Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-201

OUTCOME 10: Health System Capacity and Quality

Topic: EHEALTH

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

Has there been a "Regulatory Impact Statement" (RIS) conducted by DOHA for:

a) RIS, for the HI Act and associated regulations?

b) RIS, for the PCEHR Legislation under consultation and consideration by this Senate Committee?

c) If no RIS has been commissioned and conducted for either legislation, why not?Will a RIS be performed as obligated, 2 years after the initial inception of new legislation & regulation, for both the HI Act and this PCEHR Act under review and consultation?

Answer:

a) to c)
The Department of Health and Ageing did not undertake a Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) for the Healthcare Identifiers Act and associated regulations. The Office of Best Practice and Regulation advised that a RIS was not required because it is not compulsory for consumers and/or healthcare providers to obtain a healthcare identifier or to participate in the Personally Controlled Electronic Health Record (PCEHR) system. A RIS does not need to be undertaken within two years of either the HI Act or PCEHR Bills coming into force.