

2004-06

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 78

WEDNESDAY, 29 MARCH 2006

Contents

1	Meeting of Senate	2021
2	Government Documents	2021
3	Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment Bill 2006 Migration Amendment (Employer Sanctions) Bill 2006 National Health and Medical Research Council Amendment Bill 2006 Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Trustee Board and Other Measures) Bill 2006	2021
4	Snowy Hydro Company—Commonwealth Shares	2022
5	Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment Bill 2006	2025
6	Matters of Public Interest	2026
7	Questions	2027
8	Questions on Notice—Answers and Explanation	2027
9	Industrial Relations—Answers to Questions	2027
10	Finance—Westpoint Property—Answer to Question	2027
11	Environment—Uranium—Answer to Question	2027
12	Petitions	2027
13	Notices	2028
14	Postponement	2030
15	Migration—Joint Standing Committee—Leave to Meet During Sitting	2031
16	Death of Mr Kevin Charles (Pro) Hart, MBE	2031
17	Foreign Affairs—West Papua	2031
18	Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—Reference	2032
19	Foreign Affairs—Palestinian Land Day	2033
20	Scrutiny of Bills—Standing Committee—2nd Report and Alert Digest No. 3 of 2006	2033
21	Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee—Additional Information—Budget Estimates 2005-06	2033
22	Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—Additional Information— Budget Estimates 2005-06	2033

23	Public Works—Joint Statutory Committee—4th and 5th Reports of 2006 and 69th Annual Report	2034
24	Legislation Committees—Reports—Annual Reports.....	2034
25	Family and Community Services—Aged Care—Document.....	2034
26	Documents.....	2034
27	Indexed Lists of Departmental and Agency Files—Order for Production of Documents—Documents	2035
28	Departmental and Agency Contracts—Order for Production of Documents—Documents	2035
29	Family Assistance, Social Security and Veterans’ Affairs Legislation Amendment (2005 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2006	2036
30	Health Legislation Amendment (Pharmacy Location Arrangements) Bill 2006	2036
31	Energy Efficiency Opportunities Bill 2005.....	2036
32	Governor-General’s Message—Assent to Laws.....	2036
33	Guide to the Assessment of the Degree of Permanent Impairment— Proposed Disallowance	2037
34	Declaration of Percentage of Commonwealth Supported Places—Proposed Disallowance	2037
35	Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—Proposed Reference	2037
36	Hours of Meeting and Routine of Business—Variation	2038
37	Notice of Motion Withdrawn.....	2039
38	Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment Bill 2006	2039
39	Family Assistance, Social Security and Veterans’ Affairs Legislation Amendment (2005 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2006	2042
40	Health Legislation Amendment (Pharmacy Location Arrangements) Bill 2006	2042
41	Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill 2005.....	2042
42	Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Fees and Charges) Bill 2006	2043
43	Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Anti-avoidance) Bill 2006.....	2043
44	Ministers of State Amendment Bill 2005	2043
45	Postal Industry Ombudsman Bill 2005 [2006].....	2043
46	Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2005-2006 Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2005-2006.....	2044
47	Routine of Business—Variation	2044
48	Adjournment	2044
49	Attendance.....	2045

1 MEETING OF SENATE

The Senate met at 9.30 am. The President (Senator the Honourable Paul Calvert) took the chair and read prayers.

2 GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS

The following government documents were tabled:

Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency—Quarterly report for the period 1 July to 30 September 2005.

Migration Act 1958—

Section 440A—Conduct of Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) reviews not completed within 90 days—Report for the period 1 July to 31 October 2005.

Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Personal identifiers 017/05 to 019/05 and 020/06 to 048/06—

Commonwealth Ombudsman's reports.

Commonwealth Ombudsman's reports—Government response.

National Rural Advisory Council—Report for 2004-05.

Stevedoring Levy (Collection) Act 1998—Report for 2005.

Wheat Export Authority—Report for 1 October 2004 to 30 September 2005.

3 AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION AMENDMENT BILL 2006

MIGRATION AMENDMENT (EMPLOYER SANCTIONS) BILL 2006

NATIONAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL AMENDMENT BILL 2006

SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (TRUSTEE BOARD AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2006

The Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin), also at the request of the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Coonan), the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (Senator Vanstone) and the Minister for Ageing (Senator Santoro) and pursuant to notice, moved government business notices of motion nos 1 to 4—That the following bills be introduced:

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*, and for related purposes.

A Bill for an Act to impose sanctions on persons who are connected with work by unlawful non-citizens or work in breach of visa conditions, and for related purposes.

A Bill for an Act to amend the *National Health and Medical Research Council Act 1992*, and for related purposes.

A Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to superannuation, and for related purposes.

Question put and passed.

Senator Minchin presented the bills and 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 Minchin moved—That these bills be now read a second time.

Explanatory memoranda: Senator Minchin tabled explanatory memoranda [4] relating to the bills.

Consideration of legislation: Pursuant to order, the debate was adjourned and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the first day in the next period of sittings.

Senator Minchin moved—That the bills be listed on the *Notice Paper* as separate orders of the day.

Question put and passed.

4 SNOWY HYDRO COMPANY—COMMONWEALTH SHARES

The Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin), pursuant to notice, moved government business notice of motion no. 5—That, for the purposes of subsection 7(3) of the *Snowy Hydro Corporatisation Act 1997*, the Senate approves the transfer or disposal of the Commonwealth shares in the Snowy Hydro Company (incorporated under the name Snowy Hydro Limited) that will occur as a result of the Commonwealth participating in the Initial Public Offer process announced by the New South Wales Government on 16 December 2005.

Debate ensued.

Senator Sherry moved the following amendment:

At the end of the motion, add:

“(2) To ensure that government claims about privatisation are met, the Senate:

(a) notes the Government’s claims that:

- (i) local employment will increase through the use of local specialist contractors,
- (ii) the privatisation will lead to an innovative maintenance and upgrade program for the Snowy Scheme’s equipment and infrastructure and give the company the opportunity to grow its energy business and raise capital in the future,
- (iii) the privatisation will not affect water releases or water rights of downstream users in NSW, Victoria, or South Australia,
- (iv) Snowy Hydro meets its obligation to release specified volumes of water into each of the Murray and the Murrumbidgee Rivers every year for the next 72 years, and
- (v) Snowy Hydro meets the environmental flows for the Snowy, Murray and other rivers agreed by the Australian, NSW and Victorian Governments in the Snowy Water Inquiry Outcomes Implementation Deed for the corporatisation of the Scheme in 2002; and

(b) requires that:

- (i) the performance and outcome of the share transfer and disposal are reported to the Senate at the expiration of 5 years after the passage of this resolution, and
- (ii) the proceeds from sale be applied to infrastructure to build productive capacity in the Australian community”.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 32

Senators—

Allison	Faulkner	McEwen	Sherry
Bartlett	Forshaw	McLucas	Siewert
Bishop	Hurley	Milne	Stephens
Brown, Bob	Hutchins	Moore	Sterle
Brown, Carol	Kirk (Teller)	Murray	Stott Despoja
Carr	Ludwig	Nettle	Webber
Conroy	Lundy	O'Brien	Wong
Crossin	Marshall	Polley	Wortley

NOES, 35

Senators—

Abetz	Ellison	Lightfoot	Payne
Adams	Ferguson	Macdonald, Ian	Ronaldson
Barnett	Ferris	Macdonald, Sandy	Santoro
Boswell	Fierravanti-Wells	Mason	Scullion
Brandis	Fifield	McGauran	Troeth
Calvert	Heffernan	Minchin	Trood
Chapman	Humphries	Nash	Vanstone
Colbeck	Johnston	Parry	Watson
Eggleston (Teller)	Kemp	Patterson	

Question negatived.

The Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison) moved the following amendment:

At the end of the motion, add:

“(2) That the Senate is of the opinion that funds appropriated from the divestment of Commonwealth shareholding in the Snowy River Hydro Company should be used to ensure that 28 per cent of Snowy’s original flows are in the river by 2010, to fulfil the existing commitment to establish the Snowy River Scientific Committee, and that the remainder should be directed into the Living Murray Initiative, as additional expenditure already committed to the scheme”.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 8

Senators—

Allison	Brown, Bob	Murray	Siewert
Bartlett (Teller)	Milne	Nettle	Stott Despoja

NOES, 57

Senators—

Abetz	Faulkner	Macdonald, Ian	Santoro
Adams	Ferguson	Macdonald, Sandy	Scullion
Barnett	Ferris	Marshall	Sherry
Bishop	Fierravanti-Wells	Mason	Stephens
Boswell	Fifield	McGauran	Sterle
Brandis	Forshaw	McLucas	Troeth
Brown, Carol	Humphries	Minchin	Trood
Calvert	Hurley	Moore	Vanstone
Carr	Hutchins	Nash	Watson
Chapman	Johnston	O'Brien	Webber
Colbeck	Kemp	Parry	Wong
Conroy	Kirk	Patterson	Wortley
Crossin	Lightfoot	Payne	
Eggleston (Teller)	Ludwig	Polley	
Ellison	Lundy	Ronaldson	

Question negatived.

Proposed reference to committee: The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) moved the following amendment:

Omit all words after “That”, substitute “the following matter be referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee for inquiry and report by 30 June 2006:

The proposed divestment of the Commonwealth’s shareholding in Snowy Hydro Ltd”.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 8

Senators—

Allison	Brown, Bob	Murray	Siewert (Teller)
Bartlett	Milne	Nettle	Stott Despoja

NOES, 58

Senators—

Abetz	Faulkner	Macdonald, Ian	Ronaldson
Adams	Ferguson	Macdonald, Sandy	Santoro
Barnett	Ferris	Marshall	Scullion
Bishop	Fierravanti-Wells	Mason	Sherry
Boswell	Fifield	McEwen	Stephens
Brandis	Forshaw	McGauran	Sterle
Brown, Carol	Humphries	McLucas	Troeth
Calvert	Hurley	Minchin	Trood
Carr	Hutchins	Moore	Vanstone
Chapman	Johnston	Nash	Watson
Colbeck	Kemp	O'Brien	Webber
Conroy	Kirk	Parry	Wong
Crossin	Lightfoot	Patterson	Wortley
Eggleston (Teller)	Ludwig	Payne	
Ellison	Lundy	Polley	

Question negatived.

Main question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 56

Senators—

Abetz	Ellison	Ludwig	Polley
Adams	Faulkner	Lundy	Ronaldson
Barnett	Ferguson	Marshall	Santoro
Bishop	Ferris (Teller)	Mason	Scullion
Boswell	Fierravanti-Wells	McEwen	Sherry
Brandis	Fifield	McGauran	Stephens
Brown, Carol	Forshaw	McLucas	Sterle
Calvert	Humphries	Minchin	Troeth
Carr	Hurley	Moore	Trood
Chapman	Hutchins	Nash	Vanstone
Colbeck	Johnston	O'Brien	Watson
Conroy	Kemp	Parry	Webber
Crossin	Kirk	Patterson	Wong
Eggleston	Lightfoot	Payne	Wortley

NOES, 7

Senators—

Allison	Brown, Bob	Nettle	Stott Despoja
Bartlett	Milne	Siewert (Teller)	

Question agreed to.

5 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS (INTERCEPTION) AMENDMENT BILL 2006**

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

In the committee

Consideration resumed of the bill, as amended—and of the amendment moved by the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):

Schedule 1, page 4 (after line 4), before item 1, insert:

1A After section 2

Insert:

2A Limitations of operation of Act

It is the intention of the Parliament that:

- (1) To the extent that there is any inconsistency between this Act and Australia's obligations under international treaties including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, Australia's obligations under those treaties prevail and override the operation of this Act.
- (2) Nothing in this Act authorises the interception of communications:
 - (a) of a person unless the person is suspected of engaging in the planning of, or other involvement in, terrorist acts or murder;
 - (b) where those communications contain information which is:
 - (i) the subject of legal professional privilege; or
 - (ii) derived from information that is the subject of legal professional privilege;
 - (c) where those communications contain information:

- (i) the subject of doctor-patient confidential medical communications; or
- (ii) derived from information that is the subject of doctor-patient confidential medical communications;
- (d) of Federal or State Members of Parliament;
- (e) of High Court judges or Federal Court judges.

Debate resumed.

Senator Bob Brown, by leave, amended the amendment as follows:

Omit paragraph (2)(a).

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put and negatived.

Senator Ludwig moved the following amendments together by leave:

Schedule 1, page 4 (line 2) to page 61 (line 11), omit “enforcement agency” (wherever occurring), substitute “interception agency”.

Schedule 1, item 2, page 4 (line 18), before “law”, insert “criminal”.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendments be agreed to—put and negatived.

Question—That the bill, as amended, be agreed to—divided in respect of Schedule 1, item 36.

Schedule 1, item 36 debated and agreed to.

On the motion of the Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) the following amendment was debated and agreed to:

Schedule 1, item 1, page 4 (lines 5 to 13), omit the item, substitute:

1 Subsection 5(1)

Insert:

stored communication means a communication that:

- (a) is not passing over a telecommunications system; and
- (b) is held on equipment that is operated by, and is in the possession of, a carrier; and
- (c) cannot be accessed on that equipment, by a person who is not a party to the communication, without the assistance of an employee of the carrier.

Senator Stott Despoja moved the following amendment:

Schedule 1, item 2, page 4 (line 23), omit “3”, substitute “7”.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put and negatived.

At 12.45 pm: The Acting Deputy President (Senator Moore) resumed the chair and the Temporary Chair of Committees reported progress.

6 MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Matters of public interest were discussed.

At 2 pm—

7 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were answered.

8 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE—ANSWERS AND EXPLANATION

Senator Bishop, pursuant to standing order 74, asked the Minister representing the Minister for Defence (Senator Ian Campbell) for an explanation of answers not being provided to the following questions on notice:

No. 1333 (notice given 20 October 2005)

No. 1353 (notice given 8 November 2005)

No. 1355 (notice given 9 November 2005)

No. 1369 (notice given 21 November 2005).

Senator Ian Campbell indicated that an explanation would be provided.

9 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS—ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Senator Bishop moved—That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz) to questions without notice asked today relating to changes to industrial relations.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

10 FINANCE—WESTPOINT PROPERTY—ANSWER TO QUESTION

Senator Sherry moved—That the Senate take note of the answer given by the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin) to a question without notice asked by Senator Sherry today relating to the collapse of the property development company, Westpoint.

Question put and passed.

11 ENVIRONMENT—URANIUM—ANSWER TO QUESTION

Senator Milne moved—That the Senate take note of the answer given by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Ian Campbell) to a question without notice asked by Senator Ronaldson today relating to uranium mining and nuclear power.

Question put and passed.

12 PETITIONS

The following 3 petitions, lodged with the Clerk by the senators indicated, were received:

Senator Bartlett, from 15 petitioners, requesting that the Senate take action to end the live animal export trade and develop a chilled and frozen carcass trade using humane slaughtering practices.

Senator Bartlett, from 26 petitioners, requesting that the Senate take action to end the export of live animals from Australia to the Middle East.

Senator Bartlett, from 143 petitioners, requesting that the Senate support the Defence Amendment (Parliamentary approval for Australian involvement in overseas conflicts) Bill 2003 [2004].

13 NOTICES

The Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison): To move on the next day of sitting—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to amend the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* to encourage healthier eating habits among children and to prohibit the advertising of junk food during certain times, and for related purposes. ***Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising Bill 2006***. (*general business notice of motion no. 409*)

Senator Carr: To move on 10 May 2006—That—

- (a) the Senate recognises that secure and affordable housing provides a platform for social inclusion, good mental and physical health and participation in employment, education and training; and
- (b) the following matter be referred to the Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 29 November 2006:

An examination of the housing needs of low and middle income households across Australia, whether those needs are being met and options for improving outcomes, including:

- (i) the capacity of the Commonwealth Government to influence the price and availability of housing,
- (ii) the effectiveness and efficiency of existing forms of direct government rental housing assistance in alleviating housing stress and ensuring that Australians have access to affordable, secure and appropriately located housing, with particular reference to:
 - (A) the effectiveness of Commonwealth rent assistance in improving affordable access to the private rental market,
 - (B) the intent and effect of the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement, and
 - (C) the evidence from Australia and overseas on the relative cost-effectiveness of different forms of direct housing assistance,
- (iii) the potential for attracting private investment into affordable rental housing,
- (iv) recent changes in the shape of the private housing market and their impact on home ownership, rental affordability and housing security, with particular reference to:
 - (A) trends in the proportion of Australian households that own their home outright, those that own their home with a mortgage and those that rent,
 - (B) the potential for intergenerational inequity as a result of sustained low levels of home ownership affordability,
 - (C) the availability and effects of government subsidies and loan financing schemes and possible alternative approaches to government support for home ownership, and
 - (D) the benefits and risks associated with new financial instruments, including shared equity and reverse mortgage products, and
- (v) the specific issues faced by Indigenous households and communities.

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

- (a) condemns the Howard Government's extreme workplace relations changes which took effect in the week beginning 26 March 2006, and the immediate adverse impact that they have had in undermining the employment security and conditions of all ten million working Australians; and

- (b) calls on the Government to scrap its extreme workplace relations changes and turn its attention to those areas that will realise genuine productivity improvements, in particular, fixing the nation's skills shortage. (*general business notice of motion no. 410*)

Senator Wong: To move on 10 May 2006—That the Workplace Relations Regulations 2006, as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2006 No. 52 and made under the *Workplace Relations Act 1996* and the *Workplace Relations Amendment (Work Choices) Act 2005*, be disallowed.

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

(a) notes:

- (i) the comments by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (UK), Mr Tony Blair, made in the House of Representatives on 27 March 2006, about the need for Australia to re-engage with global efforts to tackle climate change,
 - (ii) that the UK has released a new climate change program setting out the UK agenda for action on climate change, including a stricter emissions cap on industry,
 - (iii) that the Conservative Party in the UK has committed itself to emission targets for 2010, 2020 and 2050 and has said that targets 'must be locked in through binding commitments, stretching decades into the future and reinforced by market-based emissions-trading mechanisms', and
 - (iv) that during the South Australian election campaign, the South Australian Liberal Party committed to a 60 per cent cut by 2050 and to reduce the state's emissions by 20 per cent by 2020; and
- (b) calls on the Government to follow the lead of the other conservative parties by setting emission abatement targets and putting a price on carbon in order to send the clear signal that industry and the financial sector need if they are to invest in the new technologies required. (*general business notice of motion no. 411*)

The Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison): To move on the next day of sitting—That, on Thursday, 30 March 2006:

- (a) the hours of meeting shall be 9.30 am to adjournment;
- (b) consideration of general business and consideration of committee reports, government responses and Auditor-General's reports under standing order 62(1) and (2) shall not be proceeded with;
- (c) the routine of business from not later than 4.30 pm shall be government business only;
- (d) divisions may take place after 4.30 pm; and
- (e) the question for the adjournment of the Senate shall not be proposed till after the Senate has finally considered the bills and items listed below, including any messages from the House of Representatives:

Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment Bill 2006

Family Law Amendment (Shared Parental Responsibility) Bill 2006

Family Assistance, Social Security and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (2005 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2006

Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2005-2006

Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2005-2006

Issues from the Advance to the Finance Minister as a final charge for the year ended 30 June 2005

Health Legislation Amendment (Pharmacy Location Arrangements) Bill 2006

Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Fees and Charges) Bill 2006

Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill 2005

Cancer Australia Bill 2006

Ministers of State Amendment Bill 2005

Postal Industry Ombudsman Bill 2005 [2006]

Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Anti-avoidance) Bill 2006.

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

- (a) notes that the Federal Government's *Climate Change: Risk and Vulnerability* report states that:
 - (i) both the Great Barrier Reef and the Wet Tropics are very sensitive to changes in temperature and that an increase of as little as 2°C could have devastating effects,
 - (ii) climate model projections suggest that within 40 years water temperatures could be above the survival limit of corals, and
 - (iii) the value and uniqueness of World Heritage listed areas are already established and these should be given prominence in adaptation research and planning;
- (b) further notes that:
 - (i) the World Heritage Committee considers that the Great Barrier Reef is one of many World Heritage sites that will become increasingly affected by climate change – other prime examples include the Kilimanjaro National Park, biosphere reserves such as the Cape Floral Region in South Africa and cultural sites such as the Venice Lagoon which is threatened by the rise in sea level, and
 - (ii) at the World Heritage Committee meeting of climate change experts at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Headquarters in Paris on 16 and 17 March 2006, the Australian Government joined with the United States of America in arguing against the Great Barrier Reef being listed as World Heritage in Danger because of climate change; and
- (c) calls on the Government to support inclusion of the Great Barrier Reef on the World Heritage in Danger list because of climate change. (*general business notice of motion no. 412*)

14 POSTPONEMENT

The following item of business was postponed:

Business of the Senate notice of motion no. 3 standing in the name of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison) for today, proposing the reference of a matter to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee, postponed till 11 May 2006.

15 MIGRATION—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—LEAVE TO MEET DURING SITTING

Senator Marshall, at the request of Senator Kirk and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 405—That the Joint Standing Committee on Migration be authorised to hold private meetings otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) during the sittings of the Senate.

Question put and passed.

16 DEATH OF MR KEVIN CHARLES (PRO) HART, MBE

The Minister for Ageing (Senator Santoro), at the request of the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Coonan) and the Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved government business notice of motion no. 6—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the sad passing of Kevin Charles (Pro) Hart, MBE on Tuesday, 28 March 2006;
- (b) extends its sympathy to Mr Hart's wife Raylee, his children John, Kym, Marie, Julie and David and to his extended family;
- (c) recognises how Pro Hart used his well-documented 'larrikin' persona and iconic art to document how Australians see themselves and their history through rural and outback images and subjects; and
- (d) records the significant contribution Pro Hart made to Australia and Australia's cultural identity through many artistic mediums, including painting and sculpture over more than 40 years.

Question put and passed.

17 FOREIGN AFFAIRS—WEST PAPUA

Senator Bartlett, at the request of Senator Stott Despoja, amended general business notice of motion no. 408 by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges:
 - (i) the provision of Temporary Protection Visas by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs to the West Papuan asylum seekers who arrived in Australia in January 2006 claiming human rights abuses by Indonesian forces in Papua, and
 - (ii) the need for an end to the ongoing human rights abuses in Papua;
- (b) recognises:
 - (i) that a commitment to the formal process of special autonomy for the province of Papua, that began in 2001, is integral to the peaceful solution of the conflict in Papua and calls on the Indonesian Government to fully implement the Special Autonomy Law, and
 - (ii) the partitioning of Papua into the provinces of West Irian Jaya and Papua is disputed and has been contested by Papuan political and community leaders; and
- (c) calls on the Australian Government to support and encourage President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono to continue to push forward his reform agenda for Papua as he has done in Aceh, and implement special autonomy for Papua.

Question put and negatived.

**18 ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS
REFERENCES COMMITTEE—REFERENCE**

Senator Lundy amended business of the Senate notice of motion no. 4 by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—That the following matter be referred to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee for inquiry and report by the first sitting day in September 2006:

Women in sport and recreation in Australia, with particular reference to:

- (a) the health benefits of women participating in sport and recreation activities;
- (b) the accessibility for women of all ages to participate in organised sport, fitness and recreation activities, with additional reference to state and federal programs, including:
 - (i) the number of women actively participating in organised sport, fitness and recreation activities,
 - (ii) characteristics of women not participating in organised sport, fitness and recreation activities (including, for example, socio-economic strata, age, women with a disability, Indigenous or Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) women),
 - (iii) constraints, including strategies to overcome the constraints that may prevent these women from participating,
 - (iv) the effectiveness of current state and federal grant programs that encourage women to participate,
 - (v) the retention and attrition trends of grassroots participation, including comparisons with male athletes at a similar level,
 - (vi) the remuneration, recruitment, retention and attrition of elite female athletes, including comparisons with elite male athletes,
 - (vii) retention of athletes competing in senior and open age state and national sporting competitions, with possible strategies to retain female competitors in elite and sub-elite competition,
 - (viii) opportunities and barriers for national team members and competitors in international competition, and
 - (ix) the financial status, success and viability of women's national league competitions, including strategies to improve these factors;
- (c) the portrayal of women's sport in the media, including:
 - (i) the role of the government to regulate and review the coverage of women's sport in the media (print, radio and electronic),
 - (ii) the influence of pay television on the coverage of women in sport,
 - (iii) the promotion and publicity of women's national league competitions,
 - (iv) the financial status and success of women's national leagues, and
 - (v) strategies to improve the amount and quality of media coverage for women's sport; and
- (d) women in leadership roles in sport, including:
 - (i) the number and proportion of women in coaching, administrative and officiating roles,
 - (ii) the issues associated with women in leadership roles in both elite and grassroots activities,
 - (iii) trends and issues for women in organisational leadership roles, and

- (iv) strategies to improve the numbers of women in coaching, administration and technical roles.

Question put and passed.

19 FOREIGN AFFAIRS—PALESTINIAN LAND DAY

Senator Nettle, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 407—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

- (i) that Thursday, 30 March 2006 is Palestinian Land Day, and
- (ii) the statement by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Mr Tony Blair, to the Australian Parliament on 27 March 2006 that ‘once the Israeli election has taken place, we must redouble our efforts to find a way to the only solution that works—a secure state of Israel and a viable, independent Palestinian state’; and

(b) calls on the Government to:

- (i) support the formation of a ‘viable, independent Palestinian state’, and
- (ii) encourage Israel to reach a comprehensive peace agreement with Palestine based on United Nations Security Council Resolution 242.

Question put and negatived. All Australian Greens senators, by leave, recorded their votes for the ayes.

20 SCRUTINY OF BILLS—STANDING COMMITTEE—2ND REPORT AND ALERT DIGEST NO. 3 OF 2006

Senator Marshall, at the request of the Chairman of the Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills (Senator Ray), tabled the following report and document:

Scrutiny of Bills—Standing Committee—

2nd report of 2006, dated 29 March 2006.

Alert Digest No. 3 of 2006, dated 29 March 2006.

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

21 ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—ADDITIONAL INFORMATION—BUDGET ESTIMATES 2005-06

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee (Senator Eggleston), tabled additional information received by the committee (Budget estimates 2005-06 (Supplementary)—Communications, Information Technology and the Arts portfolio—Volume 2—Telecommunications).

22 LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—ADDITIONAL INFORMATION—BUDGET ESTIMATES 2005-06

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (Senator Payne), tabled the following additional information received by the committee:

Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—Budget estimates 2005-06 (Supplementary)—

Attorney-General’s portfolio—Volumes 1 to 4.

Immigration and Multicultural Affairs portfolio—Volumes 1 to 4.

23 PUBLIC WORKS—JOINT STATUTORY COMMITTEE—4TH AND 5TH REPORTS OF 2006 AND 69TH ANNUAL REPORT

Senator Ferris, on behalf of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, tabled the following reports:

Public Works—Joint Statutory Committee—

4th report of 2006—Proposed fit-out of an extension to leased premises for IP Australia in Woden, ACT, dated March 2006.

5th report of 2006—Proposed redevelopment of post 1945 conflicts galleries and Discovery Room for the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, ACT, dated March 2006.

69th annual report, dated March 2006.

Senator Ferris moved—That the Senate take note of the reports.

Question put and passed.

24 LEGISLATION COMMITTEES—REPORTS—ANNUAL REPORTS

Pursuant to order, Senator Ferris, at the request of the chairs of the respective committees, tabled the following reports, dated March 2006:

Reports on annual reports referred to legislation committees—No. 1 of 2006—

Community Affairs Legislation Committee.

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee.

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee.

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee.

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee.

Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee.

Reports ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator Ferris.

25 FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES—AGED CARE—DOCUMENT

The Deputy President (Senator Hogg) tabled the following document:

Family and Community Services—Aged care—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory (Mr Stanhope) responding to the resolution of the Senate of 1 March 2006, dated 27 March 2006.

26 DOCUMENTS

The following documents were tabled by the Clerk:

[Legislative instruments are identified by a Federal Register of Legislative Instruments (FRLI) number]

ACIS Administration Act—ACIS Administration (Modulation) Guidelines 2006 [F2006L00885]*.

Broadcasting Services Act—Broadcasting Services (Anti-terrorism Requirements for Open Narrowcasting Television Services) Standard 2006 [F2006L00870]*.

Christmas Island Act—List of applied Western Australian Acts for the period 6 September 2005 to 21 March 2006.

Civil Aviation Act—

Civil Aviation Regulations—

Civil Aviation Order 40.2.1 Amendment Order (No. 1) 2006 [F2006L00908]*.

Instruments Nos—

CASA EX12/06—Exemption – Asian Express operations at Auckland aerodrome [F2006L00917]*.

CASA EX14/06—Exemption – refuelling with passengers on board [F2006L00914]*.

Civil Aviation Safety Regulations—Airworthiness Directives—Part 105—

AD/JBK 117/6 Amdt 4—Main Rotor Blade [F2006L00911]*.

AD/JBK 117/10 Amdt 3—Tail Boom Vertical Fin Spar [F2006L00913]*.

Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act—List of applied Western Australian Acts for the period 6 September 2005 to 21 March 2006.

Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act—Notice under paragraphs 45(1)(a) and (c)—Formation and membership of Teaching Australia – Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited.

Higher Education Support Act—Funding agreements, dated—

9 February 2006—

Australian Catholic University.

Griffith University.

University of Southern Queensland.

22 February 2006—Queensland University of Technology.

5 March 2006—University of the Sunshine Coast.

Remuneration Tribunal Act—Determination 2006/02: Members of Parliament – Entitlements [F2006L00896]*.

Sydney Airport Curfew Act—Dispensation Report 02/06 [9 dispensations].

Telecommunications Act 1997—

Telecommunications (Approved Auditors and Auditing Requirements) Determination 2006 [F2006L00924]*.

Telecommunications (Non-refundable Code Development Costs) Determination 2006 [F2006L00920]*.

* Explanatory statement tabled with legislative instrument.

27 INDEXED LISTS OF DEPARTMENTAL AND AGENCY FILES—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—DOCUMENTS

The following documents were tabled pursuant to the order of the Senate of 30 May 1996, as amended:

Indexed lists of departmental and agency files for the period 1 July to 31 December 2005—Statements of compliance—

Attorney-General's portfolio agencies.

Employment and Workplace Relations portfolio agencies.

Environment and Heritage portfolio agencies.

Human Services portfolio agencies.

Industry, Tourism and Resources portfolio agencies.

28 DEPARTMENTAL AND AGENCY CONTRACTS—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—DOCUMENTS

The following documents were tabled pursuant to the order of the Senate of 20 June 2001, as amended:

Departmental and agency contracts for 2005—Letters of advice—

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and portfolio agencies.

Human Services portfolio agencies.

**29 FAMILY ASSISTANCE, SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION
AMENDMENT (2005 BUDGET AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2006**

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

Message no. 302, dated 28 March 2006—A Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to family assistance, social security and veterans' affairs, and for related purposes.

The Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) 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 Ellison moved—That this bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Senator Ellison the debate was adjourned and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour.

**30 HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PHARMACY LOCATION ARRANGEMENTS)
BILL 2006**

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

Message no. 304, dated 29 March 2006—A Bill for an Act to amend the *National Health Act 1953*, and for related purposes.

The Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) 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 Ellison moved—That this bill be now read a second time.

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

31 ENERGY EFFICIENCY OPPORTUNITIES BILL 2005

A message from the House of Representatives was reported agreeing to the amendments made by the Senate to the following bill:

Message no. 303, dated 29 March 2006—Energy Efficiency Opportunities Bill 2005.

32 GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S MESSAGE—ASSENT TO LAWS

A message from His Excellency the Governor-General was reported, informing the Senate that he had assented to the following laws:

23 March 2006—Message No. 6—

Census Information Legislation Amendment Act 2006 (Act No. 10, 2006)

Trade Practices Amendment (Personal Injuries and Death) Act 2006 (Act No. 11, 2006)

Future Fund Act 2006 (Act No. 12, 2006).

**33 GUIDE TO THE ASSESSMENT OF THE DEGREE OF PERMANENT IMPAIRMENT—
PROPOSED DISALLOWANCE**

Senator Conroy, at the request of Senator Wong and pursuant to notice, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1—That the Guide to the Assessment of the Degree of Permanent Impairment [second edition], made under subsection 28(1) of the *Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988*, be disallowed.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

**34 DECLARATION OF PERCENTAGE OF COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACES—
PROPOSED DISALLOWANCE**

Senator Wong, pursuant to notice, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 2—That the Declaration of percentage of Commonwealth supported places to be provided by Table A providers for a course of study in medicine, made under paragraph 36-35(1)(b) of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*, be disallowed.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 31

Senators—

Allison	Faulkner	McEwen	Ray
Bartlett	Forshaw	McLucas	Sherry
Bishop	Hogg	Milne	Stephens
Brown, Carol	Hurley	Moore	Stott Despoja
Campbell, George	Hutchins	Murray	Webber (Teller)
Carr	Kirk	Nettle	Wong
Conroy	Lundy	O'Brien	Wortley
Evans	Marshall	Polley	

NOES, 33

Senators—

Abetz	Coonan	Kemp	Ronaldson
Adams	Eggleston	Lightfoot	Santoro
Barnett	Ferguson	Macdonald, Ian	Scullion (Teller)
Boswell	Ferris	Macdonald, Sandy	Troeth
Brandis	Fierravanti-Wells	McGauran	Trood
Calvert	Fifield	Nash	Watson
Campbell, Ian	Heffernan	Parry	
Chapman	Humphries	Patterson	
Colbeck	Johnston	Payne	

Question negatived.

**35 ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS
REFERENCES COMMITTEE—PROPOSED REFERENCE**

Senator Conroy, pursuant to notice, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 5—That the following matter be referred to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee for inquiry and report by 8 August 2006:

The impact of proposed changes to cross media laws outlined in the Government's media reform options paper, with particular reference to:

- (a) the likely effect of the changes on media diversity in urban and regional media markets;
- (b) whether the safeguards proposed by the Government are adequate to prevent an excessive concentration of media ownership;
- (c) whether editorial separation, or a so-called two-out-of-three rule, would effectively protect media diversity; and
- (d) the impact of the proposed changes on the advertising market, particularly for small business.

Debate ensued.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 29

Senators—

Allison	Hogg	McLucas	Sterle
Bartlett	Hurley	Milne	Stott Despoja
Bishop	Hutchins	Moore	Webber (Teller)
Brown, Carol	Kirk	Murray	Wong
Campbell, George	Ludwig	Nettle	Wortley
Carr	Lundy	O'Brien	
Conroy	Marshall	Polley	
Crossin	McEwen	Stephens	

NOES, 32

Senators—

Abetz	Coonan	Johnston	Patterson
Adams	Eggleston	Kemp	Payne
Barnett	Ferguson	Lightfoot	Ronaldson
Boswell	Ferris	Macdonald, Ian	Santoro
Brandis	Fierravanti-Wells	Macdonald, Sandy	Scullion (Teller)
Calvert	Fifield	McGauran	Troeth
Chapman	Heffernan	Nash	Trood
Colbeck	Humphries	Parry	Watson

Question negatived.

36 HOURS OF MEETING AND ROUTINE OF BUSINESS—VARIATION

The Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp), by leave, moved—That, on Wednesday, 29 March 2006:

- (a) the hours of meeting shall be 9.30 am till not later than 11.40 pm;
- (b) the question for the adjournment of the Senate shall be proposed after consideration of the business listed in paragraph (d) or at 11 pm, whichever is the earlier;
- (c) consideration of government documents shall not be proceeded with; and
- (d) the routine of business from 6.50 pm shall be the following government business orders of the day:
 - Family Assistance, Social Security and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (2005 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2006—second reading
 - Health Legislation Amendment (Pharmacy Location Arrangements) Bill 2006
 - Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill 2005
 - Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Fees and Charges) Bill 2006
 - Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Anti-avoidance) Bill 2006
 - Ministers of State Amendment Bill 2005

Postal Industry Ombudsman Bill 2005 [2006]—consideration in committee of the whole of message from the House of Representatives
 Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2005-2006 and Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2005-2006—second reading.

Question put and passed.

37 NOTICE OF MOTION WITHDRAWN

Senator Nettle, at the request of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown), withdrew business of the Senate notice of motion no. 6 standing in the name of Senator Bob Brown for today, proposing the reference of a matter to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee.

38 TELECOMMUNICATIONS (INTERCEPTION) AMENDMENT BILL 2006

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

In the committee

Consideration resumed of the bill, as amended.

On the motion of the Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) the following amendments, taken together by leave, were debated and agreed to:

Schedule 1, item 2, page 4 (line 29) to page 5 (line 6), omit paragraph 5E(1)(c), substitute:

- (c) could, if established, render the person committing the contravention liable:
 - (i) if the contravention were committed by an individual—to pay a pecuniary penalty of 180 penalty units or more, or to pay an amount that is the monetary equivalent of 180 penalty units or more; or
 - (ii) if the contravention cannot be committed by an individual—to pay a pecuniary penalty of 900 penalty units or more, or to pay an amount that is the monetary equivalent of 900 penalty units or more.

Schedule 1, item 9, page 27 (lines 19 to 26), omit paragraph 139(3)(c), substitute:

- (c) could, if established, render the person committing the contravention liable:
 - (i) if the contravention were committed by an individual—to pay a pecuniary penalty of 60 penalty units or more, or to pay an amount that is the monetary equivalent of 60 penalty units or more; or
 - (ii) if the contravention cannot be committed by an individual—to pay a pecuniary penalty of 300 penalty units or more, or to pay an amount that is the monetary equivalent of 300 penalty units or more.

Senator Ellison moved the following amendment:

Schedule 1, item 2, page 5 (lines 20 to 25), omit section 5F, substitute:

5F When a communication is passing over a telecommunications system

- (1) For the purposes of this Act, a communication:

- (a) is taken to start passing over a telecommunications system when it is sent or transmitted by the person sending the communication; and
 - (b) is taken to continue to pass over the system until it becomes accessible to the intended recipient of the communication.
- (2) However, if a communication is sent from an address on a computer network operated by or on behalf of the Australian Federal Police, it is taken not to start passing over a telecommunications system, for the purposes of this Act, until it is no longer under the control of any of the following:
- (a) any AFP employee responsible for operating, protecting and maintaining the network;
 - (b) any AFP employee responsible for enforcement of the professional standards of the Australian Federal Police.
- (3) Subsection (2) ceases to have effect at the end of the period of 2 years starting at the commencement of this section.

Debate ensued.

The question for the amendment was divided—

Question—That the amendment in respect of paragraph (1) be agreed to—put and passed.

Question—That the amendment in respect of paragraphs (2) and (3) be agreed to—put and passed.

On the motion of Senator Ellison the following amendments, taken together by leave, were debated and agreed to:

Schedule 1, item 2, page 5 (line 27), before “For the purposes”, insert “(1)”.

Schedule 1, item 2, page 6 (after line 2), at the end of section 5G, add:

- (2) In addition to the person who is the intended recipient of a communication under subsection (1), if a communication is addressed to a person at an address on a computer network operated by or on behalf of the Australian Federal Police, each of the following is also an **intended recipient** of the communication for the purposes of this Act:
 - (a) any AFP employee responsible for operating, protecting and maintaining the network;
 - (b) any AFP employee responsible for enforcement of the professional standards of the Australian Federal Police.
- (3) Subsection (2) ceases to have effect at the end of the period of 2 years starting at the commencement of this section.
- (4) If subsection (2) applies to a communication, a reference in this Act (other than in this section) to the intended recipient of the communication is taken to be a reference to an intended recipient of the communication.

All Opposition senators and all Australian Democrats senators, by leave, recorded their votes for the noes.

Senator Ludwig moved the following amendment:

Schedule 1, item 3, page 6 (line 19), after “communication”, insert “or any record or copy of such a communication”.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put and negatived.

Senator Ellison moved the following amendments together by leave:

- Schedule 1, item 9, page 9 (lines 12 and 13), omit paragraph 108(1)(b), substitute:
- (b) the person does so with the knowledge of neither of the following:
 - (i) the intended recipient of the stored communication;
 - (ii) the person who sent the stored communication.

Schedule 1, item 9, page 9 (after line 18), after subsection 108(1), insert:

- (1A) Without limiting paragraph (1)(b), a person is taken for the purposes of that paragraph to have knowledge of an act referred to in paragraph (1)(a) if written notice of an intention to do the act is given to the person.

Note: For giving notice, see section 28A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

Debate ensued.

On the motion of Senator Ellison further consideration of the amendments was postponed.

Senator Ellison moved the following amendments together by leave:

Schedule 1, item 9, page 10 (line 27), omit “device.”, substitute “device; or”.

Schedule 1, item 9, page 10 (after line 27), after paragraph 108(2)(g), add:

- (h) accessing a stored communication by an officer or staff member of the Australian Communications and Media Authority engaged in duties relating to enforcement of the *Spam Act 2003*.

Schedule 1, item 9, page 26 (lines 17 to 25), omit section 138, substitute:

138 Employee of carrier may communicate information to enforcement agency

- (1) An employee of a carrier may, for a purpose or purposes connected with the investigation by the Australian Communications and Media Authority of a serious contravention or with the performance of its functions relating to enforcement of the *Spam Act 2003*, and for no other purpose, communicate to an officer or staff member of the authority the following:
 - (a) lawfully accessed information other than foreign intelligence information;
 - (b) stored communications warrant information.
- (2) An employee of a carrier may, for a purpose or purposes connected with the investigation by any other enforcement agency of a serious contravention, and for no other purpose, communicate to an officer or staff member of the agency the following:
 - (a) lawfully accessed information other than foreign intelligence information;
 - (b) stored communications warrant information.

Debate ensued.

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

39 FAMILY ASSISTANCE, SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (2005 BUDGET AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2006

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

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

40 HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PHARMACY LOCATION ARRANGEMENTS) BILL 2006

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

In the committee

Bill, taken as a whole by leave, agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

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

On the motion of Senator Ellison the report from the committee was adopted and the bill read a third time.

41 THERAPEUTIC GOODS AMENDMENT BILL 2005

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Colbeck)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

In the committee

Bill, taken as a whole by leave, agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

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

On the motion of the Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) the report from the committee was adopted and the bill read a third time.

42 BANKRUPTCY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (FEES AND CHARGES) BILL 2006

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

Message no. 305, dated 29 March 2006—A Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to bankruptcy, and for related purposes.

The Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) 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 Ellison moved—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

No amendments to the bill were circulated and no senator required that it be considered in committee.

On the motion of Senator Ellison the bill was read a third time.

43 BANKRUPTCY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (ANTI-AVOIDANCE) BILL 2006

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Ageing (Senator Santoro)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

No amendments to the bill were circulated and no senator required that it be considered in committee.

On the motion of the Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) the bill was read a third time.

44 MINISTERS OF STATE AMENDMENT BILL 2005

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

No amendments to the bill were circulated and no senator required that it be considered in committee.

On the motion of the Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) the bill was read a third time.

45 POSTAL INDUSTRY OMBUDSMAN BILL 2005 [2006]

Order of the day read for the consideration of message no. 214 from the House of Representatives in committee of the whole (*see entry no. 22, 12 September 2005*).

In the committee

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT MADE BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- (1) Schedule 1, item 11, page 19 (line 32) to page 20 (line 5), omit subsection (2A).

[voluntary registration of PPOs]

The Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) moved—That the committee agree to the amendment made by the House of Representatives to the bill.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Lightfoot) resumed the chair and the Temporary Chair of Committees reported that the committee had considered message no. 214 from the House of Representatives relating to the Postal Industry Ombudsman Bill 2005 [2006] and had agreed to the amendment made by the House to the bill.

On the motion of Senator Ellison the report from the committee was adopted.

46 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2005-2006
APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 2005-2006

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp)—That these bills be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

On the motion of the Minister for Ageing (Senator Santoro) the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.

47 ROUTINE OF BUSINESS—VARIATION

The Minister for Ageing (Senator Santoro), by leave, moved—That, on Thursday, 30 March 2006, the routine of business be varied to provide that the government business orders relating to the following bills be considered immediately after prayers:

Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment Bill 2006

Family Assistance, Social Security and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (2005 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2006

Cancer Australia Bill 2006.

Question put and passed.

48 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

The Senate adjourned at 9.44 pm till Thursday, 30 March 2006 at 9.30 am.

49 ATTENDANCE

Present, all senators except Senators Fielding* and Joyce (* on leave).

HARRY EVANS
Clerk of the Senate