500
Non-home owner couples, combined	\$1,280,500	\$857,000