

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 - 2 June 2015**

**Ref No:** SQ15-000339

**OUTCOME:** 2 - Access to Pharmaceutical Services

**Topic:** Pharmacy Agreement

**Type of Question:** Written Question on Notice

**Senator:** Di Natale, Richard

**Question:**

Can DoH clarify the basis on which it treated the Pharmacy Guild as the sole recipient of grants of Commonwealth financial assistance intended to be distributed by the Guild to pharmacy owners? Can Health provide evidence that the relevant funds were authorised by the Minister as grants to the Pharmacy Guild?

**Answer:**

The Fifth Community Pharmacy Agreement, signed by the then Minister for Health, the Hon Nicola Roxon MP, on 3 May 2010, identified, in schedule 1, the Pharmacy Guild of Australia as Program Manager for all scheduled programs, and as making program payments for a number of programs.