

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee  
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2003-2004, 5 November 2003

Question: E03-193  
Cross referenced DEST E676\_04

OUTCOME 9: Health Investment

Topic: A FAIRER MEDICARE - ADDITIONAL MEDICAL SCHOOL PLACES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Stott Despoja asked:

Has the Department considered any changes to this scheme in light of public opposition by medical students to this policy?

Answer:

As part of the MedicarePlus package, the Government announced that students taking up one of the new places under the Bonded Medical Places Scheme will be permitted to count up to three years vocational training undertaken in rural areas towards meeting the six year bonding requirement. Under the original A Fairer Medicare package, only work undertaken following completion of vocational training counted for this purpose.