

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

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

**Ref No:** SQ15-000599

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

**Topic:** Assessment of Chemicals in Cosmetics

**Type of Question:** Hansard Page 30, 2 June 2015

**Senator:** Ruston, Anne

**Question:**

If you went to the full stage and banned the testing of ingredients on animals for the purposes of importation into Australia, what is the quantum impact of that?

**Answer:**

There is significant uncertainty in predicting the quantum impact of such a ban, in light of the current ability for applicants to seek a variation in the statutory requirement for animal testing. Based on statistics for the 2013-14 financial year, less than 10 chemicals per annum would be likely to be affected if a ban were introduced on the importation of new cosmetic ingredients that had been tested on animals. However, the reforms to the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) that were recently announced by government are likely to further reduce this impact.