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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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1 **MEETING OF SENATE**

The Senate met at 12.30 pm. The President (Senator the Honourable Paul Calvert) took the chair and read prayers.

2 **GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS**

The following government documents were tabled:

Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Report for 2002-03.

Housing Assistance Act 1996—Report for 2001-02 on the operation of the 1999 Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement.

Reserve Bank of Australia—Report for 2002-03.

War Crimes Act 1945—Report for 2002-03 on the operation of the Act.

3 **ACIS ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL 2003**
CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (ACIS) BILL 2003

Order of the day read for the further consideration of the bills in committee of the whole.

In the committee

ACIS ADMINISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL 2003—

Consideration resumed of the bill.

Bill further debated and agreed to.

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (ACIS) BILL 2003—

Bill taken as a whole by leave.

Senator Brown moved the following amendments together by leave:

Schedule 1, page 27 (after line 2), before item 156, insert:

155A Schedule 3 (Chapter 87—Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling-stock, and parts and accessories thereof, after Additional Note 5)

Add:

- 5A. For the purposes of 8704, motor vehicles used for the transport of goods including off-road vehicles may attract concessional rates of duty under Schedule 4 when used wholly or principally in agriculture, mining, construction of public infrastructure or for other specified purposes.

155B Schedule 3 (subheading 8704.10.00)

Repeal the rate of duty and the concessional rate in column 3, substitute:

From the date of commencement of the *Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Act 2003* 15%

FI:10%

DC:10%

CAN:7.5%

From 1 January 2005	10%
	FI:5%
	DC:5%
	CA:2.5%
From 1 January 2010	5%
	CA:Free

155C Schedule 3 (subheading 8704.21.10)

Repeal the rate of duty and the concessional rate in column 3, substitute:

From the date of commencement of the <i>Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Act 2003</i>	15%
	FI:10%
	DC:10%
	CAN:7.5%
From 1 January 2005	10%
	FI:5%
	DC:5%
	CA:2.5%
From 1 January 2010	5%
	CA:Free

155D Schedule 3 (subheading 8704.21.90)

Repeal the rate of duty and the concessional rates in column 3, substitute:

From the date of commencement of the <i>Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Act 2003</i>	15%
	FI:10%
	DC:10%
	CAN:7.5%
From 1 January 2005	10%
	FI:5%
	DC:5%
	CA:2.5%
From 1 January 2010	5%
	CA:Free

155E Schedule 3 (subheading 8704.22.00)

Repeal the rate of duty and the concessional rate in column 3, substitute:

From the date of commencement of the <i>Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Act 2003</i>	15%
	FI:10%
	DC:10%
	CAN:7.5%
From 1 January 2005	10%
	FI:5%
	DC:5%
	CA:2.5%

From 1 January 2010 5%
CA:Free

155F Schedule 3 (subheading 8704.23.00)

Repeal the rate of duty and the concessional rate in column 3, substitute:

From the date of commencement of the *Customs
Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Act 2003* 15%
FI:10%
DC:10%
CAN:7.5%

From 1 January 2005 10%
FI:5%
DC:5%
CA:2.5%

From 1 January 2010 5%
CA:Free

155G Schedule 3 (subheading 8704.31.10)

Repeal the rate of duty and the concessional rate in column 3, substitute:

From the date of commencement of the *Customs
Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Act 2003* 15%
FI:10%
DC:10%
CAN:7.5%

From 1 January 2005 10%
FI:5%
DC:5%
CA:2.5%

From 1 January 2010 5%
CA:Free

155H Schedule 3 (subheading 8704.31.90)

Repeal the rate of duty and the concessional rates in column 3, substitute:

From the date of commencement of the *Customs
Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Act 2003* 15%
FI:10%
DC:10%
CAN:7.5%

From 1 January 2005 10%
FI:5%
DC:5%
CA:2.5%

From 1 January 2010 5%
CA:Free

155I Schedule 3 (subheading 8704.32.00)

Repeal the rate of duty and the concessional rate in column 3, substitute:

From the date of commencement of the <i>Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Act 2003</i>	15%	FI:10%
		DC:10%
		CAN:7.5%
From 1 January 2005	10%	FI:5%
		DC:5%
		CA:2.5%
From 1 January 2010	5%	CA:Free

156J Schedule 3 (subheading 8704.90.10)

Repeal the rate of duty and the concessional rate in column 3, substitute:

From the date of commencement of the <i>Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Act 2003</i>	15%	FI:10%
		DC:10%
		CAN:7.5%
From 1 January 2005	10%	FI:5%
		DC:5%
		CA:2.5%
From 1 January 2010	5%	CA:Free

156K Schedule 3 (subheading 8704.90.90)

Repeal the rate of duty and the concessional rates in column 3, substitute:

From the date of commencement of the <i>Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Act 2003</i>	15%	FI:10%
		DC:10%
		CAN:7.5%
From 1 January 2005	10%	FI:5%
		DC:5%
		CA:2.5%
From 1 January 2010	5%	CA:Free

Schedule 1, page 29 (after line 7), at the end of the Schedule, add:

165 Schedule 4 (after item 59)

Insert:

59A	<p>Motor vehicles for the transport of goods classified under 8704 in Schedule 3 at <i>Chapter 87—Vehicles other than railway or tramway rolling stock, and parts and accessories thereof</i>, as prescribed by law:</p> <p>(a) entered for home consumption on or after the commencement of the <i>Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Act 2003</i>; and</p> <p>(b) for use in any of the following industries:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(i) mining;</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(ii) resource processing;</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(iii) agriculture;</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(iv) construction of public infrastructure; or</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">(v) gas, electricity and water supply.</p>	<p>The rate of duty that would have applied had not the <i>Customs Tariff (ACIS) Amendment Act 2003</i> not amended the duty for the goods in Schedule 3 in the following items:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">8704.10.00</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">8704.21.10</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">8704.21.90</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">8704.22.00</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">8704.23.00</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">8704.31.10</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">8704.31.90</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">8704.32.00</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">8704.90.10</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">8704.90.90</p>
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Debate ensued.

Senator Brown, by leave, withdrew the amendments.

Bill agreed to.

Bills to be reported without amendments.

The Deputy President (Senator Hogg) resumed the chair and the Temporary Chair of Committees (Senator Watson) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin) the report from the committee was adopted and the bills read a third time.

4 **ORDER OF BUSINESS—REARRANGEMENT**

The Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin) moved—That intervening business be postponed till after consideration of government business order of the day no. 4 (Superannuation (Surcharge Rate Reduction) Amendment Bill 2003 and two related bills).

Question put and passed.

**5 SUPERANNUATION (SURCHARGE RATE REDUCTION) AMENDMENT BILL 2003
SUPERANNUATION (GOVERNMENT CO-CONTRIBUTION FOR LOW INCOME EARNERS)
BILL 2003
SUPERANNUATION (GOVERNMENT CO-CONTRIBUTION FOR LOW INCOME EARNERS)
(CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2003**

Order of the day read for the consideration of the Superannuation (Surcharge Rate Reduction) Amendment Bill 2003 and for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Alston)—That the Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill 2003 and the Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003 be now read a second time.

The Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin) moved—That the Superannuation (Surcharge Rate Reduction) Amendment Bill 2003 be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

At 2 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator Cherry was speaking.

6 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were answered.

7 SUPERANNUATION—ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Senator Sherry moved—That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan) to questions without notice asked by Senators Sherry, Buckland and Wong today relating to superannuation.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

**8 ASIO, ASIS AND DSD—JOINT STATUTORY COMMITTEE—ENVIRONMENT—
MURRAY RIVER—WATER SUSTAINABILITY—ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

The Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett) moved—That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for Defence (Senator Hill) and the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Ian Macdonald) to questions without notice asked by Senators Bartlett and Allison today relating to an inquiry by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD and to water levels in the Murray River.

Question put and passed.

9 CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (ACIS) BILL 2003—STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT

The President made a statement relating to the amendments moved by Senator Brown to the Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Bill 2003 earlier today (*see entry no. 3*).

Statement by leave: Senator Brown, by leave, made a statement relating to the matter.

10 NOTICES

Notices of motion:

The Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (Senator Heffernan): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 17 September 2003, from 5 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the application and expenditure of funds by Australian Wool Innovation Ltd. (*general business notice of motion no. 598*)

Senator Ridgeway: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that, on 19 September 2003, the Committee on the Rights of the Child decided to devote its 2003 day of general discussion to the rights of Indigenous children;
- (b) recognises that Article 2 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child obliges states to prevent discrimination against Indigenous children and Article 30 requires states to provide them with special protection in order to exercise all their rights and allow them to enjoy their own culture, language and religion;
- (c) notes that, of the 410 000 Indigenous people in Australia, approximately 40 per cent are under the age of 15 and that 44 per cent of all Indigenous teenagers are likely to be at risk of entering into poverty, compared to 15 per cent of non-Indigenous teenagers; and
- (d) calls on the Government to meet its obligations to Indigenous children under the Convention through negotiation with Indigenous peoples to establish an appropriate framework for setting benchmarks and targets. (*general business notice of motion no. 599*)

Senator Stott Despoja: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges the Australian Government's commitment to the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS in the Asia-Pacific region, including a financial commitment of \$200 million over 6 years;
- (b) notes:
 - (i) that the United Nations (UN) General Assembly will review the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS at a meeting in New York on 22 September 2003,
 - (ii) that the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria ('Global Fund') was unanimously endorsed by the UN General Assembly at its Special Session on HIV/AIDS in June 2001, and came into operation in January 2002,
 - (iii) evidence suggesting that the Asia-Pacific region is benefiting substantially from the Global Fund, which, in its first two rounds of grants, committed AUD\$494 million (US\$315 million) over 2 years to program proposals within South-East Asia and the Pacific,
 - (iv) that the Global Fund is facing a significant shortfall in funding, which is jeopardizing its ability to disburse funds to countries which have had program proposals approved, and to fund new rounds of grants,
 - (v) that Australia is one of only a few among the world's wealthier nations which has not yet made any contribution to the Global Fund; and
- (c) urges the Australian Government to support the Global Fund as a key global initiative that is enabling countries to strengthen their own national response to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, and to make an equitable contribution to the Global Fund by the end of 2004. (*general business notice of motion no. 600*)

Senator Allison: To move 10 sitting days after today—That the Civil Aviation Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 5), as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 201 and made under the *Civil Aviation Act 1988*, be disallowed.

Senator Hutchins: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:

- (i) the British Health Secretary's recent decision to provide compensation to all Britons who contracted Hepatitis C as a result of receiving contaminated blood products from the National Health Service, and
- (ii) that individuals are expected to receive between £20 000 and £45 000;
- (b) commends the decision of the British Labour Government to provide payments to people who contracted Hepatitis C through no fault of their own;
- (c) notes that many Australians who have contracted Hepatitis C in the same manner are yet to be compensated; and
- (d) encourages the Australian Government to take similar action and compensate Australians who have had the misfortune of suffering the health problems associated with Hepatitis C. (*general business notice of motion no. 601*)

Senator Nettle: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) like anti-personnel landmines, anti-vehicle mines kill and maim long after conflicts have ended,
 - (ii) like anti-personnel landmines, anti-vehicle mines are indiscriminate and kill both civilians and military personnel in violation of the Protocol Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the Protection of Victims of International Armed Conflicts (Protocol 1) of 8 June 1977,
 - (iii) anti-vehicle mines can increase the cost and slow the delivery of humanitarian aid,
 - (iv) there is no publicly available evidence that the Australian Defence Forces have gained any direct military advantage from the use of anti-vehicle mines since the Korean War,
 - (v) the only Australian soldier killed in the 2001 to 2002 deployment to Afghanistan, SAS Sergeant Andrew Russell, was the victim of an anti-vehicle mine, and
 - (vi) of the four Australian peace-keepers killed since 1966 by weapons, two have been killed by landmines while driving in vehicles; and
- (b) calls on the Federal Government to:
 - (i) recognise anti-vehicle mines that can be set off by contact with a person as anti-personnel landmines, and therefore banned under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and their Destruction (Mine Ban Treaty),
 - (ii) support a ban on anti-vehicle mines with anti-handling devices, which can be set off if a mine is disturbed, and
 - (iii) work with like-minded countries towards a global ban on the production, stockpiling, transfer and use of anti-vehicle mines. (*general business notice of motion no. 602*)

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen): To move 15 sitting days after today—That the Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 115 and made under the *Administrative Decisions (Judicial Review) Act 1977*, be disallowed.

Senator Ferris, by leave, made a statement relating to the notice of motion.

Senator Nettle: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) there are currently more than 250 Iranians in immigration detention in Australia,
 - (ii) the Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Iranian Government that creates a bilateral response to Iranian asylum seekers that fail to be granted refugee status in Australia,
 - (iii) a number of these detainees were, in August 2003, offered \$1 000 to return to Iran voluntarily, or face forced deportation,
 - (iv) Amnesty International has described ongoing concerns about human rights abuses in Iran, including its 2003 report on Iran which states:

Scores of political prisoners including prisoners of conscience were arrested. Others continued to be held in prolonged detention without trial or were serving prison sentences imposed after unfair trials. Some had no access to lawyers or family. Freedom of expression and association continued to be restricted by the judiciary and scores of students, journalists and intellectuals were detained. At least 113 people, including long-term political prisoners were executed, frequently in public and some by stoning, and 84 were flogged, many in public,
 - (v) at least four Iranian asylum seekers who were returned to Iran by Australia have reportedly ‘disappeared’, and one of them was reportedly killed, and
 - (vi) these disappearances add to a tragic list of deaths and disappearances which have occurred following deportations and repatriations triggered by the failure of Australian authorities to correctly identify genuine refugees; and
- (b) calls on the Government to:
- (i) suspend forced deportations of Iranian asylum seekers,
 - (ii) release the details of the MOU with the Iranian Government, and
 - (iii) establish a judicial commission of inquiry into migration law to consider measures to prevent the systematic failure of the Australian Government to correctly identify genuine refugee applicants. (*general business notice of motion no. 603*)

Senator Brown: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes reports in the British press that the United States of America and Britain have decided to delay indefinitely the publication of a full report into Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction (WMD) because the efforts of the Iraq survey group, an Anglo-American team of 1 400 scientists, have so far failed in its task to locate WMDs; and
- (b) calls on the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) to apologise to the Australian people for misleading them on the reasons for going to war with Iraq. (*general business notice of motion no. 604*)

Notice of motion withdrawn: Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen) and pursuant to notice of intention given on 15 September 2003, withdrew business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1 standing in his name for 9 sitting days after today for the disallowance of the Iraq (Reconstruction and Repeal of Sanctions) Regulations 2003, as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 97 and made under the *Customs Act 1901*, the *Air Navigation Act 1920*, the *Charter of the United Nations Act 1945* and the *Migration Act 1958*.

11 POSTPONEMENTS

Items of business were postponed as follows:

Business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1 standing in the name of Senator Sherry for today, relating to the disallowance of the Retirement Savings Accounts Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 2) and the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 4), as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 Nos 195 and 196, postponed till 17 September 2003.

General business notice of motion no. 542 standing in the name of Senator Mackay for today, relating to the cancellation of the ABC program *Behind the News*, postponed till 8 October 2003.

12 SPORT—BASKETBALL—MS LAUREN JACKSON

Senator Lundy, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 590—That the Senate—

- (a) recognises that Lauren Jackson was awarded the United States Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) most valuable player (MVP) award for the 2003 season on 15 September 2003;
- (b) notes the outstanding success of this achievement given that Ms Jackson:
 - (i) at 22 years of age, is the youngest player ever to be named MVP in the WNBA,
 - (ii) is the first international player ever to be named as MVP in the WNBA, and
 - (iii) is the first player from a team that did not make the WNBA finals play-offs to be honoured with the MVP award;
- (c) notes the outstanding contribution Ms Jackson has made to Australian sport, including:
 - (i) 1997: at age 16 became the youngest player ever to make the Australian National Women's Basketball team,
 - (ii) 1998: World Championship Bronze medallist,
 - (iii) 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2001-02 and 2002-03 season Australian Women's National Basketball League (WNBL) championships,
 - (iv) 1999, 2000 and 2002: awarded the Maher Medal as the Australian International Basketball Player of the Year,
 - (v) 1999-2000 and 2002-03: named Australian WNBL most valuable player,
 - (vi) 2000: Active Australia Day ambassador,
 - (vii) 2000 Sydney Olympics: silver medallist,
 - (viii) 2001: first pick in the WNBA draft, and first Australian ever to be picked first in any professional sporting draft,
 - (ix) 2002: World Basketball Championship bronze medallist and championship leading points scorer,
 - (x) 2003: became the youngest player ever to reach 1 000 points in the WNBA, and
 - (xi) 2003: named the WNBA most valuable player; and
- (d) recognises the outstanding contribution Ms Jackson has made to sport in Australia through her personal sporting achievements, her work as a sporting ambassador, and her leadership as a role model for all females.

Question put and passed.

13 REGULATIONS AND ORDINANCES—STANDING COMMITTEE—LEAVE TO MEET DURING SITTING

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 588—That the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 17 September 2003 from 3.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the Legislative Instruments Bill 2003 and a related bill.

Question put and passed.

14 CORPORATIONS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES—JOINT STATUTORY COMMITTEE—LEAVE TO MEET DURING SITTING

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services (Senator Chapman) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 593—That the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 17 September 2003, from 4.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into Australia's insolvency laws.

Question put and passed.

15 RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—EXTENSION OF TIME TO REPORT

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (Senator Heffernan) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 595—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on the provisions of the Aviation Transport Security Bill 2003 and a related bill be extended to 7 October 2003.

Question put and passed.

Statement by leave: Senator Ferris, by leave, made a statement relating to the motion.

16 ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—LEAVE TO MEET DURING SITTING

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee (Senator Eggleston) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 594—That the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 17 September 2003, from noon to 2 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2003.

Question put and passed.

17 REGULATIONS AND ORDINANCES—STANDING COMMITTEE—EXTENSION OF TIME TO REPORT

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 589—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances on the provisions of the Legislative Instruments Bill 2003 and a related bill be extended to 16 October 2003.

Question put and passed.

18 ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS REFERENCES COMMITTEE—EXTENSIONS OF TIME TO REPORT

Senator Ridgeway, at the request of the Chair of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee (Senator Cherry), amended Senator Cherry's notice of motion by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 591—That the time for the presentation of reports of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee be extended as follows:

- (a) the role of libraries as providers of public information in the online environment—to 16 October 2003;
- (b) environmental regulation of the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations—to 14 October 2003; and
- (c) Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002—to the last sitting day in March 2004.

Question put and passed.

19 FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE REFERENCES COMMITTEE—EXTENSION OF TIME TO REPORT

The Chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee (Senator Cook), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 592—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee on the Government's foreign and trade policy strategy be extended to 15 October 2003.

Question put and passed.

20 DEATH OF MS ANNA LINDH

Senator Cook, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 587—That the Senate—

- (a) notes with dismay and deep sadness the brutal murder on Thursday, 11 September 2003, of Ms Anna Lindh, Foreign Minister for Sweden;
- (b) notes the many accomplishments of Ms Lindh, including:
 - (i) as Foreign Secretary during the Swedish presidency of the European Union in 2001, she played a key role in uniting European foreign policy in order to avoid a conflict in Macedonia,
 - (ii) a distinguished record as a leader of the Social Democratic Youth Club and as a local councillor for the village of Enköping before entering national politics,

- (iii) Vice Chairwoman of the International Union of Socialist Youth,
 - (iv) city councillor for culture in Stockholm from 1991 to 1994,
 - (v) Secretary of State for the Environment from 1994 to 1998 before being appointed as Foreign Secretary,
 - (vi) leading the 'Yes' vote campaign for the Euro referendum in Sweden, and
 - (vii) being widely tipped as a future Prime Minister of Sweden; and
- (c) offers its condolences to her husband Mr Bo Holmberg, her two sons, Filip and David, and the Government and people of Sweden.

Question put and passed.

21 ENVIRONMENT—DISPOSABLE DVDS

Senator Brown, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 582—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that Buena Vista Home Entertainment, a division of Disney, has begun a trial in the United States of America of disposable DVDs (dubbed the EZ-D) that are rendered unusable within 48 hours of their first use;
- (b) condemns this new product that turns a durable, reusable DVD product into a wasteful throw away item; and
- (c) calls on the Australian Government to ensure the environmental sustainability of this product before it is allowed on to the Australian market.

Question put and passed.

22 PARLIAMENT—ADDRESSES BY FOREIGN HEADS OF STATE

Senator Brown, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 597—That the Senate—

- (a) remembers that a welcome was extended to the Presidents of the United States in 1991 and 1996 to address the Australian Parliament;
- (b) notes that these addresses were unprecedented; and
- (c) favours this welcome being extended to heads of other states where a special relationship is recognised or a special occasion is to be honoured.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 2

Senators—

Brown

Nettle (Teller)

NOES, 43

Senators—

Allison	Collins	Kirk	Ridgeway
Bartlett	Cook	Ludwig	Scullion
Bishop	Crossin	Lundy	Stephens
Boswell	Denman	Mackay	Stott Despoja
Brandis	Eggleston	Marshall	Tchen
Buckland	Ferris (Teller)	Mason	Tierney
Campbell, George	Forshaw	McLucas	Troeth
Campbell, Ian	Greig	Moore	Watson
Carr	Hogg	Murray	Webber
Chapman	Hutchins	Payne	Wong
Cherry	Johnston	Ray	

Question negatived.

23 TRADE—WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

Senator Ridgeway, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 585—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) a meeting of the World Trade Organization Ministerial Council is being held in Cancun, Mexico from 10 September to 14 September 2003, and
- (ii) items on the agenda for this meeting include further liberalisation of trade in services (including public services), and proposals for future negotiations regarding trade and investment, competition policy and government procurement; and

(b) urges the Government to:

- (i) refrain from committing to any agreement that will compromise the Government's ability to provide essential public services or regulate in Australia's own national interest,
- (ii) refrain from providing its support for future negotiations relating to trade and investment and government procurement and liberalisation of competition policy,
- (iii) commit to a policy of full public disclosure and consultation with the Australian public with respect to any offers or commitments made as part of trade negotiations,
- (iv) keep the Parliament informed of developments in trade negotiations, and
- (v) bring any negotiated trade agreements to the Parliament for debate and ratification.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 11

Senators—

Allison (Teller)	Cherry	Harris	Ridgeway
Bartlett	Greig	Murray	Stott Despoja
Brown	Harradine	Nettle	

NOES, 42

Senators—

Barnett	Cook	Ludwig	Scullion
Bishop	Coonan	Lundy	Sherry
Boswell	Crossin	Mackay	Stephens
Brandis	Denman	Marshall	Tchen
Buckland	Eggleston	Mason	Tierney
Campbell, George	Ferris (Teller)	McGauran	Troeth
Campbell, Ian	Forshaw	McLucas	Watson
Carr	Hogg	Moore	Webber
Chapman	Hutchins	Patterson	Wong
Colbeck	Johnston	Payne	
Collins	Kirk	Ray	

Question negatived.

Statements by leave: Senators Cook and Ridgeway, by leave, made statements relating to the motion.

Senator Ridgeway, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 586—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) the World Trade Organization Ministerial Council meeting in Cancun, Mexico comprises an essential stage of the Doha round of trade negotiations, which is known as the ‘Development Round’,
- (ii) developing countries have expressed concern at the manner in which meetings such as these are conducted, with negotiations carried on in secret and significant time pressures placed on member nations to achieve consensus, and
- (iii) finding a real solution for the removal of subsidies in agricultural trade is a key means by which the world trade process can help the developing world and, as United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan has stated, ‘no single change could make a greater contribution to eliminating poverty than fully opening up the markets of prosperous countries to the goods produced by poor ones’; and

(b) urges the Government to use its influence to:

- (i) ensure the Ministerial Council meeting is conducted in a transparent and democratic manner, with the full participation and free consent of all members, and
- (ii) maintain pressure on developed countries to achieve a meaningful solution on agricultural trade reform and removal of agricultural subsidies, to open key agricultural markets to producers in the developing world.

Question put and passed.

24 THERAPEUTIC GOODS ADMINISTRATION—HUMAN EMBRYOS AND HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS—DOCUMENT

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell) tabled the following document:

Therapeutic Goods Administration—Report—Information and advertising associated with products tested, created or manufactured using human embryos or human embryonic stem cells, dated 16 September 2003.

Statement by leave: Senator Ian Campbell, by leave, made a statement relating to the document.

25 DOCUMENTS

The following documents were tabled by the Clerk:

Acts Interpretation Act—Statement pursuant to section 34C(6) relating to the extension of specified period for presentation of a report—National Competition Council Report for 2002-03.

Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act—National Capital Plan—

Amendment 46.

Approval of Amendment 46.

Christmas Island Act—List of applied Western Australian Acts for the period 22 March to 12 September 2003.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—List of applied Western Australian Acts for the period 22 March to 12 September 2003.

Sydney Airport Curfew Act—Dispensation granted under section 20—Dispensation No. 7/03.

26 DEPARTMENTAL AND AGENCY CONTRACTS—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—DOCUMENT

The following document was tabled pursuant to the order of the Senate of 20 June 2001, as amended on 27 September 2001, 18 June and 26 June 2003:

Departmental and agency contracts for 2002-03—Letters of advice—Veterans' Affairs portfolio agencies.

27 ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—CHANGES IN MEMBERSHIP

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Watson) informed the Senate that the President had received a letter requesting changes in the membership of a committee.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell), by leave, moved—That senators be discharged from and appointed to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee as follows:

Appointed—

Participating member: Senator Heffernan

Substitute member: Senator Heffernan to replace Senator Santoro for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2003 on 1 October 2003.

Question put and passed.

**28 NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (CUSTOMS) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 2002
NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (CUSTOMS) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2003
NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (EXCISE) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 2002
NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (EXCISE) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 2003**

Messages from the House of Representatives were reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bills:

Message no. 393, dated 15 September 2003—A Bill for an Act to amend the *National Residue Survey (Customs) Levy Act 1998*, and for related purposes.

Message no. 394, dated 15 September 2003—A Bill for an Act to amend the *National Residue Survey (Customs) Levy Act 1998*, and for related purposes.

Message no. 395, dated 15 September 2003—A Bill for an Act to amend the *National Residue Survey (Excise) Levy Act 1998*, and for related purposes.

Message no. 396, dated 15 September 2003—A Bill for an Act to amend the *National Residue Survey (Excise) Levy Act 1998*, and for related purposes.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell) moved—That these bills may proceed without formalities, may be taken together and be now read a first time.

Question put and passed.

Bills read a first time.

Senator Ian Campbell moved—That these bills be now read a second time.

On the motion of Senator Crossin the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.

29 FUEL QUALITY STANDARDS AMENDMENT BILL 2003

A message from the House of Representatives was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bill:

Message no. 400, dated 16 September 2003—A Bill for an Act to amend the *Fuel Quality Standards Act 2000*, and for related purposes.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell) moved—That this bill may proceed without formalities and be now read a first time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a first time.

Senator Ian Campbell moved—That this bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Senator Crossin the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.

30 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL TRAINING AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL 2003 MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SPONSORSHIP MEASURES) BILL 2003

Messages from the House of Representatives were reported agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate to the following bills:

Message no. 397, dated 15 September 2003—Australian National Training Authority Amendment Bill 2003.

Message no. 398, dated 15 September 2003—Migration Legislation Amendment (Sponsorship Measures) Bill 2003.

31 QUARANTINE AMENDMENT (HEALTH) BILL 2003

A message from the House of Representatives was reported agreeing to the following bill without amendment:

Message no. 399, dated 15 September 2003—Quarantine Amendment (Health) Bill 2003.

**32 RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—
REPORT—ANNUAL REPORTS**

Pursuant to order, Senator McGauran, at the request of the Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (Senator Heffernan), tabled the following report:

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—Annual reports referred to legislation committees—Report No. 2 of 2003, dated September 2003.

Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator McGauran.

**33 SUPERANNUATION (SURCHARGE RATE REDUCTION) AMENDMENT BILL 2003
SUPERANNUATION (GOVERNMENT CO-CONTRIBUTION FOR LOW INCOME EARNERS)
BILL 2003
SUPERANNUATION (GOVERNMENT CO-CONTRIBUTION FOR LOW INCOME EARNERS)
(CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 2003**

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motions of the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Alston) and the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin)—That these bills be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Senator Wong moved the following amendment:

At the end of the motion, add “but the Senate notes that, although these bills together provide:

- (a) an exclusive tax benefit to those earning more than \$94 691; and
- (b) a contingent benefit to those earning less than \$40 000 per annum, provided of course that those lower income earners meet the contingency, finding \$1 000 to contribute;

they provide absolutely no benefit to the many working Australians earning between \$40 000 and \$94 691 and, because of this, the Senate is of the view that:

- (c) the Superannuation (Surcharge Rate Reduction) Amendment Bill 2003 should be withdrawn by the Government because the proposed surcharge tax reduction to high-income earners is an exclusive tax cut to those earning greater than \$94 691 from 1 July 2003, with the greatest benefit going to those on an income greater than \$114 981, with the result that it assists only the highest 5 per cent of income earners; and
- (d) the bill should be redrafted to cut the contributions tax for all Australians, a fairer approach, particularly at a time of negative returns, to boost the retirement income for all Australians and assist the nation in preparing for the ageing of the population”.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 27

Senators—

Bishop	Crossin	Kirk	Nettle
Brown	Denman	Lundy	Ray
Buckland (Teller)	Faulkner	Mackay	Sherry
Campbell, George	Forshaw	Marshall	Stephens
Carr	Harradine	McLucas	Webber
Collins	Hogg	Moore	Wong
Cook	Hutchins	Murphy	

NOES, 38

Senators—

Abetz	Cherry	Johnston	Ridgeway
Allison	Colbeck	Kemp	Santoro
Alston	Coonan	Lees	Scullion
Barnett	Eggleston (Teller)	Lightfoot	Tchen
Bartlett	Ferguson	Macdonald, Ian	Tierney
Boswell	Ferris	Mason	Troeth
Brandis	Greig	McGauran	Vanstone
Calvert	Harris	Murray	Watson
Campbell, Ian	Heffernan	Patterson	
Chapman	Humphries	Payne	

Question negatived.

Main question put and passed.

Bills read a second time.

The Senate resolved itself into committee for the consideration of the bills.

In the committee

SUPERANNUATION (SURCHARGE RATE REDUCTION) AMENDMENT BILL 2003—

Bill taken as a whole by leave.

Explanatory memoranda: The Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan) tabled a supplementary explanatory memorandum relating to the government amendments to be moved to the Superannuation (Surcharge Rate Reduction) Amendment Bill 2003 and a supplementary explanatory memorandum relating to the government requests for amendments and amendments to be moved to the Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill 2003 and the Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003, including a correction to the explanatory memorandum.

Senator Coonan moved the following amendments together by leave:

Clause 2, page 2 (table items 2, 3 and 4), omit the table items, substitute:

2. Schedule 1 1 July 2003

Schedule 1, item 1, page 3 (line 10), omit paragraph (a) of the definition of *higher income amount*, substitute:

- (a) for the 2003-2004 financial year—\$114,981; and

Schedule 1, item 1, page 3 (line 14), omit paragraph (a) of the definition of *lower income amount*, substitute:

- (a) for the 2003-2004 financial year—\$94,691; and

Schedule 1, item 1, page 3 (lines 17 to 20), omit the definition of *maximum surcharge percentage*, substitute:

maximum surcharge percentage means:

- (a) for the 2003-2004 financial year—14.5%; and
- (b) for the 2004-2005 financial year—13.5%; and
- (c) for the 2005-2006 financial year and later financial years—12.5%.

Schedule 1, item 7, page 4 (line 10), omit “2003-04”, substitute “2004-05”.

Schedule 1, item 7, page 4 (line 12), omit “2003-04”, substitute “2004-05”.

Schedule 1, item 8, page 4 (line 14), omit “2003-04”, substitute “2004-05”.

Schedule 1, item 9, page 4 (line 22), omit paragraph (a) of the definition of *higher income amount*, substitute:

- (a) for the 2003-2004 financial year—\$114,981; and

Schedule 1, item 9, page 4 (line 26), omit paragraph (a) of the definition of *lower income amount*, substitute:

- (a) for the 2003-2004 financial year—\$94,691; and

Schedule 1, item 9, page 5 (lines 3 to 6), omit the definition of *maximum surcharge percentage*, substitute:

maximum surcharge percentage means:

- (a) for the 2003-2004 financial year—14.5%; and
- (b) for the 2004-2005 financial year—13.5%; and
- (c) for the 2005-2006 financial year and later financial years—12.5%.

Schedule 1, item 15, page 5 (line 24), omit “2003-04”, substitute “2004-05”.

Schedule 1, item 15, page 5 (line 26), omit “2003-04”, substitute “2004-05”.

Schedule 1, item 16, page 6 (line 2), omit “2003-04”, substitute “2004-05”.

Schedule 1, item 17, page 6 (line 8), omit paragraph (a) of the definition of *higher income amount*, substitute:

- (a) for the 2003-2004 financial year—\$114,981; and

Schedule 1, item 17, page 6 (line 12), omit paragraph (a) of the definition of *lower income amount*, substitute:

- (a) for the 2003-2004 financial year—\$94,691; and

Schedule 1, item 17, page 6 (lines 15 to 18), omit the definition of *maximum surcharge percentage*, substitute:

maximum surcharge percentage means:

- (a) for the 2003-2004 financial year—14.5%; and
- (b) for the 2004-2005 financial year—13.5%; and
- (c) for the 2005-2006 financial year and later financial years—12.5%.

Schedule 1, item 22, page 7 (line 8), omit “2003-04”, substitute “2004-05”.

Schedule 1, item 22, page 7 (line 10), omit “2003-04”, substitute “2004-05”.

Schedule 1, item 23, page 7 (line 12), omit “2003-04”, substitute “2004-05”.

Schedule 1, item 24, page 8 (lines 7 to 20), omit subsection (3), substitute:

- (3) The amount determined by the Authority may not be more than the total of the following amounts:
 - (a) 15% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued between 20 August 1996 and 1 July 2003;
 - (b) 14.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued in the 2003-2004 financial year;
 - (c) 13.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued in the 2004-2005 financial year;
 - (d) 12.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued after 30 June 2005.

Schedule 1, item 25, page 8 (line 24) to page 9 (line 6), omit subsection (3), substitute:

- (3) The amount determined by the Trust may not be more than the total of the following amounts:
 - (a) 15% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the person that accrued between 20 August 1996 and 1 July 2003;
 - (b) 14.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the person that accrued in the 2003-2004 financial year;
 - (c) 13.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the person that accrued in the 2004-2005 financial year;
 - (d) 12.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the person that accrued after 30 June 2005.

Schedule 1, item 26, page 9 (lines 10 to 23), omit subsection (3), substitute:

- (3) The amount determined by the Board may not be more than the total of the following amounts:
 - (a) 15% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the person that accrued between 20 August 1996 and 1 July 2003;
 - (b) 14.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the person that accrued in the 2003-2004 financial year;
 - (c) 13.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the person that accrued in the 2004-2005 financial year;
 - (d) 12.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the person that accrued after 30 June 2005.

Schedule 1, item 28, page 9 (line 32) to page 10 (line 12), omit subsection (2A), substitute:

- (2A) The amount of the reduction under subsection (1) may not be more than the total of the following amounts:
- (a) 15% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued between 20 August 1996 and 1 July 2003;
 - (b) 14.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued in the 2003-2004 financial year;
 - (c) 13.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued in the 2004-2005 financial year;
 - (d) 12.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued after 30 June 2005.

Schedule 1, item 29, page 10 (lines 18 to 30), omit paragraph (b), substitute:

- (b) the total of the following amounts:
- (i) 15% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued between 20 August 1996 and 1 July 2003;
 - (ii) 14.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued in the 2003-2004 financial year;
 - (iii) 13.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued in the 2004-2005 financial year;
 - (iv) 12.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits payable to the member that accrued after 30 June 2005.

Schedule 1, item 30, page 10 (line 33) to page 11 (line 14), omit paragraph (d), substitute:

- (d) the total of the following amounts:
- (i) 15% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits that would have been payable to the member but for the payment split and that accrued between 20 August 1996 and 1 July 2003;
 - (ii) 14.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits that would have been payable to the member but for the payment split and that accrued in the 2003-2004 financial year;
 - (iii) 13.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits that would have been payable to the member but for the payment split and that accrued in the 2004-2005 financial year;
 - (iv) 12.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the benefits that would have been payable to the member but for the payment split and that accrued after 30 June 2005.

Schedule 1, item 31, page 11 (lines 17 to 37), omit paragraph (b), substitute:

- (b) the total of the following amounts:

- (i) 15% of the employer-financed component of any part of the value of the age retirement benefits of the member when the fund ceased to be a constitutionally protected superannuation fund that accrued between 20 August 1996 and 1 July 2003;
- (ii) 14.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the value of the age retirement benefits of the member when the fund ceased to be a constitutionally protected superannuation fund that accrued in the 2003-2004 financial year;
- (iii) 13.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the value of the age retirement benefits of the member when the fund ceased to be a constitutionally protected superannuation fund that accrued in the 2004-2005 financial year;
- (iv) 12.5% of the employer-financed component of any part of the value of the age retirement benefits of the member when the fund ceased to be a constitutionally protected superannuation fund that accrued after 30 June 2005.

Schedule 1, item 32, page 12 (line 5), omit “2002-2003”, substitute “2003-04”.

Schedule 1, item 32, page 12 (line 8), omit “2002”, substitute “2003”.

Schedule 1, items 33 and 34, page 12 (lines 10 to 21), omit the items, substitute:

33 Application of items 24 to 30

The amendments made by items 24 to 30 apply in relation to benefits that become payable on or after 1 July 2003.

Note: The Acts amended by items 24 to 30 continue to apply in relation to benefits that become payable before 1 July 2003 as if the amendments made by those items had not been made.

Schedule 1, item 35, page 12 (line 25), omit “2002”, substitute “2003”.

Schedule 1, item 35, page 12 (line 27), omit “2002”, substitute “2003”.

Debate ensued.

At 6.50 pm: The Deputy President (Senator Hogg) resumed the chair and the Temporary Chair of Committees (Senator Chapman) reported progress.

34 GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS—CONSIDERATION

The following government documents tabled earlier today (*see entry no. 2*) were considered:

Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Report for 2002-03. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Crossin. Debate adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Crossin in continuation.

Housing Assistance Act 1996—Report for 2001-02 on the operation of the 1999 Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement. Motion to take note of document moved by the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett). Debate adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Bartlett in continuation.

35 ADJOURNMENT

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Marshall) proposed the question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Senate adjourned at 8.35 pm till Wednesday, 17 September 2003 at 9.30 am.

36 ATTENDANCE

Present, all senators except Senators Conroy*, Evans*, Knowles*, Sandy Macdonald* and O'Brien* (* on leave).

HARRY EVANS
Clerk of the Senate