

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH AND AGEING PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2011-2012, 19 October 2011

Question: E11-358

OUTCOME 3: Access to Medical Services

Topic: MEDICARE SERVICES

Written Question on Notice

Senator Fierravanti-Wells asked:

To stem the drain of specialists, would the Department consider a move, as an example, to offer a 50% to the MBS for rural and regional obstetric MBS item numbers to provide an incentive for specialists to relocate from cities?

Answer:

Offering incentive payments under the Medicare Benefits Schedule for specials to relocate from cities is an issue for the Government to consider..