Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Additional Estimates 13 & 15 February 2013

Question: E13-239

OUTCOME 9: Private Health

Topic: Private Health Insurance

Type of Question: Hansard Page 55, 13 February 2013

Senator: Senator Fierravanti-Wells

Question:

Will the Department cease to refer to the 30 per cent rebate because for the vast majority of policyholders it will erode with time and be significantly less than 30 per cent?

Answer:

No. The rebate can continue to be called a 30 per cent rebate as a policy holder's percentage rebate entitlement will continue to be between 0 and 40 per cent depending on their age and income.

It should be noted that, on 17 May 2012, the Private Health Insurance (Incentives) Rules 2012 were amended to replace the term 'Federal Government 30% Rebate on Private Health Insurance' with 'Australian Government Rebate on private health insurance'. Accordingly the Rebate logo was also updated. This reflects the need to encompass the variation in rebates.