

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(BE13/0208) PROGRAM – 5.1: Settlement Services for Migrants and Refugees**

Senator Cash (L&CA 122) asked:

Senator CASH: That is fine. I appreciate that. In relation to health tests for children, I refer you to the answer to AE130126 which states that: 'Refugee humanitarian entrants, including school-aged children, are referred for an initial health assessment within four weeks of entry into the Humanitarian Settlement Services program.' Does that assessment include a mandatory sight or hearing test?

Ms Finney: Yes, I believe it does.

Senator CASH: Both?

Ms Finney: I would have to check to be certain. I will take that on notice.

*Answer:*

Refugee humanitarian entrants, including school-aged children, receive eye checks and basic hearing tests prior to their arrival. Within four weeks of entry into the Humanitarian Settlement Services program they undertake a mandatory health assessment. Information on health issues, identified prior to their arrival, is available to doctors at the time of this assessment. Specific, non indicated hearing and sight tests are not routinely undertaken unless indicated.