

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
BUDGET ESTIMATES 2015-16

Finance Portfolio
27-28 May 2015

Department/Agency: Department of Finance

Outcome/Program: 1/1.1

Topic: Impact of non-passage of 2014-15 budget savings measures

Senator: Ludwig

Question reference number: F22

Type of question: Hansard, F&PA Committee, Page 98, 27 May 2015

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: Friday, 10 July 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

Senator LUDWIG: If you then look at that, Table 4 on page 3-11 shows the effect of what we will call the Senate, if you want. If you take away the effect of 2018-19, as this is not in reconciliation table on page 3-17, the total effect of that is about \$3.9 billion.

Senator Cormann: Yes, but the table on 3-17, as I have indicated before, actually goes over a different period. The table on page 3-17 relates to the 2014-15 forward estimates, whereas Table 4 and Table 3 relate to the 2015-16 estimates and go to 2018-19, so they are not directly comparable, because the final financial year of the current forward estimates is not included.

Senator LUDWIG: It shows in Table 7 on page 3-17 about \$9 billion, so I was just trying to reconcile the difference between the 3.9 and the nine. Even by one year—

Senator Cormann: If you want, in order to be helpful, I will take on notice to provide you with a comparison and a reconciliation where we match the differences between Table 7 and Table 4 so that it is very obvious what the effect of 2018-19 is. I will take that on notice and I am pretty confident that we can assist you with that.

Answer:

The total effect of policy decisions of -\$9,315 million in Table 7 of Budget Statement 3 includes an element of the data provided in Table 4, page 3-11, namely -\$3,658 million, which is the four year impact to 2017-18 of 'Significant decisions not to proceed with prior Budget proposals'.

The remaining elements of Table 4, the 'Impact of delays in passing legislation' with a value of -\$233 million over the four years to 2017-18, is treated as a parameter and other variation in Table 7, page 3-17.