

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2013-14, 5/6 & 7 June 2013**

**Question: E13-168**

**OUTCOME:** 3 - Access to Medical Services

**Topic:** Extended Medicare Safety Net

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 111, 5 June 2013

**Senator:** Fierravanti-Wells

**Question:**

- a) How many people currently qualify and receive Medicare funding under the extended Medicare Safety Net?
- b) How many people will be affected by this measure - that is, how many fewer people do you expect to qualify for the Extended Medicare Safety Net than otherwise would have?

**Answer:**

- a) The most recent data available is from 2012 as shown in the table below:

**Extended Medicare Safety Net (EMSN) benefits (numbers qualified and received)<sup>1</sup>**

	Number of people qualifying for the Extended Medicare Safety Net <sup>2</sup>	Number of people who have received an Extended Medicare Safety Net benefit
2012	1,610,875	1,033,323

<sup>1</sup>data is based on date of services with regard to claims processed up to 30 June 2013. <sup>2</sup>The number of people qualifying for the EMSN includes all members of a Medicare registered family in which at least one family member received an EMSN benefit.

- b) In 2015 approximately 740,000 people could be affected – either because they no longer qualify for the EMSN or their EMSN benefits will be reduced.