

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-214

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Written Question on Notice

Senator Boyce asked:

- a) Has a contingency fund been set aside in the event that Australian taxpayers are ordered to pay compensation for extinguishing a company's intellectual property?
- b) If so, how much has been put aside in that fund?

Answer:

a) and b)

The Government is committed to defending any litigation launched by the tobacco companies and will make all necessary resources available.

The Government does not intend to disclose in advance figures associated with defending these legal actions as public disclosure of this information may confer a tactical advantage on the other parties in the litigation.