

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-143

OUTCOME 1: Population Health

Topic: Alcohol Health Warnings

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: Senator Di Natale

Question:

To implement mandatory labelling changes to products, Food Standards Australia New Zealand (FSANZ) must be tasked to examine the labelling change and develop a standard to implement such change. When will the Government task FSANZ to commence the regulatory process to implement mandatory alcohol health warnings?

Answer:

The process for introducing any food labelling regulatory requirement is specified by the *Food Standards Australia New Zealand Act 1991*, which prescribes a regulatory development process which involves transparent and public consultation. The Legislative and Governance Forum on Food Regulation are yet to consider and agree on the details of the implementation arrangements to put in place regulation for pregnancy warning labels. However, they have indicated that they are eager for governments and industry to work together to avoid a divergence between voluntary initiatives and future regulatory arrangements.