

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12- 157

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: WORKFORCE AND RURAL DISTRIBUTION

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

What capacity exists for the Commonwealth to influence a review or a revision of recency of practice requirements? Do changes have to be approved by Health Ministers?

Answer:

Oversight of the operation of the National Registration and Accreditation Scheme is provided jointly by state and territory health ministers and the Federal Health Minister through the Australian Health Workforce Ministerial Council (the Ministerial Council).

Recency of practice requirements are part of the mandatory registration standards which must be approved by the Ministerial Council. The Ministerial Council may at any time ask a national board to review an approved or proposed registration standard.