

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2013-14, 20 November 2013

Question: E13-182

OUTCOME: 1 – Population Health

Topic: Front-of-Package Labelling

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McKenzie

Question:

- a) If the system is eventually made mandatory, what is the penalty for companies that don't adopt it? What consultation has been had regarding the trigger for a mandatory code? Who with? When?
- b) What steps would the government take to ensure that mandating a flawed system would not prompt companies to take legal action or appeal to the AAT or other such bodies?

Answer:

- a) The Department of Health is not in a position to speculate on future decisions of the Legislative and Governance Forum on Food Regulation.
- b) At this point in time the Health Star Rating System is voluntary, not mandatory.