

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011, 20 October 2010

Question: E10-367

OUTCOME 12: Health Workforce Capacity

Topic: STATE MEDICAL BOARDS

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

- a) How are continuing State Medical Boards funded?
- b) Are they entirely funded from a national source: do the States contribute to their funding?
- c) Are the staffs of these boards, including doctors, still being paid regularly? If not, why not?

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.

Under Sections 25 and 26 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009*, the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) is responsible for administering funding for each national board, including the annual budget of the national board, its committees and accreditation authorities.

Questions regarding funding and budgets should be referred to AHPRA at:

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