

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2012-2013, 30 & 31 May and 1 June 2012

Question: E12-270

OUTCOME 6: Rural Health

Topic: Cessation of the *Expand access to multi-purpose services*

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Di Natale

Questions:

In the Budget, there are savings from the Commonwealth not proceeding with the provision of subacute beds in multi-purpose services.

- a) What is the total extent of these savings?
- b) Is the money lost to rural and remote health services?
- c) What are the reasons for the decision not to proceed?

Answers:

- a) \$120 million over three years.
- b) The \$120 million was returned to Consolidated Revenue.
- c) Despite protracted negotiations and concessions from the Commonwealth, some states were still reluctant to provide recurrent funding to staff and operate the facilities, and accept reasonable reporting requirements.