

2008

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

No. 2

WEDNESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY 2008

1 The House met, at 9 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Mr Jenkins) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

**2 APOLOGY TO AUSTRALIA'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

Mr Rudd (Prime Minister), pursuant to notice, moved—That—

Today we honour the Indigenous peoples of this land, the oldest continuing cultures in human history.

We reflect on their past mistreatment.

We reflect in particular on the mistreatment of those who were Stolen Generations—this blemished chapter in our nation's history.

The time has now come for the nation to turn a new page in Australia's history by righting the wrongs of the past and so moving forward with confidence to the future.

We apologise for the laws and policies of successive Parliaments and governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians.

We apologise especially for the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, their communities and their country.

For the pain, suffering and hurt of these Stolen Generations, their descendants and for their families left behind, we say sorry.

To the mothers and the fathers, the brothers and the sisters, for the breaking up of families and communities, we say sorry.

And for the indignity and degradation thus inflicted on a proud people and a proud culture, we say sorry.

We the Parliament of Australia respectfully request that this apology be received in the spirit in which it is offered as part of the healing of the nation.

For the future we take heart; resolving that this new page in the history of our great continent can now be written.

We today take this first step by acknowledging the past and laying claim to a future that embraces all Australians.

A future where this Parliament resolves that the injustices of the past must never, never happen again.

A future where we harness the determination of all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity.

A future where we embrace the possibility of new solutions to enduring problems where old approaches have failed.

A future based on mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility.

A future where all Australians, whatever their origins, are truly equal partners, with equal opportunities and with an equal stake in shaping the next chapter in the history of this great county, Australia.

Dr Nelson (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, addressed the House in support thereof, and all Members present having risen in their places as a mark of respect—

Mr Rudd, together with Dr Nelson, by indulgence, presented a gift to the Speaker on behalf of Australia's Indigenous peoples.

Debate adjourned (Mr Albanese—Leader of the House), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

### 3 MATTER REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE

Mr Albanese (Leader of the House), by leave, moved—That the resumption of debate on the Prime Minister's motion of apology to Australia's Indigenous peoples be referred to the Main Committee.

Question—put and passed.

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#### *Suspension of sitting*

At 9.56 a.m., the Speaker left the Chair.

#### *Resumption of sitting*

At 11.30 a.m., the Speaker resumed the Chair.

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### 4 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TRANSITION TO FORWARD WITH FAIRNESS) BILL 2008

Ms Gillard (Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Workplace Relations Act 1996*, and for related purposes.

#### *Document*

Ms Gillard presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Ms Gillard moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Dr Southcott), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

### 5 SKILLS AUSTRALIA BILL 2008

Ms Gillard (Minister for Education and Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to establish Skills Australia, and for related purposes.

#### *Document*

Ms Gillard presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Ms Gillard moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hunt), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

### 6 HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT AMENDMENT (REMOVAL OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION WORKPLACE RELATIONS REQUIREMENTS AND NATIONAL GOVERNANCE PROTOCOLS REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER MATTERS) BILL 2008

Ms Gillard (Minister for Education and Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*, and for related purposes.

#### *Document*

Ms Gillard presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Ms Gillard moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hunt), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**7 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATION FOR YEAR 2007-2008—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2007-2008**

Message No. 1, 1 February 2008, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending, in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, an appropriation for the purposes of the Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2007-2008.

Mr Tanner (Minister for Finance and Deregulation) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate additional money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the ordinary annual services of the Government, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Tanner moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hunt), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**8 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, CERTAIN PROPOSED ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE FOR YEAR 2007-2008—APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 2007-2008**

Message No. 2, 1 February 2008, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending, in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, an appropriation for the purposes of the Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2007-2008.

Mr Tanner (Minister for Finance and Deregulation) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate additional money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Tanner moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hunt), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**9 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, CERTAIN PROPOSED EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATION FOR YEAR 2007-2008—APPROPRIATION (DROUGHT AND EQUINE INFLUENZA ASSISTANCE) BILL (NO. 1) 2007-2008**

Message No. 3, 13 February 2008, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending, in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, an appropriation for the purposes of the Appropriation (Drought and Equine Influenza Assistance) Bill (No. 1) 2007-2008.

Mr Tanner (Minister for Finance and Deregulation) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate additional money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the ordinary annual services of the Government in relation to drought and equine influenza assistance, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Tanner moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hunt), and the resumption of the debate, by leave, made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

**10 MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL, CERTAIN PROPOSED EXPENDITURE AND APPROPRIATION FOR YEAR 2007-2008—APPROPRIATION (DROUGHT AND EQUINE INFLUENZA ASSISTANCE) BILL (NO. 2) 2007-2008**

Message No. 4, 1 February 2008, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending, in accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution, an appropriation for the purposes of the Appropriation (Drought and Equine Influenza Assistance) Bill (No. 2) 2007-2008.

Mr Tanner (Minister for Finance and Deregulation) presented a Bill for an Act to appropriate money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for certain expenditure in relation to drought and equine influenza assistance, and for related purposes.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Tanner moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hunt), and the resumption of the debate, by leave, made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

**11 COMMONWEALTH AUTHORITIES AND COMPANIES AMENDMENT BILL 2008**

Mr Tanner (Minister for Finance and Deregulation), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Tanner presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Tanner moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hunt), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**12 LANDS ACQUISITION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2008**

Mr Tanner (Minister for Finance and Deregulation), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation relating to lands acquisition, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Tanner presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Tanner moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr A. D. H. Smith), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**13 TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (COMMUNICATIONS FUND) BILL 2008**

Mr Albanese (Minister representing the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to telecommunications, and for other purposes.

*Document*

Mr Albanese presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Albanese moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr A. D. H. Smith), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**14 TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT (ACCESS DECLARATIONS) BILL 2008**

Mr Albanese (Minister representing the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Trade Practices Act 1974*, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Albanese presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Albanese moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr A. D. H. Smith), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**15 OFFSHORE PETROLEUM AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES) BILL 2008**

Mr M. J. Ferguson (Minister for Resources and Energy), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the *Offshore Petroleum Act 2006*, and for other purposes.

*Document*

Mr M. J. Ferguson presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr M. J. Ferguson moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr A. D. H. Smith), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**16 TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (2008 MEASURES NO. 1) BILL 2008**

Mr Bowen (Assistant Treasurer) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to taxation, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mr Bowen presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mr Bowen moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr A. D. H. Smith), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**17 AGED CARE AMENDMENT (2008 MEASURES NO. 1) BILL 2008**

Mrs Elliot (Minister for Ageing) presented a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to aged care, and for related purposes.

*Document*

Mrs Elliot presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.

Bill read a first time.

Mrs Elliot moved—That the bill be now read a second time.

Debate adjourned (Mr A. D. H. Smith), and the resumption of the debate, by leave, made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

**18 APPROPRIATION (DROUGHT AND EQUINE INFLUENZA ASSISTANCE) BILL (NO. 1) 2007-2008**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

It being 2 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 97, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

**19 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice being asked—

*Member directed to leave*

At 2.59 p.m. the Member for O'Connor (Mr Tuckey) was directed, under standing order 94, to leave the Chamber for one hour for disorderly behaviour, and he accordingly left the Chamber.

Questions without notice continued.

**20 REGISTRAR OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

The House was informed that the Speaker, in accordance with part 3 of the resolution of the House concerning Members' interests, had appointed the Deputy Clerk, Mr Bernard Wright, as Registrar of Members' Interests for the 42nd Parliament.

**21 DOCUMENTS**

The Speaker presented the following reports from committees of the 41<sup>st</sup> Parliament received after the last sitting of the House in 2007 pursuant to the standing orders:

Industry and Resources—Standing Committee—Renewable power: A case study into selected renewable energy sectors in Australia for the inquiry into developing Australia's non-fossil fuel energy industry—

Background information—Interim report, 2007.

Evidence received by the committee.

Minutes of proceedings.

Intelligence and Security—Parliamentary Joint Committee—Review of the re-listing of three terrorist organisations.

Reports ordered to be made Parliamentary Papers.

**22 AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS**

The Speaker presented the following documents:

Auditor-General—Audit reports of 2007–2008—

No. 7—Performance audit—The Senate Order for departmental and agency contracts (Calendar year 2006 compliance).

No. 8—Performance audit—Proof of identity for accessing Centrelink payments—Centrelink; Department of Human Services.

No. 9—Performance audit—Australian apprenticeships—Department of Education, Science and Training.

No. 10—Performance audit—Whole of government Indigenous service delivery arrangements.

No. 11—Performance audit—Management of the FFG capability upgrade—Department of Defence; Defence Materiel Organisation.

No. 12—Performance audit—Administration of high risk income tax refunds in the individuals and micro enterprises market segments—Australian Taxation Office.

No. 13—Performance audit—The Australian Taxation Office's approach to managing self managed superannuation fund compliance risks—Australian Taxation Office.

No. 14—Performance audit—Regional Partnerships Programme—Department of Transport and Regional Services—

Volume 1: Summary and recommendations.

Volume 2: Main report.

Volume 3: Project case studies.

No. 15—Performance audit—Administration of Australian Business Number registrations—Follow-up audit: Australian Taxation Office.

No. 16—Performance audit—Data integrity in the Child Support Agency—Child Support Agency; Department of Human Services.

No. 17—Performance audit—Management of the IT Refresh Programme—Centrelink.

No. 18—Financial statement audit—Audits of the financial statements of Australian Government entities for the period ended 30 June 2007.

No. 19—Performance audit—Administration of the Automotive Competitiveness and Investment Scheme—Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research; Australian Customs Service.

No. 20—Performance audit—Accuracy of Medicare claims processing—Medicare Australia.

No. 21—Performance audit—Regional delivery model for the National Heritage Trust and the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality—Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts; Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Reports ordered to be made Parliamentary Papers.

**23 DOCUMENT**

The Speaker presented the following document:

Commonwealth Ombudsman—Activities in monitoring controlled operations conducted by the Australian Crime Commission, the Australian Federal Police and the Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity for 2006-07.

**24 DOCUMENTS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF DOCUMENTS**

Mr Albanese (Leader of the House) presented the following documents:

Aboriginal Hostels Limited—Report for 2006-07.

Administrative Appeals Tribunal—Report for 2006-07.

Administrative Review Council—Report for 2006-07.

*Aged Care Act 1997*—Report on the operation of the Act for 2006-07, incorporating a correction.

Aged Care Commissioner—Report for the period 1 May to 30 June 2007; and Commissioner for Complaints (Aged care)—Report for the period 1 July 2006 to 30 April 2007.

Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency Limited—Report for 2006-07.  
Albury–Wodonga Development Corporation—Report for 2006-07.  
Anindilyakwa Land Council—Report for 2006-07.  
Army and Air Force Canteen Service—Frontline Defence Services—Report for 2006-07, incorporating the annual report on the monitoring of the equal employment opportunity (EEO) management plan.  
ASC Pty Ltd—Report for 2006-07.  
Attorney-General’s Department—Report for 2006-07.  
Australia Council—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)—Reports—2006-07.  
Equity and diversity—2006-07.  
Australian Building and Construction Commissioner—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Bureau of Statistics—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity—Report for the period 30 December 2006 to 30 June 2007.  
Australian Communications and Media Authority—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Crime Commission—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Customs Service—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Electoral Commission—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Fair Pay Commission—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Fair Pay Commission Secretariat—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Federal Police—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Film Commission—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Film Television and Radio School—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Fisheries Management Authority—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Government Solicitor—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Hearing—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Industrial Relations Commission and Australian Industrial Registry—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Industry Development Corporation—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Institute of Criminology and Criminology Research Council—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Institute of Family Studies—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare—Reports—2006-07.  
Australia’s welfare—2007.  
Australian Institute of Marine Science—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Law Reform Commission—Reports—  
No. 106—Report for 2006-07.  
No. 107—Privilege in perspective: Client legal privilege in federal investigations.  
Australian Maritime Safety Authority—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian National Maritime Museum—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Office of Financial Management—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority—Report for 2006-07.  
Australian Postal Corporation (Australia Post)—Reports—2006-07.  
Equal employment opportunity program—2006-07.

Australian Prudential Regulation Authority—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Public Service Commission—State of the service—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Public Service Commissioner—Report, incorporating the report of the Merit Protection Commissioner, for 2006-07.

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Research Council—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Reward Investment Alliance—Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme, Public Sector Superannuation Scheme and Public Sector Superannuation Accumulation Plan—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Safeguards and Non-Proliferation Office—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Act—Guidelines—Obtaining, correlating, evaluating and communicating intelligence relevant to security (including politically motivated violence).

Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Sports Commission—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Statistics Advisory Council—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Strategic Policy Institute—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Trade Commission (Austrade)—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC)—Report for 2006-07.

Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation—Report for 2006-07.

*Bankruptcy Act 1966*—Report on the operation of the Act for 2006-07.

Bundanon Trust—Report for 2006-07.

Bureau of Meteorology—Report for 2006-07.

Centrelink—Report for 2006-07.

Civil Aviation Safety Authority—Report for 2006-07.

Classification Board and Classification Review Board—Report for 2006-07.

Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Corporation—Report for 2006-07.

Comcare—Report for 2006-07.

Commissioner for Superannuation—Report for 2006-07.

Commissioner of Taxation—Report for 2006-07.

Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions—Report for 2006-07.

Commonwealth Grants Commission—Report for 2006-07.

Commonwealth Ombudsman—Reports—  
2006-07.

Activities under Part V of the *Australian Federal Police Act 1979*—30 December 2006 to 30 June 2007.

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)—Report for 2006-07.

Copyright Agency Limited—Report for 2006-07.

Cotton Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2006-07.

*Crimes Act 1914*—  
Authorisations for the acquisition and use of assumed identities—Reports for 2006-07—  
Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity.  
Australian Crime Commission.  
Australian Customs Service.

Controlled operations—Report for 2006-07.

CrimTrac Agency—Report for 2006-07.

*Customs Act 1901*—Conduct of Customs officers—Report for 2006-07.

Dairy Adjustment Authority—Report for 2006-07.

Data-matching program—Department of Veterans' Affairs—Report on progress for 2005-07.



Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Report for 2006-07.  
Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Authority—Report for 2006-07.  
Defence Housing Australia—  
Report for 2006-07.  
Statement of corporate intent for 2007-08.  
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Report for 2006-07.  
Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Report for 2006-07.  
Department of Defence—Report for 2006-07—  
Volume 1—Department of Defence.  
Volume 2—Defence Materiel Organisation.  
Department of Education, Science and Training—Report for 2006-07.  
Department of Employment and Workplace Relations—Report for 2006-07.  
Department of the Environment and Water Resources—Report for 2006-07—  
Volume 1—Department of the Environment and Water Resources.  
Volume 2—Legislation.  
Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—Report for 2006-07.  
Department of Finance and Administration—Report for 2006-07.  
Department of Finance and Deregulation—Reports—  
Former parliamentarians' travel paid by the department for the period January to June 2007.  
Parliamentarians' overseas study travel reports for the period January to June 2007.  
Parliamentarians' travel paid by the department for the period January to June 2007.  
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade—Report for 2006-07—  
Volume 1—Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.  
Volume 2—Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID).  
Department of Health and Ageing—Report for 2006-07.  
Department of Human Services—Report for 2006-07.  
Department of Immigration and Citizenship—Report for 2006-07, incorporating an erratum.  
Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources—Report for 2006-07.  
Department of Parliamentary Services—Report for 2006-07.  
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet—Report for 2006-07.  
Department of the Treasury—  
Report for 2006-07.  
Tax expenditures statement for 2007.  
Department of Transport and Regional Services—Report for 2006-07.  
Director of National Parks—Report for 2006-07.  
Employment Advocate—Report for 2006-07.  
*Environment Protection (Alligator Rivers Region) Act 1978*—Report on the operation of the Act for 2006-07.  
Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency—Report for 2006-07.  
Export Finance and Insurance Corporation—Report for 2006-07.  
Family Court of Australia—Report for 2006-07.  
Family Law Council—Report for 2006-07.  
Federal Court of Australia—Report for 2006-07.  
Federal Magistrates Court of Australia—Report for 2006-07.  
Film Australia Limited—Report for 2006-07.  
Film Finance Corporation Australia Limited—Report for 2006-07.  
Finance—  
Advance to the Finance Minister—Issues from the Advance as a final charge for the year ended 30 June 2007.

Consolidated financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2007, incorporating a correction.  
Final budget outcome for 2006-07.

Fisheries Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2006-07.

Food Standards Australia New Zealand—Report for 2006-07.

Forest and Wood Products Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2006-07.

*Freedom of Information Act 1982*—Report on the operation of the Act for 2006-07.

Future Fund—Report for 2006-07.

Gene Technology Regulator—  
Quarterly report—1 July to 30 September 2007.  
Report for 2006-07.

Grains Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2006-07.

Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2006-07.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority—Report for 2006-07.

Health Services Australia (HSA Group)—Report for 2006-07.

Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report for 2006-07.

IIF Investments Pty Limited, IIF (CM) Investments Pty Limited, IIF BioVentures Pty Limited, IIF Foundation Pty Limited, IIF Neo Pty Limited—Report for 2006-07.

Indigenous Business Australia—Report for 2006-07.

Indigenous Education and Training—National report to Parliament for 2005.

Indigenous Land Corporation—Report for 2006-07.

Industry Research and Development Board—Report for 2006-07.

Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia—Report for 2006-07.

Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security—Report for 2006-07.

Inspector-General of Taxation—Report for 2006-07.

*Interactive Gambling Act 2001*—Prohibition on interactive gambling advertisements—Report for 2006.

International Air Services Commission—Report for 2006-07.

Land and Water Australia—Report for 2006-07.

*Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995*—Report on the operation of the Act for 2005-06.

Medibank Private—Report for 2006-07.

Medicare Australia—Report for 2006-07.

*Migration Act 1958*—Section 486O—Assessment of detention arrangements—  
Government response to the Commonwealth Ombudsman's statements—Personal identifiers 221/07 to 346/07.  
Reports by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifiers 221/07 to 346/07.

Migration Agents Registration Authority—Report for 2006-07.

Migration Review Tribunal and Refugee Review Tribunal—Report for 2006-07.

Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission—Report for 2006-07.

Military Superannuation and Benefits Board of Trustees—Report for 2006-07.

Murray-Darling Basin Commission—Report for 2006-07.

National Archives of Australia and National Archives of Australia Advisory Council—Report for 2006-07.

National Australia Day Council—Report for 2006-07.

National Blood Authority—Report for 2006-07.

National Capital Authority—Report for 2006-07.

National Gallery of Australia—Report for 2006-07.

*National Health Amendment (Prostheses) Act 2005*—Independent review of the prostheses listing arrangements—Report by Robert Doyle, October 2007.

National Health and Medical Research Council—Report for the period 1 January 2006 to 30 June 2007.

National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme—Report for 2006-07.

National Library of Australia—Report for 2006-07.

National Museum of Australia—Report for 2006-07.

National Native Title Tribunal—Report for 2006-07.

National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority and National Offshore Petroleum Safety Authority Board—Report for 2006-07.

National Residue Survey—Report for 2006-07.

National Transport Commission—Report for 2006-07.

National Water Commission—Report for 2006-07.

*Native Title Act 1993*—Native title representative bodies—Reports for 2006-07—  
Central Land Council.  
Northern Land Council.

Natural Heritage Trust—Report for 2005-06.

Office of Parliamentary Counsel—Report for 2006-07.

Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General—Report for 2006-07.

Office of Workplace Services—Report for 2006-07.

Pharmaceutical Benefits Pricing Authority—Report for 2006-07.

*Privacy Act 1988*—Report on the operation of the Act for 2006-07.

Private Health Insurance Administration Council—Reports—  
2006-07.

Operations of the private health insurers for 2006-07, incorporating a correction.

Private Health Insurance Ombudsman—Report for 2006-07.

Productivity Commission—Report No. 42—Safeguards inquiry into the import of pigmeat—  
Accelerated report.

Professional Services Review—Report for 2006-07.

Public Lending Right Committee—Report for 2006-07.

Remuneration Tribunal—Report for 2006-07.

Renewable Energy Regulator—Financial report for 2006-07.

Repatriation Commission, National Treatment Monitoring Committee and Department of Veterans' Affairs—Report for 2006-07.

Repatriation Medical Authority—Report for 2006-07.

*Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002*—Report on the operation of the Act for the period  
1 April to 30 September 2007.

Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Trust Fund—Report for 2006-07.

Royal Australian Mint—Report for 2006-07.

Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2006-07.

Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission—Report for 2006-07.

Screenrights—Report for 2006-07.

Seafarers Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Authority—Report for 2006-07.

Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS)—Report for 2006-07.

Sugar Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2006-07.

Superannuation Complaints Tribunal—Report for 2006-07.

*Surveillance Devices Act 2004*—Report on the operation of the Act for 2006-07.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust—Report for 2006-07.

Teaching Australia—Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership—Report for 2006-07.

*Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979*—Report on the operation of the Act for  
2006-07.

Telstra Sale Company Limited—Report for 2006-07.

The Carrick Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education Limited—Report for 2006-07.  
Tiwi Land Council—Report for 2006-07.

Torres Strait Regional Authority—Report for 2006-07.

Tourism Australia—Report for 2006-07.

Venture Capital Registration Board—Report for 2006-07.

Veterans' Review Board—Report for 2006-07.

Wet Tropics Management Authority—Report and State of the Wet Tropics Report for 2006-07.

and moved—That the House take note of the documents.

Debate adjourned (Mr Hockey), and the resumption of each debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

**25 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—PROTECTION OF ABORIGINAL CHILDREN**

The House was informed that Dr Nelson (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The need to build on the momentum and success of the intervention into the Northern Territory to protect Aboriginal children”.

The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—

Dr Nelson addressed the House.

Discussion ensued.

Discussion concluded.

**26 PARLIAMENTARY RETIRING ALLOWANCES TRUST**

Mr Snowdon (Minister for Defence Science and Personnel), by leave, moved—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Act 1948*, Mr Somlyay be appointed a trustee to serve on the Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Trust.

Question—put and passed.

**27 APPROPRIATION (DROUGHT AND EQUINE INFLUENZA ASSISTANCE) BILL (NO. 1) 2007-2008**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed—bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mr A. S. Burke (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), the bill was read a third time.

**28 APPROPRIATION (DROUGHT AND EQUINE INFLUENZA ASSISTANCE) BILL (NO. 2) 2007-2008**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

Question—put and passed—bill read a second time.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mr A. S. Burke (Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry), the bill was read a third time.

**29 AGED CARE AMENDMENT (2008 MEASURES NO. 1) BILL 2008**

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and passed—bill read a second time.

*Message from the Governor-General*

Message No. 5, 13 February 2008, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the bill.

Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.

On the motion of Mrs Elliot (Minister for Ageing), the bill was read a third time.

**30 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH**

Mr Hale presented the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech, prepared by the committee appointed on 12 February 2008, which was read by the Clerk, as follows:

May it please Your Excellency:

We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, express our loyalty to the Sovereign, and thank Your Excellency for the speech you have been pleased to address to the Parliament.

Mr Hale moved—That the Address be agreed to.

Mrs D'Ath seconded the motion.

Debate ensued.

Mr Ripoll addressing the House—

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**31 ADJOURNMENT**

It being 7.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

*Document*

Mr Danby, by leave, presented the following document:

Google earth—Korean peninsula at night—photograph.

Debate continued.

*Document*

Mr Price, by leave, presented the following document:

Rooty Hill High School dux speech, 2008—Fiona Selimi.

Debate continued.

The House continuing to sit until 8 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until 9 a.m. tomorrow.

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**DOCUMENT**

The following document was deemed to have been presented on 13 February 2008:

Parliamentary Entitlements Act—Advice under paragraph 18(a)—21 November 2007.

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**ATTENDANCE**

All Members attended (at some time during the sitting).

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**I. C. HARRIS**  
Clerk of the House of Representatives