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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:

Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997—Quarterly report on the maximum movement limit for Sydney Airport for the period 1 April to 30 June 2006.

Treaty—*Bilateral*—Text, together with national interest analysis and annexures—Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the United States of America to amend Annex 2-B (Tariff Schedule of Australia), Annex 4-A and Annex 5-A of the Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement (AUSFTA) to ensure compliance with changes to the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System [2 vols].

3 ARCHIVES AMENDMENT BILL 2006

The Minister for Ageing (Senator Santoro), at the request of the Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp) and pursuant to notice, moved government business notice of motion no. 1—That the following bill be introduced:

A Bill for an Act to amend the *Archives Act 1983*, and for related purposes.

Question put and passed.

Senator Santoro presented the bill and 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 Santoro moved—That this bill be now read a second time.

Explanatory memorandum: Senator Santoro tabled an explanatory memorandum relating to the bill.

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.

4 MIGRATION AMENDMENT (EMPLOYER SANCTIONS) BILL 2006

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin)—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.

Senator Nettle moved the following amendment:

Schedule 2, page 9 (after line 9), before item 2, insert:

1A At the end of section 73

Add:

(2) If:

- (a) the Minister has granted a bridging visa E or equivalent in accordance with subsection (1); and
- (b) the applicant for the bridging visa E or equivalent has been in possession of the visa for more than 28 days;

the regulations must provide that the applicant be permitted to work in Australia for the period of the visa.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The committee divided—

AYES, 8

Senators—

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

NOES, 56

Senators—

Abetz	Ferguson	Ludwig	Polley
Adams	Ferris	Lundy	Ray
Barnett	Fielding	Macdonald, Sandy	Ronaldson
Bernardi	Fierravanti-Wells	Marshall	Scullion (Teller)
Bishop	Fifield	Mason	Sherry
Boswell	Forshaw	McEwen	Stephens
Brandis	Hogg	McGauran	Sterle
Calvert	Hurley	McLucas	Troeth
Campbell, George	Hutchins	Moore	Trood
Carr	Johnston	Nash	Vanstone
Chapman	Joyce	O'Brien	Watson
Colbeck	Kemp	Parry	Webber
Crossin	Kirk	Patterson	Wong
Faulkner	Lightfoot	Payne	Wortley

Question negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

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

On the motion of the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (Senator Vanstone) the report from the committee was adopted and the bill read a third time.

5 FINANCIAL TRANSACTION REPORTS AMENDMENT BILL 2006

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

At 12.45 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator Murray was speaking.

6 MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Matters of public interest were discussed.

Documents: Senator Brandis, by leave, tabled the following documents:

Health—Queensland budget—Copies of extracts—

Budget strategy and outlook 2005-06, p. 104—Table 6.3, ‘Departmental controlled expense’.

Budget strategy and outlook 2006-07, p. 125—Table 6.3, ‘Departmental controlled expense’.

Further matters of public interest were discussed.

At 2 pm—

7 QUESTIONS

Questions without notice were answered.

8 QUESTION ON NOTICE—ANSWER

The Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison), pursuant to standing order 74, asked the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services (Senator Kemp) for an explanation of an answer not being provided to question on notice no. 1796 (notice given 15 May 2006) relating to the proposed new access card for health and welfare services.

Senator Kemp provided an answer.

9 IMMIGRATION—457 VISA PROGRAM—ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Senator Ludwig moved—That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs (Senator Vanstone) to questions without notice asked by Senators Ludwig and George Campbell today relating to the 457 visa program.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

10 TRANSPORT—LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS CONVERSION—FUNDING—ANSWER TO QUESTION

Senator Bartlett 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 the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison) today relating to funding for liquefied petroleum gas conversions.

Question put and passed.

11 NOTICES

Notices of motion:

The Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison): To move on the next day of sitting—

- (1) That the 2006-07 supplementary Budget estimates hearings be scheduled as follows:
 - Monday, 30 October and Tuesday, 31 October (*Group A*)
 - Wednesday, 1 November and Thursday, 2 November (*Group B*).
- (2) That committees consider the proposed expenditure in accordance with the allocation of departments to committees agreed to by the Senate.
- (3) That committees meet in the following groups:

Group A:

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
 Finance and Public Administration
 Legal and Constitutional Affairs
 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

Group B:

Community Affairs
 Economics
 Employment, Workplace Relations and Education
 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.

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

- (a) notes:
 - (i) the recent decision by the Western Australian Minister for Indigenous Affairs to vary the protection of the Woodstock-Abydos Reserves in the Pilbara, in order to accommodate the building of a railway by Fortescue Metals Group Limited, and
 - (ii) that the building of a railway on these reserves would impact on Aboriginal sites within the reserves; and
- (b) expresses regret at the potential loss of Aboriginal heritage and urges a review of the decision to vary the protection of the Woodstock-Abydos Reserves. (*general business notice of motion no. 525*)

The Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Ian Campbell): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) recognises that local government is part of the governance of Australia, serving communities through locally-elected councils;

- (b) values the rich diversity of councils around Australia, reflecting the varied communities they serve;
- (c) acknowledges the role of local government in governance, advocacy, the provision of infrastructure, service delivery, planning, community development and regulation;
- (d) acknowledges the importance of cooperating and consulting with local government on the priorities of their local communities;
- (e) acknowledges the significant Australian Government funding that is provided to local government to spend on locally determined priorities, such as roads and other local government services; and
- (f) commends local government elected officials who give their time to serve their communities.

Senator Bartlett: To move on the next day of sitting—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to end the mandatory detention of visa applicants and asylum seekers, and for related purposes. ***Migration Legislation Amendment (End of Mandatory Detention) Bill 2006.*** (*general business notice of motion no. 526*)

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

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the Government is divided over the sale of Medibank Private,
 - (ii) the public is concerned about the consequences of the sale of Medibank Private and its impact on the affordability of private health insurance, and
 - (iii) despite government promises to keep private health insurance premiums low, they have risen by almost 40 per cent since 2001; and
- (b) calls on the Government to abandon plans to sell Medibank Private. (*general business notice of motion no. 527*)

The Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison): To move on the next day of sitting—That, on Thursday, 7 September 2006, the routine of business be varied to provide that questions without notice be called on at 2.30 pm.

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

- (a) supports the right of parliamentarians to freely pursue their duties;
- (b) notes the opposition of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the European Parliament and the New Zealand Parliament to Israel's arrest of more than 20 members of the Palestinian Parliament; and
- (c) calls for the immediate and unconditional release of the Palestinian Speaker, the Deputy Prime Minister and the other arrested ministers and members of the Palestinian Parliament. (*general business notice of motion no. 528*)

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

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the Federal Coalition promised at the 2004 federal election to introduce within 100 days a mandatory code of conduct to govern dealings between farmers and grocery buyers, and
 - (ii) on 4 September 2006, the National Farmers' Federation and the Horticulture Australia Council stated that the delay in delivering on this pledge is fuelling speculation that the Government will renege on its promise; and

- (b) calls on the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Mr McGauran) to explain to the Parliament why the Government has not implemented its promise and whether and when it intends to do so. (*general business notice of motion no. 529*)

The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate supports the Geneva Conventions and opposes the failure to implement the conventions regardless of by whom or where they may be breached. (*general business notice of motion no. 530*)

Senator Milne: To move on the next day of sitting—That, on National Threatened Species Day, the Senate—

- (a) recognises that habitat destruction and fragmentation together with alien invasive species exacerbated by global warming are the main drivers of species extinction globally;
- (b) notes that:
 - (i) since 1788, 52 plants and 55 animal species have gone to extinction in Australia including the Thylacine, which was last seen in Tasmania 70 years ago today, and
 - (ii) in 2006 there are 1 243 plants, 91 mammals, 107 birds, 52 reptiles, 27 frogs, 39 fishes and 22 invertebrates listed as either critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable or conservation dependent in Australia;
- (c) expresses concern that only 21 per cent of nationally-listed threatened species have recovery plans, none of which any longer have implementation schedules or life of the project funding plans;
- (d) calls on the Government to recognise that protection of threatened species under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has failed and does not fulfil Australia's obligations to protect threatened species under the Convention on Biological Diversity; and
- (e) urges the Government to immediately develop and implement legislation that does protect threatened species. (*general business notice of motion no. 531*)

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

- (a) congratulates the organisers of 'A Taste of Slow – Australia 2006', a 'Slow Food' festival culminating in the Abbotsford Convent Weekend in Victoria on the weekend of 9 and 10 September 2006 at the Collingwood Children's Farm and Collingwood Farmers Market;
- (b) notes:
 - (i) the fast growing international Slow Food Movement, which was founded not only as a response to the culture of fast food, but to encourage the use of local seasonal produce, to restore time-honoured methods of food production and preparation and to highlight the importance of sharing food at communal tables, and
 - (ii) that the Slow Food Movement encourages environmentally sustainable production, the ethical treatment of animals and social justice;
- (c) recognises:
 - (i) the importance of family meal times for the emotional, cultural and physical health of our communities, and
 - (ii) the importance of promoting healthy food options in light of increasing community health concerns such as obesity, diabetes and related nutritionally linked disease;

- (d) calls on the Government to take action to promote healthy food options; and
- (e) notes, with concern, the pressures placed on family time due to the rapid rise in non-standard work hours. (*general business notice of motion no. 532*)

Intention to withdraw: The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Watson), pursuant to standing order 78, gave notice of his intention, at the giving of notices on the next day of sitting, to withdraw business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1 standing in his name for 2 sitting days after today for the disallowance of the Migration Amendment Regulations 2006 (No. 1), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2006 No. 10 and made under the *Migration Act 1958*.

Senator Watson, by leave, made a statement relating to the notice of intention.

12 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Senator George Campbell, by leave, moved—That leave of absence be granted to Senator Carol Brown from 5 September to 7 September 2006, for personal reasons.

Question put and passed.

13 POSTPONEMENTS

The following items of business were postponed:

General business notice of motion no. 490 standing in the name of Senator Bartlett for today, relating to the importation of illegal timber and wood products, postponed till 7 September 2006.

General business notice of motion no. 509 standing in the name of Senator Bartlett for today, relating to Child Protection Week, postponed till 7 September 2006.

14 LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—EXTENSION OF TIME TO REPORT

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (Senator Payne) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 521—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee on the examination of annual reports tabled by 30 April 2006 be extended to 7 September 2006.

Question put and passed.

15 ENVIRONMENT—CLIMATE CHANGE

Senator Milne, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 522—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
 - (i) that according to the Australian Bureau of Meteorology, August 2006 was the driest month in 106 years,
 - (ii) the comments of the head of the Bureau of Meteorology's National Climate Centre, Dr Michael Coughlan, on 4 September 2006, about the downward trend in rainfall and the upward trend in temperatures that 'it's very hard to find some other reason other than global warming for what is causing this',

- (iii) the comment of eminent scientist, winner of the Prime Minister's 2001 Environmentalist of the Year prize and member of the National Water Commission, Professor Peter Cullen, on 4 September 2006, that climate change is affecting Australia faster than he anticipated, and
 - (iv) the comments by the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) on 28 August 2006 that 'I accept the broad theory about global warming. I am sceptical about a lot of the more gloomy predictions'; and
- (b) calls on the Prime Minister to acknowledge the urgency of action to address climate change and to start by setting national greenhouse gas emission targets.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 34

Senators—

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

NOES, 37

Senators—

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

Question negated.

16 PARLIAMENT—MEMBERS AND SENATORS—REMUNERATION AND ENTITLEMENTS

Senator Murray, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 523—That the Senate requests that, in an appropriate examination or review that is undertaken of the remuneration and entitlements of members and senators, the Remuneration Tribunal take a holistic view with respect to members' and senators' salary packages and allowances, what they need to do their jobs, and their superannuation entitlements.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 8

Senators—

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

NOES, 62

Senators—

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

Question negatived.

17 ENVIRONMENT—TASMANIA—FORESTRY INDUSTRY

Senator O'Brien amended general business notice of motion no. 524 by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the vital role played by the forestry industry in the Tasmanian economy, and the need to support this industry and the building of a pulp mill in Tasmania;
- (b) condemns the misrepresentation of Gunns Limited by the Rainforest Action Network which has been actively campaigning against Tasmania's forest industry in its overseas markets, notably Japan, and which has been:
 - (i) portraying to Gunns' Japanese customers that a Tasmanian pulp mill will be a competitor for Japanese industry and actively lobbying to keep Japanese pulp mills producing at the expense of Australian investment, Australian jobs and import replacement to offset the \$2 billion trade deficit in the forest and forest products sector,
 - (ii) falsely claiming that Gunns' logging practices are listed amongst the worst in the developed world according to the World Conservation Union (IUCN), when in fact this is the claim made by environmental non-government organisations (NGOs) in a submission to the IUCN, and
 - (iii) implicitly threatening Gunns' Japanese customers if they do not engage in constructive dialogue with the Rainforest Action Network about their serious concerns about Gunns as a woodchips supplier;
- (c) calls on the Government to take urgent measures to address the dishonest campaigns and secondary boycott practices of environmental NGOs being used against the Tasmanian and the Australian forest and forest products industries in their Australian and international markets; and
- (d) calls on the Government to move quickly and take urgent measures to prevent illegal timber imports into Australia from countries like Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands and provide a fair and level playing field for Tasmanian and Australian forest products in both their Australian and international markets.

The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown), by leave, moved the following amendment:

Omit all words after “Senate”, substitute “commends community groups here and overseas, including the Rainforest Action Network, for campaigning to protect Tasmania’s ancient forests and wildlife from destruction by Gunns’ selfish and polluting pulp mill proposal”.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 7

Senators—

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

NOES, 62

Senators—

Abetz	Evans	Lightfoot	Polley
Adams	Faulkner	Ludwig	Ray
Barnett	Ferguson	Lundy	Ronaldson
Bernardi	Ferris (Teller)	Macdonald, Ian	Santoro
Bishop	Fierravanti-Wells	Marshall	Scullion
Boswell	Fifield	Mason	Sherry
Brandis	Forshaw	McEwen	Stephens
Campbell, George	Heffernan	McGauran	Sterle
Campbell, Ian	Hogg	McLucas	Troeth
Carr	Humphries	Minchin	Trood
Chapman	Hurley	Moore	Watson
Colbeck	Hutchins	Nash	Webber
Conroy	Johnston	O’Brien	Wong
Coonan	Joyce	Parry	Wortley
Crossin	Kemp	Patterson	
Eggleston	Kirk	Payne	

Question negatived.

Main question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 55

Senators—

Abetz	Evans	Lightfoot	Polley
Adams	Faulkner	Lundy	Ray
Barnett	Ferguson	Macdonald, Ian	Ronaldson
Bernardi	Ferris	Marshall	Scullion
Bishop	Fierravanti-Wells	Mason	Sherry
Boswell	Fifield	McEwen	Stephens
Brandis	Forshaw	McGauran	Sterle
Campbell, G (Teller)	Heffernan	McLucas	Troeth
Carr	Hogg	Moore	Trood
Chapman	Humphries	Nash	Watson
Colbeck	Hurley	O’Brien	Webber
Conroy	Hutchins	Parry	Wong
Crossin	Johnston	Patterson	Wortley
Eggleston	Joyce	Payne	

NOES, 8

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

Question agreed to.

18 FOREIGN AFFAIRS—PAPUA NEW GUINEA—FOREST DESTRUCTION

The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 511—That the Senate—

- (a) recognises that the logging of ancient rainforests in Papua New Guinea (PNG) is driving biodiversity loss and human rights abuses in that country at an alarming rate;
- (b) notes that:
 - (i) PNG and Australian conservation and community groups have filed a formal complaint with the Australian National Contact Point for the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises against the Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ), and
 - (ii) the complaint alleges that the ANZ is actively facilitating and supporting the PNG operations of Malaysian logging giant Rimbunan Hijau, a company whose operations involve serious human rights abuses, environmentally-destructive logging practices and repeated serious conduct;
- (c) supports the actions of the conservation and community groups in bringing this potential breach of the guidelines to the Government's attention; and
- (d) calls on the Government to take immediate action to investigate the allegations with a view to ending the forest destruction and human rights abuses occurring in PNG.

Document: Senator Bob Brown, by leave, tabled the following document:

Foreign affairs—Papua New Guinea—Forest destruction—*Bulldozing progress: Human rights abuses and corruption in Papua New Guinea's large scale logging industry*—Report prepared by the Australian Conservation Foundation and the Centre for Environmental Law and Community Rights, 2006.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 8

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

NOES, 54

Senators—

Adams	Ferguson	Lundy	Ray
Barnett	Ferris	Macdonald, Ian	Ronaldson
Bernardi	Fierravanti-Wells	Marshall	Scullion
Bishop	Fifield	Mason	Sherry
Boswell	Forshaw	McEwen	Stephens
Brandis	Heffernan	McGauran	Sterle
Campbell, G (Teller)	Hogg	McLucas	Troeth
Carr	Humphries	Moore	Trood
Chapman	Hurley	Nash	Watson
Colbeck	Hutchins	O'Brien	Webber
Conroy	Johnston	Parry	Wong
Crossin	Joyce	Patterson	Wortley
Eggleston	Kirk	Payne	
Faulkner	Lightfoot	Polley	

Question negatived.

19 EDUCATION—FIELDS MEDAL—PROFESSOR TERENCE TAO

The Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 516—That the Senate—

- (a) congratulates Australian Professor Terence Tao for being the first Australian to be awarded the world's most prestigious mathematics honour, the Fields Medal, which is considered to be the mathematics equivalent of a Nobel Prize;
- (b) notes the contribution of Professor Tao's work to progressing understanding of partial differential equations, combinatorics, harmonic analysis and additive number theory;
- (c) trusts that the awarding of the prize will increase the profile of mathematics in Australia;
- (d) notes the remarks of the Minister for Education, Science and Training (Ms Bishop) that the lesson to be learnt from Professor Tao's experience is the need for an effective early childhood learning environment; and
- (e) calls on the Government to remove the higher burden of the higher education contribution scheme debt applied to teachers of science and mathematics and work with the states to ensure:
 - (i) public funding is available for high quality maths and science infrastructure in primary and secondary schools, and
 - (ii) that secondary teachers of mathematics and science have degree qualifications in these disciplines.

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

20 FOREIGN AFFAIRS—WOMEN—MIGRATION

The Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison), also on behalf of Senators Moore and Nettle, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 519—That the Senate—

(a) recognises that:

- (i) a report from the United Nations Population Fund, *State of the World Population 2006: A Passage to Hope*, in relation to women and international migration, was released on 6 September 2006,
- (ii) women constitute almost half of all international migrants worldwide, that is, 95 million or 49.6 per cent,
- (iii) in 2005, roughly half the world's 12.7 million refugees were women,
- (iv) for many women, migration opens doors to a new world of greater equality and relief from oppression and discrimination that limit freedom and stunt potential,
- (v) in 2005 remittances by migrants to their country of origin were an estimated \$US232 billion, larger than official development assistance and the second largest source of funding for developing countries after foreign direct investment,
- (vi) migrant women send a higher proportion of their earnings than men to families back home,
- (vii) migrant women often contribute to their home communities on their return, for instance through improved child health and lower mortality rates,
- (viii) the massive outflow of nurses, midwives and doctors from poorer to wealthier countries is creating health care crises in many of the poorer countries, exacerbated by massive health care needs such as very high rates of infectious disease,
- (ix) the intention to emigrate is especially high among health workers living in regions hardest hit by HIV/AIDS,
- (x) the rising demand for health care workers in richer countries because of their ageing populations will continue to pull such workers away from poorer countries,
- (xi) millions of female migrants face hazards ranging from enslavement or trafficking to exploitation as domestic workers,
- (xii) the International Labour Organization estimates that 2.45 million trafficking victims are toiling in exploitative conditions worldwide,
- (xiii) policies often discriminate against women and bar them from migrating legally, forcing them to work in sectors which render them more vulnerable to exploitation and abuse,
- (xiv) domestic workers, because of the private nature of their work, may be put in gross jeopardy through being assaulted, raped, overworked, denied pay, rest days, privacy and access to medical services, verbally or psychologically abused, or having their passports withheld,
- (xv) when armed conflict erupts, armed militias often target women and girls for rape, leaving many to contend with unwanted pregnancies, HIV infection, reproductive illnesses and injury,
- (xvi) at any given time, 25 per cent of refugee women of child-bearing age are pregnant,

- (xvii) for refugees fleeing conflict, certain groups of women such as those who head households, ex-combatants, the elderly, disabled, widows, young mothers and unaccompanied adolescent girls, are more vulnerable and require special protection and support,
 - (xviii) people should not be compelled to migrate because of inequality, insecurity, exclusion and limited opportunities in their home countries, and
 - (xix) human rights of all migrants, including women, must be respected; and
- (b) encourages:
- (i) governments and multilateral institutions to establish, implement and enforce policies and measures that will protect migrant women from exploitation and abuse, and
 - (ii) all efforts that help reduce poverty, bring about gender equality and enhance development, thereby reducing the 'push' factors that compel many migrants, particularly women, to leave their own countries, and at the same time helping achieve a more orderly migration program.

Question put and passed.

21 FOREIGN AFFAIRS—LEBANON AND ISRAEL

The Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 518—That the Senate—

- (a) calls on the Government to act on calls by Amnesty International, with respect to the 34 day war between Israel and the Lebanese-based Hezbollah militia, for:
 - (i) the United Nations (UN) Security Council to immediately establish a comprehensive, independent and impartial inquiry into violations of international humanitarian law by both sides in the conflict, including violations which may amount to war crimes,
 - (ii) justice proceedings in line with international standards of fair trial for any person against whom there is evidence of war crimes, and
 - (iii) Israel to disclose maps of the areas of Lebanon into which it fired cluster bombs to enable the clearance of what the UN Mine Action Coordination Centre estimates to be 100 000 unexploded bomblets thereby preventing further civilian casualties;
- (b) notes that no map has yet been provided for the land mines planted by Israel in southern Lebanon in 1988 resulting in recent death and injury to Israeli military personnel;
- (c) urges the Government to also request that maps for the abovementioned land mines are disclosed;
- (d) requests the Government to provide Lebanon with a small team of Australian munitions experts to assist in the removal of unexploded munitions;
- (e) notes that the current ceasefire agreement between Israel and the Lebanese-based Hezbollah includes no reference to the necessity to uphold requirements under international humanitarian law, namely the need to establish accountability for violations by both sides in the conflict;
- (f) urges the Government to remind the parties to the ceasefire agreement of the need to uphold international humanitarian law; and
- (g) calls on the Government to appeal to Israel to remove its blockade on Lebanon.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 8

Senators—

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

NOES, 52

Senators—

Adams	Faulkner	Lightfoot	Payne
Barnett	Ferguson	Lundy	Polley
Bernardi	Ferris	Macdonald, Ian	Ray
Bishop	Fierravanti-Wells	Marshall	Ronaldson
Boswell	Fifield	Mason	Scullion
Brandis	Forshaw	McEwen	Sherry
Campbell, G (Teller)	Heffernan	McGauran	Stephens
Carr	Hogg	McLucas	Sterle
Chapman	Humphries	Moore	Troeth
Colbeck	Hurley	Nash	Trood
Conroy	Hutchins	O'Brien	Watson
Crossin	Johnston	Parry	Webber
Eggleston	Kirk	Patterson	Wortley

Question negatived.

22 DEATH OF MR COLIN THIELE

Senator Stott Despoja, also on behalf of the Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 520—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the death of Mr Colin Thiele, a children's writer from South Australia;
- (b) recognises that Mr Thiele helped form children's respect and love for the Australian landscape as well as telling good stories; and
- (c) notes that Mr Thiele loved writing for children and did a great deal to continue a very fine tradition of Australian writing for the young.

Question put and passed.

23 COMMUNICATIONS—TELSTRA—PROPOSED ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS

Senator Ray, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 515—

- (1) That there be laid on the table, no later than Thursday, 19 October 2006, documents held by Telstra Corporation relating to shareholder attitude surveys conducted for the corporation by Crosby/Textor, including contracts between Telstra Corporation and Crosby/Textor and the results of such surveys, in regard to the impact on the performance of the corporation and its share price of telecommunications regulations and the Government's intention to sell part or all of its Telstra shareholding.
- (2) That the contracts referred to in paragraph (1) may be provided to the Senate with any genuinely commercially-sensitive information deleted.

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

24 FOREIGN AFFAIRS—CHINA—JOURNALISM

The Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 510—That the Senate—

- (a) notes, with alarm, the 5 year prison sentence delivered by Chinese authorities to journalist Ching Cheong, the Hong Kong-based correspondent for Singapore's *Strait Times* newspaper;
- (b) condemns the crackdown on dissent and free journalism in China ahead of the Beijing Olympics in 2008; and
- (c) calls on the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr Downer) to raise the matter with Chinese authorities immediately.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 8

Senators—

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

NOES, 53

Senators—

Adams	Ferguson	Macdonald, Ian	Ronaldson
Barnett	Ferris (Teller)	Marshall	Scullion
Bernardi	Fierravanti-Wells	Mason	Sherry
Bishop	Fifield	McEwen	Stephens
Boswell	Forshaw	McGauran	Sterle
Brandis	Heffernan	McLucas	Troeth
Campbell, George	Hogg	Moore	Trood
Carr	Humphries	Nash	Watson
Chapman	Hurley	O'Brien	Webber
Colbeck	Hutchins	Parry	Wong
Conroy	Johnston	Patterson	Wortley
Crossin	Kirk	Payne	
Eggleston	Lightfoot	Polley	
Faulkner	Lundy	Ray	

Question negatived.

25 EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION REFERENCES COMMITTEE—REFERENCE

The Chair of the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee (Senator Marshall), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1—That the following matter be referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in June 2007:

Workforce challenges in the Australian transport sector, with particular reference to the following:

- (a) current and future employment trends in the industry;
- (b) industry needs and the skills profile of the current workforce;

- (c) current and future skill and labour supply issues;
- (d) strategies for enhanced recruitment, training and retention; and
- (e) strategies to meet employer demand in regional and remote areas.

Question put and passed.

26 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—COMMUNICATIONS—TELSTRA

The Deputy President (Senator Hogg) informed the Senate that Senator Conroy had proposed that the following matter of public importance be submitted to the Senate for discussion:

The Australian Government's management of the last tranche of the Telstra sale has cost investors thousands of dollars as evidenced by:

- (a) the fall in the Telstra share price from \$7.40 per share at the time of the T2 float to \$3.64 today;
- (b) the fact that these shareholders have only recovered \$1.86 in dividend payments; and
- (c) a net loss per share for Telstra investors of nearly \$2 per share.

The proposal was supported by four senators and the matter was discussed.

27 SCRUTINY OF BILLS—STANDING COMMITTEE—7TH REPORT AND ALERT DIGEST NO. 9 OF 2006

The Chairman of the Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills (Senator Ray) tabled the following report and document:

Scrutiny of Bills—Standing Committee—

7th report of 2006, dated 6 September 2006.

Alert Digest No. 9 of 2006, dated 6 September 2006.

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

Senator Ray moved—That the Senate take note of the report.

Question put and passed.

28 PUBLIC WORKS—JOINT STATUTORY COMMITTEE—13TH REPORT OF 2006

Senator Ferguson, on behalf of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, tabled the following report:

Public Works—Joint Statutory Committee—13th report of 2006—Proposed Australian Institute of Police Management redevelopment, North Head, Manly, NSW, dated September 2006.

Senator Ferguson moved—That the Senate take note of the report.

Question put and passed.

29 AUDITOR-GENERAL—AUDIT REPORT NO. 2 OF 2006-07—DOCUMENT

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Brandis) tabled the following document:

Auditor-General—Audit report no. 2 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Export certification: Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service.

Senator O'Brien, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the document.

Question put and passed.

30 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 January to 30 June 2006—Statements of compliance—

- Defence portfolio agencies.
- Department of Transport and Regional Services.
- Environment and Heritage portfolio agencies.
- Treasury portfolio agencies.

31 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:

Departmental and agency contracts for 2005-06—Letter of advice—Employment and Workplace Relations portfolio agencies.

**32 MARITIME TRANSPORT AND OFFSHORE FACILITIES SECURITY AMENDMENT (SECURITY PLANS AND OTHER MEASURES) BILL 2006
NATIONAL HEALTH AMENDMENT (IMMUNISATION) BILL 2006**

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

Message no. 381, dated 5 September 2006—A Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to the security of maritime transport and offshore facilities, and for other purposes.

Message no. 382, dated 6 September 2006—A Bill for an Act to amend the *National Health Act 1953*, and for related purposes.

The Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz) 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 Abetz moved—That these bills be now read a second time.

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

Consideration of legislation: Senator Abetz moved—That the bills be listed on the *Notice Paper* as separate orders of the day.

Question put and passed.

33 LEGISLATION COMMITTEES—REPORTS—ANNUAL REPORTS

Pursuant to order, Senator Ferguson, at the request of the chairs of the respective committees, tabled the following reports:

Reports on annual reports referred to legislation committees—No. 2 of 2006, dated September 2006—

- Economics 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.

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee.

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

Senator Johnston, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the reports.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Bishop in continuation.

34 ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS REFERENCES COMMITTEE—REPORT—WOMEN IN SPORT AND RECREATION IN AUSTRALIA

Pursuant to order, the Chair of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee (Senator Bartlett) tabled the following report and documents:

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—About time! Women in sport and recreation in Australia—Report, dated September 2006, Hansard record of proceedings, documents presented to the committee and submissions [81].

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

Senator Bartlett, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the report.

Debate ensued.

Debate adjourned till the next day of sitting, Senator Adams in continuation.

35 ENVIRONMENT—TASMANIA—RALPHS BAY—ANSWER TO QUESTION—STATEMENT BY LEAVE

The Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Ian Campbell), by leave, made a statement clarifying the answer he gave to a question without notice asked by Senator Milne today relating to Ralphs Bay in Tasmania.

36 PARLIAMENTARY ENTITLEMENTS AMENDMENT REGULATIONS—PROPOSED DISALLOWANCE

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown), Senator Murray and the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)—That Schedules 1 and 3 to the Parliamentary Entitlements Amendment Regulations 2006 (No. 1), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2006 No. 211 and made under the *Parliamentary Entitlements Act 1990*, be disallowed.

Debate resumed.

At 6.50 pm: Debate was interrupted while Senator Evans was speaking.

37 GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS—CONSIDERATION

The government documents tabled earlier today (*see entry no. 2*) were called on but no motion was moved.

38 ADJOURNMENT

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

Debate ensued.

The Senate adjourned at 7.19 pm till Thursday, 7 September 2006 at 9.30 am.

39 ATTENDANCE

Present, all senators except Senator Carol Brown (on leave).

HARRY EVANS
Clerk of the Senate