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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

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FRIDAY, 16 JUNE 2006

1 MEETING OF SENATE

The Senate met at 9 am. The President (Senator the Honourable Paul Calvert) took the chair and read prayers.

2 NOTICE

The Chair of the Finance and Public Administration References Committee (Senator Forshaw): To move on the next day of sitting—That the following matter be referred to the Finance and Public Administration References Committee for inquiry and report by 19 October 2006:

The transparency and accountability to Parliament of Commonwealth public funding and expenditure, including:

- (a) the impact on the Parliament's ability to scrutinise, approve and monitor proposed and actual expenditure of:
 - (i) outcome budget appropriations and reporting,
 - (ii) multiple sources of funding including special appropriations, advances to the Minister for Finance, annual departmental carry-over surpluses, revenue retained under section 31 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*, special accounts and goods and services tax appropriations, and
 - (iii) the use of ordinary annual services to fund activities including non-annual services;
- (b) options for improving the transparency and specificity of budget papers and related documents; and
- (c) other measures to improve the Parliament's oversight of proposed and actual Commonwealth funding and expenditure.

3 ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT (ELECTORAL INTEGRITY AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2006

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.

Senator Carr moved the following amendment:

At the end of the motion, add “but the Senate is of the view that this bill should be withdrawn until undemocratic provisions that:

- (a) reduce the period of time Australians have to enrol to vote and update their details on the electoral roll;
 - (b) introduce new proof of identity requirements;
 - (c) increase the disclosure thresholds to \$10 000; and
 - (d) increase the tax-deductibility of political donations,
- are removed”.

Debate ensued.

At 3.45 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator O’Brien was speaking.

4 ADJOURNMENT

The President proposed the question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Senate adjourned at 4.13 pm till Monday, 19 June 2006 at 12.30 pm.

5 ATTENDANCE

Present, all senators except Senators Allison, Bartlett, Bishop, Boswell, Ian Campbell*, Conroy, Crossin, Ellison*, Lundy*, Nash, Santoro*, Sherry*, Siewert, Stott Despoja and Vanstone (* on leave).

HARRY EVANS
Clerk of the Senate