

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2010

Medibank Private Limited

Finance and Deregulation Portfolio

Outcome 2, Program 2.1

Topic: Medibank Levy Surcharge Threshold

Question reference number: F2

Type of Question: Hansard F&PA 4, 9 February 2010

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 26 March 2010

Number of Pages: 1

Senator Ryan asked:

I suppose what I was getting to was that the Medicare levy surcharge threshold was always considered relatively effective in getting younger people into the market who are crossing the income threshold. If you need to take this on notice, I would be happy. Has there been any material change in the age profile of the membership of Medibank Private over the last nine months or since the change came in July?

Mr Savvides- If I was speaking in general terms, I would say, no, there has not been. You have asked a specific question about the influence. I can take that on notice.

Answer:

There has been a marginal change in the age profile of membership since July. The change which has occurred is consistent with recent trend declines in the growth rates for 25 – 39 year olds. The membership growth rate for 25-39 year olds in 2006-07 was 9%, 4.6% in 2008-09, and 3.5% per annum since July 2009.