

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 May 2017

Ref No: SQ17-000621

OUTCOME: 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection

Topic: Cosmetic Testing on Animals

Type of Question: Hansard Page 123, 29 May 2017

Senator: Rhiannon, Lee

Question:

Senator RHIANNON: I think that you have probably covered it, but I noticed that there were the two announcements. There was one in the budget and there was one in MYEFO. I will check about the MYEFO announcement. Will Australian companies be banned from manufacturing, developing, importing or selling animal tested cosmetic products, or ingredients, under the last MYEFO announcement that set out a ban on the sale of cruel cosmetics?

Mr Cormack: What we have said today covers the lot, and that is the way the government proposes to deal with that issue and to implement their election commitment.

Senator RHIANNON: What about the advertising for sale of these products via the internet. Will what you are doing also capture that?

Mr Cormack: I will take that question on notice, specifically in relation to that aspect of it.

Answer:

No. The ban as announced in the 2017-18 Budget will not prohibit cosmetic products that have been tested on animals from being advertised to Australian consumers on the internet. Companies will be unable to conduct new animal testing of cosmetics in Australia and the introduction of new cosmetic ingredients cannot be supported by data from animal testing.

The Australian Government's announcement also seeks to work with industry to improve the transparency around the cosmetics products they purchase and provide for an informed choice whether that be a purchase in Australia or how consumers consider advertising and claims made on products.