

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 1 - 2 June 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000592

OUTCOME: 7 - Health Infrastructure, Regulation, Safety and Quality

Topic: Assessment of Chemicals in Cosmetics

Type of Question: Hansard Page 29, 2 June 2015

Senator: Ruston, Anne

Question:

If we agreed to accept overseas jurisdictions' approvals, instead of requiring additional testing coming into Australia, how many ingredients would that exempt from further testing in Australia?

Answer:

The only overseas jurisdictions which conduct pre-market assessments of public health impacts for new cosmetic ingredients, and therefore give 'approvals' are Canada and the European Union (for certain ingredients only, including preservatives, colours, and UV filters).

If Australia agreed to accept these overseas jurisdictions' approvals instead of requiring additional testing to introduce these chemicals into Australia, two of the new cosmetic ingredients assessed in 2013-14 (2014-15 data are not yet available) in the Standard notification category (i.e. which had statutory data requirements that include animal tests) would have been exempted from providing the required data as they had been assessed in Canada.