

Senate Economics Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Budget Estimates

2017 - 2018

Division/Agency: Tax Analysis Division

Question No: 297

Topic: Medicare Levy Modelling on Revenue Raised

Reference: Hansard page 37 (30 June 2017)

Senator: Whish-Wilson, Peter

Question:

Senator WHISH-WILSON: I am not going to. I am going to ask a question on the same subject. Has the department done any modelling or any work on how much more you would raise if the Medicare levy were taken from pre-tax-deductible income—that is, from gross income?

Ms Mrakovic: In my view, those questions go to policy delivery and process and I do not think it—

Senator WHISH-WILSON: It is a revenue question.

Senator Cormann: You are asking a question that goes straight to the heart of the cabinet deliberative processes—the budget process. You are asking what—

Senator WHISH-WILSON: Chair, I have a point of order. That is not what I asked.

Senator Cormann: Your question is: what options has the government considered in the context of the budget process. That is really what you are asking.

Senator WHISH-WILSON: That is not what I asked, Senator Cormann. I asked the department if they had done any work, modelling or simulation or otherwise on how much the Medicare levy would raise if it were on—

Senator Cormann: We will take a question on notice.

Answer:

Treasury conducts a variety of analysis when providing advice to Government. Disclosing a list of these analyses has the potential to reveal deliberations of Cabinet. Accordingly, we are unable to provide this information.