

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-363

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: NATIONAL REGISTRATION AND ACCREDITATION

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) How many health professionals have been prevented from practising as a result of delays in processing applications or renewals for registration since 1 July 2010? For those affected, what was the average delay incurred?
- b) What caused the delays?
- c) Is there still a delay in processing applications?

Answer:

a – c)

The National Registration and Accreditation Scheme is not a Commonwealth scheme, it is a national scheme. The legislative framework for the Scheme is an applied laws model.

Queensland, as the lead state, introduced the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009 (Qld)* (the National Law) which established new national boards and detailed the substantive provisions for registration and accreditation. The National Law was then applied in the remaining states and territories except Western Australia, which enacted a corresponding law.

The Department therefore is unable to provide this information.

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) is responsible for providing administrative support to the ten national health practitioner boards, including managing the registration processes for health practitioners and students around Australia and publishing national registers of practitioners.

Questions regarding registration applications, renewals or delays should be referred to AHPRA at:

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