

Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

BUDGET ESTIMATES – 3 JUNE 2015 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Department of Human Services

Topic: Disability Support Pension - portability

Question reference number: HS 29

Senator: Siewert

Type of question: Hansard page 79

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 24 July 2015

Number of pages: 2

Question:

Senator SIEWERT: Okay, that would be appreciated, thank you. They are all the issues I have on aged care. I have two extra questions which hopefully will be very simple. You might need to take them on notice. I am interested in the number of people on DSP that have now been approved for portability.

Ms Campbell: We might have to take that on notice. I do not think we have that with us.

Senator SIEWERT: So can I put that on notice, please: what is the success rate of people on DSP applying for portability?

Ms Campbell: Do you want success rate, or do you want the number?

Senator SIEWERT: Sorry, can I have the number and the success rate? Is it possible to give it to me for each year from 2012?

Ms Golightly: We think so.

Answer:

Since 1 July 2012 it has been possible for Disability Support Pension (DSP) recipients to apply for an indefinite period of payment portability only if they are assessed in Australia as having no future work capacity.

The following table details the number of DSP recipients since that date who applied for indefinite portability, as well as the number of applications successfully granted. DSP customers who are not assessed as having indefinite portability will generally have their payment suspended at the end of their allowable payment period.

Financial Year	General Portability Rule	Number of DSP recipients who travelled overseas	Number of DSP recipients who applied for “indefinite portability”	Number and percentage of DSP recipients granted “indefinite portability”
2012/13	<u>Pre 1/1/13</u> DSP is generally portable for 13 weeks <u>Post 1/1/13</u> DSP is generally portable for six weeks	90,934	1,649	1,305 (79%)
2013/14	DSP is generally portable for six weeks	96,258	1,831	1,445 (78%)
2014/15 (FYTD)	<u>Post 1/1/15</u> DSP is generally portable for four weeks in any 12 month period	87,396	2,107	1,779 (84%)

Source: Departmental data as at reporting date 6 June 2015