

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES - 16 FEBRUARY 2012 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Human Services Portfolio

Topic: Chronic Disease Dental Scheme

Question reference number: HS 3

Senator: Abetz

Type of question: Hansard page 91

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 29 March 2012

Number of pages: 2

Question:

- a) Senator ABETZ: If I may, with your indulgence, Chair, so we do not talk abstract cases, out of the 17 that were referred for re-education—lovely term—what is the highest amount that could have potentially been claimed back by Medicare?

Mr Rimmer: We would have to take that on notice.

- b) Senator ABETZ: Can you please take on notice—because it should not be too difficult a task; we are talking about 63—to tell us, without identifying them but just giving the numbers, how much each one could potentially be liable for recovery of funds? Then we can ascertain the 17 that recovery was not sought against, and we will make our own judgment as to whether this is a money collection exercise or not. If you could do that for us on notice, that would be much appreciated.

Mr Rimmer: I think we can do that on notice. We can tell you that for the 46 non-compliant situations where we are pursuing recovery, the total amount pursued is \$21.5 million. We will provide the rest of the information on notice.

Answer:

- a) Of the 17 cases cited, the highest amount was \$37,878.95.

- b) In the 46 cases where the department has sought recovery of funds for incorrectly claimed benefits, dental practitioners have been notified of the following amounts for recovery:

Case number	Recovery amount
1	\$3,510,974.35
2	\$2,153,237.85
3	\$1,986,074.65
4	\$1,831,147.05
5	\$1,405,569.20
6	\$1,151,649.15
7	\$1,027,541.65
8	\$747,420.30
9	\$713,803.80
10	\$685,989.10
11	\$682,332.15
12	\$621,245.65
13	\$541,080.05
14	\$470,072.10
15	\$404,803.85
16	\$398,307.55
17	\$367,130.80
18	\$333,676.30
19	\$301,155.80
20	\$253,129.60
21	\$244,285.35
22	\$239,850.15
23	\$227,664.15

Case number	Recovery amount
24	\$219,352.25
25	\$159,610.70
26	\$130,039.55
27	\$97,876.50
28	\$82,640.05
29	\$79,062.50
30	\$74,766.65
31	\$69,408.95
32	\$59,196.25
33	\$49,631.95
34	\$34,974.40
35	\$33,169.70
36	\$27,942.40
37	\$24,637.95
38	\$20,978.45
39	\$16,864.00
40	\$15,566.10
41	\$12,878.45
42	\$7,961.90
43	\$1,850.30
44	\$1,538.45
45	\$490.00
46	\$327.60