

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

**Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014 - 2015, 22 October 2014**

**Ref No:** SQ14-001450

**OUTCOME:** 0 - Whole of Portfolio

**Topic:** Freedom of Information Statistics

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Ludwig, Joe

**Question:**

1. How many FOI requests were received between 7 September 2013 to date.
2. How many of those requests were finalised within the regular timeframes provided under the FOI Act?
3. How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AA of the FOI Act?
4. How many of those requests were granted an extension of time under s 15AB of the FOI Act?
5. How many of those requests were finalised out of time?

**Answer:**

1. The Department of Health received 346 requests for access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the Act) during the period 7 September 2013 to 30 September 2014.
2. 338 requests were finalised by the Department during this period.
3. Under section 15AA of the Act the Department obtained 29 extensions of time.
4. Under section 15AB of the Act the Department obtained seven extensions of time. This figure includes six occasions when both section 15AA and section 15AB extensions were obtained.
5. Five.