

**Senate Community Affairs Committee**

**ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**HEALTH PORTFOLIO**

**Budget Estimates 2017 - 2018, 29 May 2017**

**Ref No:** SQ17-000808

**OUTCOME:** 5 - Regulation, Safety and Protection

**Topic:** Medicines Australia Agreement

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

**Senator:** Watt, Murray

**Question:**

How much of the \$1.8 billion in savings will remain after the medicines expenditure measures in this years Budget - including the anti-venom and national stockpile costs? (note - we are not seeking a breakdown of the individual costs, just an aggregate figure, so it should not be commercial-in-confidence).

**Answer:**

The \$1.8 billion savings will, as stated in the Health 2017-18 Portfolio Budget Statement, fund future PBS listings. The remaining amount cannot be identified as it would allow visibility of the anti-venom measure costs which are not for publication, and may influence future negotiations for medicines not yet on the PBS.