



Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee  
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2019-20  
Wednesday, 23 October 2019  
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Community Affairs Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am until 11.00pm.

The committee called:

- department agencies of the Health portfolio, including Outcomes 1—6 and the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission, Aged Care Financing Authority, National Health and Medical Research Council, Australian Digital Health Agency, National Mental Health Commission, Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority, Australian Sports Commission, Therapeutic Goods Administration and the Office of Drug Control.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- fees for access to medical services, including general practitioners and specialists;
- National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Flexible Aged Care Program;
- Royal Commission into aged care;
- physical and chemical restraints used in aged care facilities;
- implementation of recommendations from the Legislated review of aged care (Tune Review);
- MyHealth record;
- Rural and Regional Mental Health Strategy;
- Draft National Alcohol Strategy;
- Government response to the Senate inquiry into Thalidomide;
- new items listed on the Medical Benefits Scheme; and
- listing medicines on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme.

The committee will next meet at 9.00am on Thursday, 24 October 2019 in Committee Room 2S1, calling:

- department agencies of the Social Services portfolio, including the Australian Institute of Family Studies, National Disability Insurance Scheme Launch Transition Agency, and the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission; and
- department and agencies of the Services Australia portfolio including the Digital Transformation Agency.