

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 - 2 June 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000594

OUTCOME: 7 - Health Infrastructure, Regulation, Safety and Quality

Topic: Assessment of Chemicals in Cosmetics

Type of Question: Hansard Page 29, 2 June 2015

Senator: Ruston, Anne

Question:

If we mandated non-animal testing, instead of allowing companies to choose whether they used animals or otherwise, how many ingredients would that remove from the equation?

Answer:

The *Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Act 1989* (ICNA Act) establishes the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) as a system under which information for assessment of chemicals is obtained from importers and manufacturers. As such, NICNAS is reliant on the information supplied by industry in their notification package.

For the chemicals submitted for assessment in 2013-14, it is not possible to ascertain whether there were any data derived from non-animal tests which could have been submitted. Therefore, there is significant uncertainty in predicting how many ingredients would actually be impacted.