

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: E12-290

OUTCOME 0: Whole of Portfolio

Topic: Trans-Pacific Partnership

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Number of pages: 1

Senator: Senator Di Natale

Question:

Have there been (or will there be) any estimates of the burden of disease in developing countries if the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement tightens intellectual property rules applying to medicines, or introduces an investor-state settlement provision that enables tobacco companies to prevent the implementation of effective tobacco control policies?

Answer:

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has lead responsibility in all aspects of the Trans Pacific Partnership Agreement negotiations. The Department of Health and Ageing provides advice on domestic health policy issues.

The Government will not accept any provisions in the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement which would adversely affect Australian healthcare policy or constrain the Government's ability to regulate legitimately on public policy matters. This includes investor-state settlement provisions.