

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 2011-2012, 15 February 2012

Question: E12-336

OUTCOME 9: Private Health

Topic: PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

Was the Department requested to provide electorate specific information on Private Health Insurance customers, and the impact of the changes to the Private Health Insurance rebate? If so, please provided details including:

- a) Where did the request come from.
- b) When was the request made.
- c) Who was provided with access to this information.
- d) Was it provided to Labor MP's and backbenchers and if so when.
- e) Full details of any data that the Department produced in this respect.

Answer:

The Department of Health and Ageing provided an estimate of the numbers of people affected in particular electorates.

- a) The request came from the office of the Minister for Health.
- b) Requests were made in July 2011, and February 2012.
- c) The information was provided to the Minister's office.
- d) See c).
- e) The Australian Taxation Office provided the Department with unpublished 2008-09 data. This data was combined with electorate data as at 2010 election, to estimate the percentage of the electorate likely to be impacted by the Incentives Tiers.