

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**SOCIAL SERVICES PORTFOLIO**  
**2014-15 Additional Estimates Hearings**

**Outcome Number: 1.6 Income Support for Seniors    Question No: SQ15-000321**

**Topic: Deeming Rates**

**Hansard page: Written**

**Senator Moore, Claire** asked:

What is likely to have a bigger impact on the rate of the pension, changes to the deeming rates or changes to indexation?

Is it fair to say that the impact of changes to the deeming rates will be marginal compared with changes to indexation?

**Answer:**

The deeming rates and the pension indexation arrangements exist for different purposes and cannot be easily compared. For example, changes to the deeming rates only impact part-rate pensioners assessed under the income test and who have financial assets. The indexation of the pension applies to all pensioners.