

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

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

**Ref No:** SQ15-000381

**OUTCOME:** 6 - Private Health

**Topic:** Private Health Insurance

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

**Senator:** Xenophon, Nick

**Question:**

Programme 6.1 of the 2015 Health Portfolio Budget Statement lists affordability of private health insurance as a key goal. It links affordability to the private health insurance rebate and again commits the government to restoring it to a full 30% when fiscal circumstances allow.

- a) When will the government deliver on its promise to support PHI affordability by restoring the private health insurance rebate to its full 30% for all policy holders?
- b) Has the Minister received advice on reforms to address PHI affordability?
- c) Did this advice include reforming restrictive and outdated regulations, such as those governing prosthesis funding arrangements and excess levels?

**Answer:**

- a) The Government has committed to restoring the private health insurance rebate once fiscal circumstances allow.

b) and c)

The Department of Health routinely provides advice to the Minister for Health, the Hon Sussan Ley MP, on private health insurance policy.