

Senate Community Affairs Committee

ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

HEALTH PORTFOLIO

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2015 - 2016, 21 October 2015

Ref No: SQ15-000857

OUTCOME: 3 - Access to Medical and Dental Services

Topic: Medicare Safety Net

Type of Question: Written Question on Notice

Senator: McLucas, Jan

Question:

The Department reported in Supplementary Estimates that a small number of patients would be adversely affected by higher out of pocket costs as a result of the proposed changes to the Medicare Safety Net. Could the Department outline who it expects these patients to be.

Answer:

The Department of Health gave a full account of the new Medicare safety net and the changes in its submission to the Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee.

The Government has announced it has since paused discussion on this measure from the 2014-15 Budget while it undertakes subsequent work on its broader healthier Medicare reform package.