

2002-03

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

## NOTICE PAPER

No. 92

THURSDAY, 21 AUGUST 2003

*The Senate meets at 9.30 am*

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*Notifications prefixed by an (\*) appear for the first time.*

## BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

### Orders of the Day

1 **Superannuation—Select Committee**

Report to be presented on draft Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Regulations 2003 and draft Retirement Savings Accounts Amendment Regulations 2003.

2 **Economics Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 5) 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

3 **Economics Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Financial Services Reform Amendment Bill 2003. (*Referred upon the introduction of the bill in the House of Representatives pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

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## GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

### Notices of Motion

*Notice given 20 August 2003*

- \*1 **Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell):** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to amend the *Quarantine Act 1908*, and for related purposes. ***Quarantine Amendment (Health) Bill 2003.***
- \*2 **Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell):** To move—That the provisions of paragraphs (5), (6) and (8) of standing order 111 not apply to the Quarantine Amendment (Health) Bill 2003, allowing it to be considered during this period of sittings.

### Orders of the Day

1 **Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002**

**Australian Heritage Council Bill 2002**

**Australian Heritage Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002**

In committee—Australian Heritage Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002 (*20 August 2003*).

2 **Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill 2003**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Alston)—That this bill be now read a second time.

*And on the amendment moved by Senator Nettle—At the end of the motion, add “but the Senate:*

- (a) condemns the Government for:
  - (i) under-funding the university system in Australia for the past 7 years and as a result:
    - (A) leaving students and parents to pay one of the highest proportions of fees for their education in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development,
    - (B) discouraging older and poorer students for seeking a place at university,
    - (C) allowing completion rates of Aboriginal students to suffer through lack of appropriate financial and structural support,
    - (D) presiding over a haemorrhaging of talent from Australian universities to overseas research and teaching positions due to lack of opportunity and suitable remuneration at home, and
    - (E) undermining staff moral and effectiveness as a consequence of massively increased workloads, and reduced administrative support; and
  - (ii) attacking the freedom of academics and general staff to be represented by their union; and
- (b) calls on the Government to:
  - (i) repeal the \$4 a week average income tax cuts announced in the budget in order to reinvest that money in the public higher education system enabling the abolition of student fees, both upfront and the higher education contribution scheme; and
  - (ii) invest the currently promised \$1.4 billion, together with savings made from a restoration of fair company tax rates, in the sector to achieve:
    - (A) the financing of real indexation for core funding that reflects the actual cost of providing higher education services, thereby ensuring the sustainability of the sector into the future,
    - (B) increasing the core funding of universities by 20 per cent per equivalent full-time student unit to reflect the need for infrastructure and staffing investment to meet current and future demand, and
    - (C) a guarantee that students accessing tertiary education receive adequate financial support from the Federal Government to cover their living costs so they can focus on their education”—(*adjourned, Minister for Defence (Senator Hill), 20 August 2003*)

**3 Sex Discrimination Amendment (Pregnancy and Work) Bill 2002—**  
(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Webber, 3 March 2003*).

**4 Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002—**  
(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 13 May 2003*).

- 5 **Health Legislation Amendment (Private Health Insurance Reform) Bill 2003**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (6 March 2003).
- 6 **Migration Amendment (Duration of Detention) Bill 2003**—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 11 August 2003*).
- 7 **National Transport Commission Bill 2003**  
**National Transport Commission (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2003**—(*Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator Patterson*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 14 August 2003*).
- 8 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Termination) Bill 2002**  
Consideration in committee of the whole of message no. 362 from the House of Representatives (14 August 2003).
- \*9 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Transmission of Business) Bill 2002**  
Consideration in committee of the whole of message no. 368 from the House of Representatives (20 August 2003).
- 10 **Australian Protective Service Amendment Bill 2003**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (26 June 2003).
- 11 **Trade Practices Amendment (Personal Injuries and Death) Bill 2003**—(*Minister for Forestry and Conservation, Senator Ian Macdonald*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (25 June 2003).
- \*12 **Family Law Amendment Bill 2003**—(*Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Alston*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 20 August 2003*).
- 13 **New Business Tax System (Taxation of Financial Arrangements) Bill (No. 1) 2003**—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 24 June 2003*).
- 14 **Australian Human Rights Commission Legislation Bill 2003**—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 11 August 2003*).
- 15 **Financial Sector Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002**—(*Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator Patterson*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (2 December 2002).
- 16 **Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Family Law) Bill 2002**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 15 May 2003*).

- 17 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Sponsorship Measures) Bill 2003**—  
(Minister for Forestry and Conservation, Senator Ian Macdonald)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Crossin, 25 June 2003*).
- 18 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting the Low Paid) Bill 2003**—  
(Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Crossin, 6 March 2003*).
- 19 **Customs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002**—(Parliamentary Secretary  
to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Webber, 3 March 2003*).
- 20 **Criminal Code Amendment (Terrorist Organisations) Bill 2003**—(Minister for  
Revenue and Assistant Treasurer, Senator Coonan)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Minister for Justice and Customs  
(Senator Ellison), 16 June 2003*).
- 21 **Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002**—(Minister for Justice and  
Customs, Senator Ellison)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Buckland, 5 February  
2003*).
- 22 **Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Further  
Simplification of International Payments) Bill 2002**—(Minister for Fisheries,  
Forestry and Conservation, Senator Ian Macdonald)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 13 March  
2002*).
- 23 **Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill  
2003**  
**Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners)  
(Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003**—(Minister for Communications,  
Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Alston)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Moore, 23 June 2003*).
- 24 **Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill  
2002**  
**Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2002**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator  
Kemp)—That these bills be now read a second time.  
*And on the amendment moved by Senator Sherry in respect of the Superannuation  
Legislation Amendment Bill 2002*—At the end of the motion, add “but the Senate  
is of the opinion that the bill should be withdrawn and redrafted to:
- (a) ensure that the proposed surcharge tax reduction to high-income earners,  
the splitting of superannuation contributions and the closure of the public  
sector funds do not proceed; and
  - (b) provide for a fairer contributions tax cut that will boost retirement incomes  
for all superannuation fund members to assist in preparing the nation for the  
ageing population”.
- And on the amendment moved by Senator Cherry in respect of the Superannuation  
(Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill 2002*—At the end of  
the motion, add “but the Senate notes that analysis provided to the Select  
Committee on Superannuation shows that extending the co-contribution to

workers on average earnings would have a significant positive effect on national savings, and that this could be funded by better targeting of the Government's superannuation measures"—(*adjourned, Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz), 18 November 2002*).

**25 Budget statement and documents 2003-04**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin)—That the Senate take note of the statement and documents (*adjourned, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Regional Services (Senator Boswell), 15 May 2003*).

**26 Budget statement and documents 2002-03**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin)—That the Senate take note of the statement and documents (*adjourned, Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz), 16 May 2002*).

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## ORDERS OF THE DAY RELATING TO COMMITTEE REPORTS AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSES AND AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS

### Orders of the Day relating to Committee Reports and Government Responses

**1 Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee—Report—Australian Protective Service Amendment Bill 2003**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Ludwig, in continuation, 18 August 2003*).

**2 Finance and Public Administration References Committee—Report—A funding matter under the Dairy Regional Assistance Program**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Forshaw)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Stephens, 14 August 2003*).

**3 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—Interim report entitled: Proposed importation of fresh apple fruit from New Zealand—Government response**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O'Brien—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Stephens, 14 August 2003*).

### Orders of the Day relating to Auditor-General's reports

**1 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 38 of 2002-03—Performance audit—Referrals, assessments and approvals under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999***

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 14 August 2003*).

**2 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 41 of 2002-03—Performance audit—Annual reporting on ecologically sustainable development**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 14 August 2003*).

**3 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 62 of 2002-03—Performance audit—Management of selected aspects of the Family Migration Program: Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 14 August 2003*).

**4 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 1 of 2003-04—Performance audit—Administration of three key components of the Agriculture—Advancing Australia (AAA) package: Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Australia; Centrelink; Australian Taxation Office**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Stephens, in continuation, 14 August 2003*).

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## GENERAL BUSINESS

### Notices of Motion

*Notice given 14 February 2002*

- 17 **Senator Tierney:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes the serious problem of overcrowding in New South Wales public schools, especially when compared with other states across the country;
  - (b) acknowledges the shameful results of a New South Wales Teachers Federation survey showing 20 per cent of all classes in each of the first 3 years of primary school being over the Carr Government's own limit, and 32 per cent of all kindergarten classes exceeding suggested class sizes during 2001;
  - (c) condemns the Carr Government for putting New South Wales children's education at risk by increasing class numbers and not reducing them as other states are now doing;
  - (d) congratulates the Howard Government for increasing funding to New South Wales government schools by 5.2 per cent in 2001, as opposed to Premier Carr's paltry 2.6 per cent; and
  - (e) recognises the low priority given to education by the Carr Government, as evidenced by the fact that the amount spent on education as a percentage of total state budget has dropped from 25.5 per cent to 22 per cent in the 7 years since Labor came to power in New South Wales.

*Notice given 11 March 2002*

- 23 **Senator McGauran:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that:

- (i) it is the 100th anniversary of the execution of Harry 'Breaker' Morant and Peter Handcock, killed by firing squad during the Boer War for following the orders, take no prisoners,
  - (ii) the court case held for Morant and Handcock was a sham, set up by Lord Kitchener, the giver of the orders Morant and Handcock followed,
  - (iii) the injustice to Breaker and Handcock has plagued Australia's conscience since their execution on 27 February 1902,
  - (iv) in 1902 the then Federal Parliamentarian and later first Governor-General of Australia, Issac Issacs, raised the matter of the execution in Parliament stating that this issue was agitating the minds of the people of this country in an almost unprecedented degree, and questioned the validity of the decision,
  - (v) the reason we need to go back 100 years to now right this wrong, is because Breaker Morant is one of the fathers of our ANZAC tradition; a friend of Banjo Patterson and an inspiration for much of his poetry and described as a man of great courage who would never betray a mate; and a man of whom many of the young ANZACs in World War I had heard and on whom they modelled themselves, and
  - (vi) Lord Kitchener was the Commander-in-Chief of the British Military who made the decision to commit troops to Gallipoli and is responsible for that disastrous campaign;
- (b) calls on the Government to petition directly the British Government for a review of the case, with the aim to quash the harsh sentence of death for Harry 'Breaker' Morant and Peter Handcock; and
  - (c) take action to include the names of these two Australians on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial.

30 **Senator Brown:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that the Ministerial Code in the United Kingdom includes a system which deals with acceptance of appointments for ministers after leaving office; and
- (b) calls on the Government to:
  - (i) implement an advisory committee on business appointments, from which a minister would be required to seek advice before accepting business appointments within 5 years from the date from which he or she ceased to be a minister, and
  - (ii) ban any minister from taking an appointment that is directly related to his or her portfolio for 5 years from the date of resignation.

*Notice given 16 May 2002*

78 **Senator Tierney:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that south-eastern Australia is the most fire prone region in the world;
- (b) commends the support provided by the Howard Government to New South Wales in January 2002, in particular, the provision of aerial fire fighting equipment;
- (c) expresses its concern that the state government is whitewashing the causes of the bushfire catastrophe of Christmas 2001 by just blaming pyromaniacs during the current bushfires inquiry;



- (d) calls on the New South Wales Government to give serious consideration to the evidence of State Forests of NSW, which believes that inadequate back-burning was the primary cause of the devastating fires;
- (e) rejects calls from the Nature Conservation Council to restrict hazard reduction;
- (f) calls on the Carr Government to allow non-government committee members to receive witnesses' submissions without having to first request them;
- (g) encourages the inquiry to reach a conclusion based on evidence and not party politics resulting from pressure from extreme green groups; and
- (h) hopes that the lessons learned from the bushfire inquiry will be shared to other state governments so all Australians can avoid such an unnecessary disaster.

*Notice given 26 June 2002*

108 **Senator Sherry:** To move—That there be laid on the table, on the next day of sitting, the advice by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority to the Assistant Treasurer under section 230A of the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993*, in relation to applications for financial assistance for superannuation funds where Commercial Nominees of Australia was trustee.

112 **Senator Ridgeway:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the week beginning 24 June 2002 is Drug Action Week, aimed at generating community awareness about drug and alcohol abuse and the solutions being used to tackle these issues,
  - (ii) each day of Drug Action Week highlights a different theme and the theme on 27 June 2002 is Indigenous issues,
  - (iii) the misuse of alcohol and other drugs has long been linked to the deep levels of emotional and physical harm suffered by Indigenous communities since the colonisation of Australia,
  - (iv) alcohol and tobacco consumption rates continue to remain high in the Indigenous population, against declining rates in the general population, and the increasing use of heroin in urban, regional and rural Indigenous communities is also of particular concern,
  - (v) substance misuse is probably the biggest challenge facing Indigenous communities today, as it affects almost everybody either directly or indirectly and is now the cause as well as the symptom of much grief and loss experienced by Indigenous communities, and
  - (vi) the demand for the services of existing Indigenous-controlled drug and alcohol rehabilitation centres far exceeds the current level of supply;
- (b) acknowledges the essential role of Indigenous community-controlled health services in providing long-term, culturally-appropriate solutions for substance abuse; and
- (c) calls on the Government to:
  - (i) fund the national substance misuse strategy, developed by the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation, which is designed to build the necessary capacity within the Indigenous health sector so communities can address their health

and well-being needs in a holistic and culturally-appropriate manner, and

- (ii) improve coordination between Commonwealth, state, territory and local governments on these issues and ensure this facilitates greater Indigenous control over the development and implementation of all health programs.

*Notice given 19 August 2002*

120 **Senator Ray:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
  - (i) the claims in the *Age* newspaper of 15 August 2002 that the McGauran family is financially supporting the Democratic Labour Party of Australia (DLP) in its attempt to retain registration under the provisions of the Electoral Act,
  - (ii) that two of the three Victorian National Party representatives in the Federal Parliament are from the McGauran family and have, on occasions, relied on DLP preferences,
  - (iii) the comments of the DLP Secretary, Mr John Mulholland, when he said, 'It would be in Senator Julian McGauran's interests for the DLP to survive this de-registration moved by the Electoral Commission', and
  - (iv) the immense amount of money made by the McGauran family from its poker machine interests in Altona, some of which is apparently going to fund the DLP's legal expenses; and
- (b) calls on Senator McGauran and the Minister for Science (Mr McGauran), to explain their knowledge of their family's involvement in funding the DLP's legal bills.

*Notice given 22 August 2002*

139 **Senator Mackay:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) congratulates the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly:
  - (i) on becoming the first state or territory legislature to remove abortion from the criminal code, and
  - (ii) for repealing the appalling law which required women seeking abortions to first look at pictures of foetuses;
- (b) notes that this landmark legislation should serve to encourage all remaining states and territories to enact similar legislative changes; and
- (c) notes that the Australian Capital Territory legislation recognises that abortion is a decision for women and is not something that should carry the threat of a jail term.

*Notice given 16 September 2002*

156 **Senator Allison:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the Deaflympic Games will be held in Melbourne in 2005; and
  - (ii) Deaf Sports Recreation Victoria has set up a Games Organising Committee to begin planning and organising this international event which will see the participation of 4 000 deaf athletes and officials from over 90 countries; and

- (b) urges the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) to respond to the correspondence from Deaf Sports Recreation Victoria and to offer support for the Deaflympic Games.

*Notice given 19 September 2002*

175 **Senator Tierney:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) deplores comments made in the New South Wales Parliament on Tuesday, 17 September 2002, by the State Minister for Education and Training (Mr Watkins), which misrepresented the future direction of universities in Australia and, in particular, the role of rural and regional universities;
- (b) notes that the Minister for Education, Science and Training (Dr Nelson) has put on the record that regional universities will not be disadvantaged by the current reform process;
- (c) further notes that the Federal Minister told all state education ministers, including Mr Watkins, in July 2002 that Australia would not be returning to second tier, teaching-only, higher education institutions; and
- (d) congratulates the Federal Minister for his comprehensive and inclusive review of higher education in Australia.

*Notice given 24 September 2002*

184 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
  - (i) the commitment of the Government and Mr John Loy, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), to a demonstrated store for radioactive waste by 2005,
  - (ii) the commitment of the Government and Mr Loy to a second spent fuel reprocessing pathway for spent fuel from the Lucas Heights reactor,
  - (iii) the commitment in the Lucas Heights environmental impact statement (EIS), EIS supplementary report and EIS assessment report to a radioactive waste store by 2005,
  - (iv) the ARPANSA site licence assessment regarding a potential operating licence at Lucas Heights that, 'A license to operate would not be issued by ARPANSA without there being clear and definite means available for the ultimate disposal of radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel',
  - (v) that the recent comments by Mr Loy on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's *PM* program indicating that the 'new' deadline for a store is now 2025 and that provision for second country reprocessing is no longer required are in direct contradiction to previous commitments, and
  - (vi) that it recently passed a second reading amendment that:
    - (A) noted the view of the CEO of ARPANSA that arrangements for taking the spent fuel and turning it into a reasonable waste form need to be absolutely clear before the new reactor at Lucas Heights commences operation, and there needs to be clear progress on siting a store for the waste that returns to Australia, and

- (B) expressed its opinion that until all matters relating to safety, storage and transportation of nuclear materials associated with the new reactor at Lucas Heights are resolved, no operating licence related to the new reactor at Lucas Heights should be issued by ARPANSA; and
- (b) calls on the CEO of ARPANSA to:
  - (i) reaffirm commitments made to the Australian people as part of the EIS process, and
  - (ii) act in conformity with the Senate's second reading amendment.

*Notice given 17 October 2002*

215 **Senator Tierney:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) recognises that the Federal Coalition Government has increased investment in education each year, with \$2.4 billion being provided for public schools in 2002-03, an increase of 5.7 per cent over the past year and a 52 per cent increase since 1996;
- (b) expresses alarm that New South Wales state government spending on education currently lags \$318 million a year below the Australian national average;
- (c) notes that New South Wales primary schools have the worst student-to-teacher ratios in Australia and some of the largest class sizes in the country;
- (d) further notes that the Vinson report into public education demonstrates the under resourcing of the public education system in New South Wales by the Carr Government; and
- (e) congratulates New South Wales Opposition Leader, John Brogden, who vowed on 24 September 2002 to spend more on public schools and backed the need to reduce class sizes.

*Notice given 24 October 2002*

227 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett):** To move—That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on 19 November 2002:

- (a) all documents relating to the acquisition of the north-east margin search and rescue (SAR) data, including but not limited to the authorisation for acquisition, and any related internal correspondence;
- (b) briefing documents or briefing notes relating to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority interest in SAR data, as referenced in Dr Trevor Powell's letter to the authority, dated 18 September 2002;
- (c) covering letter accompanying the Shell/Woodside Consortium proposal, May 2000;
- (d) all materials distributed at the Bali 2000 conference attended by Geoscience Australia;
- (e) outputs leading to the outcome listed in the 2001-02 workplan under section 2, Geoscience for Oceans and Coasts, subsections 2.9, Petroleum and Regional Geology and 2.11 Eastern Region, as 'A geological overview of the east coast basins in order that decisions can be made regarding petroleum exploration opportunities and acreage release; and
- (f) all documents and materials relating to the outcome and outputs described above, including preliminary discussions for the outcome and outputs,

discussions, memorandums, budget materials, notes of phone conversations and e-mails.

*Notice given 12 November 2002*

- 245 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett):** To move—That there be laid on the table, no later than 2 pm on Thursday, 5 December 2002, all documents associated with the formation, funding and membership of the Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry, including but not limited to: reports, correspondence, e-mail, records of conservation, memos, margin notes and minutes of meetings.

*Notice given 13 November 2002*

- 258 **Senator O'Brien:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes, with grave concern, the crisis enveloping rural and regional Australia;
  - (b) condemns the Howard Government for its neglect of rural and regional Australians, in particular, its failure to:
    - (i) adequately respond to the growing drought,
    - (ii) provide timely and appropriate assistance to the sugar industry, and
    - (iii) support essential services including health, banking, employment and telecommunications; and
  - (c) calls on the Howard Government to reverse its neglect of rural and regional communities.

*Notice given 9 December 2002*

- 300 **Senator Tierney:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) expresses concern about the extreme bushfire danger facing the citizens of New South Wales;
  - (b) praises the unstinting and brave work of the voluntary bushfire fighters in combating the fires and protecting and saving property and lives;
  - (c) congratulates the Australian Government for its high tech support for the firefighting effort with the provision of air crane fire bombing technology;
  - (d) recognises that the current extreme fire conditions have been exacerbated by a build-up of forest fuel resulting from the Carr Australian Labor Party Government's anti-back-burning policies over the past 7 years;
  - (e) condemns the Carr Government for ignoring the recommendations of the state parliamentary inquiry into the 2001-02 New South Wales fires brought down 6 months ago; and
  - (f) calls on the Carr Government in New South Wales to recognise that south-eastern Australia is the most fire-prone region in the world and to develop more appropriate policies to protect life, property and the environment.

*Notice given 18 March 2003*

- 393 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes, with concern, the serious hardship facing coffee producers of the developing world as a result of low coffee prices and, in particular, that:
    - (i) many coffee farmers are being forced to abandon their livelihoods and sell their land at a loss,

- (ii) the financial strain on coffee farming families reduces their capacity to meet their basic needs, including schooling, food and medicines,
  - (iii) a lack of money in coffee-producing communities, together with overburdened health-care systems, threatens the stability of already vulnerable economies, and
  - (iv) intensive farming methods, adopted by reason of financial necessity, seriously damage the natural environment;
- (b) acknowledges the financial support provided by the Government through AusAid to rural development and other assistance for coffee producing nations; and
- (c) requests that the Government provide further political and economic support for:
- (i) the International Coffee Organisation's Coffee Quality Scheme, which aims to restrict coffee exportation on the basis of quality,
  - (ii) the destruction of lowest quality coffee stocks, and
  - (iii) direct poverty alleviation programs targeted at coffee producing communities.

*Notice given 25 March 2003*

**431 Senator Stephens:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) the New South Wales Labor Premier (Mr Bob Carr) has secured an historic third four-year term of government in the New South Wales Parliament,
  - (ii) the re-election of the New South Wales Labor Government is an endorsement of Mr Carr's plan to secure New South Wales' future, and
  - (iii) the people of New South Wales have voted for a government that unequivocally rejects the legitimacy of the unilateral war on Iraq;
- (b) congratulates:
- (i) Mr Carr and the New South Wales Labor administration for their election campaign, and
  - (ii) Labor candidates and campaign teams for their part in a campaign that has reduced Liberal/National representation to its lowest level in almost two decades; and
- (c) expresses its condolences to the family of Mr Jim Anderson, former Member for Londonderry, following his sudden death on the morning of polling day.

**432 Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett):** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
- (i) the announcement on 24 March 2003 by the Queensland State Government that it will legislate to protect the pristine sand dunes of Shelburne Bay on Cape York Peninsula by not renewing two mining leases over the Shelburne Bay dune fields,
  - (ii) that Shelburne Bay is one of the largest and least disturbed areas of active parabolic dunes in the world, and is listed on the National Estate,

- (iii) that any mining would have involved the removal of two dune systems and the construction of a major port facility on the edge of the Great Barrier Reef, and
  - (iv) that the cancellation of the leases had been called for by the traditional owners, the Wuthathi people, to enable them to have greater access to, and involvement in, this special area of their traditional lands; and
- (b) congratulates the Beattie Government for its sensible decision, and the many conservation, indigenous, political and community groups who have campaigned so long to achieve this outcome.

*Notice given 18 August 2003*

542 **Senator Mackay:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz) has launched a petition in Tasmania calling on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) to overturn its decision to cancel the program *Behind the News*, and
  - (ii) this decision by the ABC was taken in response to insufficient funding to allow the ABC to deliver its full range of services; and
- (b) given the Government's direct responsibility for the lack of funding, calls on Senator Abetz to more usefully use his ministerial influence to lobby his colleagues, the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Alston) and the Prime Minister (Mr Howard), to provide sufficient funding to the ABC to allow the show to be continued.

*Notice given 19 August 2003*

544 **Senator Ridgeway:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that
  - (i) the United States (US) Under Secretary of Commerce, Mr Grant Aldonan, has stated publicly that the US wishes to challenge reference pricing as part of the Free Trade Agreement negotiations with Australia, saying, according to the *Australian Financial Review* of 13 August 2003, 'there is a sense of unfairness in the US' because US consumers paid high prices under a free market while consumers in Australia and elsewhere benefited from low 'reference prices' under schemes like the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS),
  - (ii) the price of pharmaceuticals and the PBS would increase significantly in Australia if our PBS 'reference pricing scheme' was diminished or abandoned, and
  - (iii) any free trade agreement with Australia must pass the US Congress; and
- (b) calls on the Australian Government to:
  - (i) advise the US that it will not agree to change Australia's 'reference pricing' on the PBS and remove the matter from US free trade agreement negotiations, and
  - (ii) bring any free trade agreement to the Parliament for ratification.

545 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the 1997 Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction (the 'Mine Ban Treaty'), will be held in Bangkok from 15 September to 19 September 2003,
  - (ii) not more than half the countries in the Asia-Pacific region have banned landmines, while about twelve countries continue to produce and use them, making the Asia-Pacific region the most prolific producer and user of landmines of any region in the world, and
  - (iii) mine casualties were recorded in 13 of the 16 mine-affected countries within the Asia-Pacific region in 2002;
- (b) welcomes the Australian Government's ongoing financial commitment to landmine clearing within the Asia-Pacific region; and
- (c) calls on the Australian Government to increase efforts to encourage other Asia-Pacific countries to sign and ratify the Mine Ban Treaty, through its bilateral discussions with the relevant countries and through its dialogue with forums such as the Association of South East Asian Nations.

547 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett):** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) according to Amnesty International reports, at least 6 031 prisoners were executed between 2000 and 2003,
  - (ii) Australia has ratified the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, thereby undertaking not to execute anyone within Australia,
  - (iii) the preamble to the Second Optional Protocol indicates the intention of the parties to undertake an international commitment to abolish the death penalty and sets out the belief of the parties that the 'abolition of the death penalty contributes to enhancement of human dignity and progressive development of human rights', and
  - (iv) pursuant to the *Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act 1987*, the Government may refuse to provide assistance to foreign countries with respect to a criminal investigation if the provision of assistance may result in the death penalty being imposed; and
- (b) calls on the Australian Government to reaffirm its commitment to work towards the international abolition of the death penalty.

548 **Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
  - (i) the strong campaign for 'fair trade' being conducted by the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) and its United States (US) counterpart, the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organisations (AFL-CIO), in relation to the current Free Trade Agreement being negotiated by the US and Australia, and
  - (ii) the unanimous support at the ACTU Congress for freezing current Australian tariff levels, excluding public services, incorporating enforceable International Labour Organisation (ILO) standards and adopting anti-dumping provisions in any trade deals; and
- (b) calls on the Federal Government to:



- (i) openly declare its exclusion of Australian cultural industries and standards from the Australian-US Free Trade Agreement,
- (ii) remove public services and other services of national or social significance from the Free Trade Agreement negotiating table, and
- (iii) include enforceable ILO standards and environmental standards in all trade deals with Australia.

549 **Senator Brown:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that community, church, chamber of commerce, union and other non-government organisations are pushing for the establishment of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission in the Solomon Islands; and
- (b) calls on the Australian Government to offer the Solomon Islanders financial, technical and other support for the establishment of such a commission.

*Notice given 20 August 2003*

\*551 **Chair of the Select Committee on Superannuation (Senator Watson):** To move—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on Superannuation on draft Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Regulations 2003 and draft Retirement Savings Accounts Amendment Regulations 2003 be extended to 10 September 2003.

\*552 **Chair of the Select Committee on Medicare (Senator McLucas):** To move—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on Medicare, and on the Health Legislation Amendment (Medicare and Private Health Insurance) Bill 2003 be extended to 30 October 2003.

\*553 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the week beginning 24 August 2003 is Hearing Awareness Week 2003, and
  - (ii) it is estimated that up to 2.7 million Australians need assistance for hearing loss, yet only one-fifth of those Australians who would benefit from a hearing aid have one;
- (b) recognises that although the Commonwealth Government funds Australian Hearing, it does not provide funding for Auslan interpreters for the thousands of Australians who rely on Auslan interpreters to communicate with their doctors and medical specialists;
- (c) notes that:
  - (i) on 14 August 2003 a petition was tabled in the Senate calling on the Federal Government to urgently fund interpreting services for deaf and deafblind Australians, and
  - (ii) this petition was signed by 10 469 South Australians, highlighting the level of frustration and anger at the Government's thoughtlessness and discrimination; and
- (d) calls on the Government to provide urgent funding for Auslan interpreting services.

\*554 **Chair of the Economics Legislation Committee (Senator Brandis):** To move—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Economics Legislation Committee on the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003 be extended to 16 October 2003.

**\*555 Senator Stott Despoja:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) expresses its concern that the draft legislation prepared in accordance with Hong Kong's requirement to introduce national security legislation could encroach on the rights and liberties of the people of Hong Kong;
- (b) notes that, pursuant to the Sino-British Declaration of 1984, the People's Republic of China pledged to preserve the rights and freedoms of the people of Hong Kong for a period of 50 years from 1 July 1997;
- (c) recalls that the Australian Government has previously expressed its support for the Sino-British Joint Declaration;
- (d) welcomes the improvements to the Article 23 legislation announced by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) Government on 3 June 2003 and 5 July 2003, but considers that further amendments and clarifications are necessary to show how the legislation will be implemented;
- (e) looks forward to the enactment and implementation of commitments by the People's Republic of China regarding democratic governance in the Hong Kong Legislative Council; and
- (f) welcomes the Hong Kong SAR Government's decision to further consult with the people of Hong Kong regarding the proposed legislation, urging it to recognise that while national security legislation may affect the civil liberties of offenders, it should not be used to diminish the individual rights and liberties that are fundamental to the democratic process.

**\*556 Senator O'Brien:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) 18 August to 24 August 2003 is National Landcare Week,
  - (ii) Labor established Landcare in 1989,
  - (iii) Landcare is a program of community-based land care projects directed by landholders, community groups and individuals who contribute to grass roots conservation activity,
  - (iv) Landcare has made an invaluable contribution to tackling the decline in Australia's land and water quality, but significant challenges remain, and
  - (v) the 2003 National Landcare Awards recognise organisations and individuals making an outstanding contribution to the protection and rehabilitation of Australia's land and waterways;
- (b) congratulates finalists in the 2003 National Landcare Awards and thanks all Landcare volunteers for their magnificent contribution to our environment;
- (c) notes that:
  - (i) Landcare's contribution and future are being undermined by the fact that the Howard Government has not organised the Natural Heritage Trust 2 (NHT2) appropriately and as a result, up to 600 Landcare and Coastcare coordinators across Australia were moved to short-term contracts on 7 July 2003 when their Commonwealth-funded contracts expired, and
  - (ii) as a result 600, highly skilled Landcare and Coastcare workers are at increased risk of leaving these programs to find more stable employment, and that the programs may face a skills shortage and therefore be less effective in the future; and

- (d) condemns the Howard Government for its mismanagement of NHT2 and therefore its lack of commitment to Landcare.

### Orders of the Day relating to Government Documents

- 1 **Housing Assistance Act 1996—Report for 2000-01 on the operation of the 1999 Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 14 August 2003*).
- 2 **Higher education—Report for the 2003 to 2005 triennium by the Minister for Education, Science and Training**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Crossin, in continuation, 14 August 2003*).
- 3 **Australia-Korea Foundation—Report for 2001-02**  
Consideration (*24 June 2003*).
- 4 **Multilateral treaty—Text, together with national interest analysis and annexures—Protocol on Preparedness, Response and Co-operation to Pollution Incidents by Hazardous and Noxious Substances 2000, done at London, 15 March 2000 [Replacement for document tabled on 17 June 2003]**  
Consideration (*24 June 2003*).
- 5 **Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme (MSBS) and Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Scheme (DFRDB)—Report on long-term costs carried out by the Australian Government Actuary using data to 30 June 2003**  
Consideration (*25 June 2003*).
- 6 **Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS) and Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS)—Report on the long-term cost of the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme and the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme prepared by Mercer Human Resource Consulting Pty Ltd using data as at 30 June 2002**  
Consideration (*25 June 2003*).
- 7 **Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Garrwa (Wearyan and Robinson Rivers Beds and Banks) land claim no. 178—Report (no. 64) of the Aboriginal Land Commissioner, Justice HW Olney, to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs and to the Administrator of the Northern Territory**  
Consideration (*25 June 2003*).
- 8 **Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Garrwa (Wearyan and Robinson Rivers Beds and Banks) land claim no. 178—Explanatory statement by the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (Mr Ruddock)**  
Consideration (*25 June 2003*).
- 9 **Department of Finance and Administration—Parliamentarians' travel paid by the Department of Finance and Administration—July to December 2002, June 2003**

- Consideration (26 June 2003).
- 10 **Department of Finance and Administration—Former parliamentarians’ travel paid by the Department of Finance and Administration—July to December 2003, June 2003**  
Consideration (26 June 2003).
- 11 **Department of Defence—Special purpose flights—Schedule for the period 1 January to 30 June 2002**  
Consideration (26 June 2003).
- 12 **Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet—Former Governors-General travel paid by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet—1 July to 31 December 2002**  
Consideration (26 June 2003).
- 13 **National Health Act 1953—Report—Independent review of the private sector outreach services legislation, June 2003**  
Consideration (11 August 2003).
- 14 **Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002—NHMRC Licensing Committee—Report for the period 19 December 2002 to 31 March 2003**  
Consideration (11 August 2003).
- 15 **Gene Technology Regulator—Quarterly report for the period 1 January to 31 March 2003**  
Consideration (11 August 2003).
- 16 **Advance to the Finance Minister—Statement—March and April 2003**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ludwig, in continuation, 13 August 2003*).
- 17 **Advance to the Finance Minister—Supporting applications for funds—March and April 2003**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ludwig, in continuation, 13 August 2003*).
- 18 **Advance to the Finance Minister—Statement—May 2003**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ludwig, in continuation, 13 August 2003*).
- 19 **Advance to the Finance Minister—Supporting applications for funds—May 2003**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ludwig, in continuation, 13 August 2003*).
- 20 **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act—Statement under subsection 40(3)—Suspension of a commissioner from office, dated 13 August 2003**  
Consideration (13 August 2003).

### Orders of the Day

- 1 **ABC Amendment (Online and Multichannelling Services) Bill 2001 [2002]—(Senate bill)**

- Second reading—Adjourned debate (3 April 2001)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 2 **Air Navigation Amendment (Extension of Curfew and Limitation of Aircraft Movements) Bill 1995 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (27 March 1995)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 3 **Anti-Genocide Bill 1999 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Greig*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (5 April 2001)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 4 **Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment Bill 1999 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (25 March 1999)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 5 **Charter of Political Honesty Bill 2000 [2002]**—(*Senate bills*)—(*Senator Murray*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (10 October 2000)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 6 **Constitution Alteration (Appropriations for the Ordinary Annual Services of the Government) 2001 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senators Murray and Stott Despoja*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (26 June 2001)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 7 **Constitution Alteration (Electors' Initiative, Fixed Term Parliaments and Qualification of Members) 2000 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (4 April 2000)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 8 **Corporate Code of Conduct Bill 2000 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (6 September 2000)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 10 **Parliamentary Approval of Treaties Bill 1995 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (31 May 1995)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 12 **Reconciliation Bill 2001 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Ridgeway*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (5 April 2001)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 13 **State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (7 August 2001)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 14 **Public liability insurance premiums**  
 Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Conroy—That the Senate—  
 (a) expresses its concern about the significant increase in public liability insurance premiums and the effect it is having on the viability of many small businesses and community and sporting organisations;

- (b) condemns the Government for its inaction; and
  - (c) urges the Minister to propose a solution to this pressing issue, as quickly as possible, not just look at the problem (*Senator Ferguson, in continuation, 14 February 2002*).
- 15 **Ministers of State (Post-Retirement Employment Restrictions) Bill 2002—(Senate bill)**—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 13 March 2002*).
  - 16 **Lucas Heights reactor—Order for production of documents—Statement by Minister**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Carr, in continuation, 19 March 2002*).
  - 17 **Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Boundary Extension) Amendment Bill 2002—(Senate bill)**—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Bartlett*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Calvert, in continuation, 16 May 2002*).
  - 18 **Genetic Privacy and Non-discrimination Bill 1998 [2002]—(Senate bill)**—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*5 October 2000*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 14 May 2002*).
  - 19 **Patents Amendment Bill 1996 [2002]—(Senate bill)**—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*27 June 1996*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 14 May 2002*).
  - 20 **Republic (Consultation of the People) Bill 2001 [2002]—(Senate bill)**—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*26 September 2001*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 14 May 2002*).
  - 21 **Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Scrutiny of Board Appointments) Amendment Bill 2002—(Senate bill)**  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*15 May 2002*).
  - 22 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Paid Maternity Leave) Bill 2002—(Senate bill)**—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 16 May 2002*).
  - 24 **Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry (Forest Practices) Bill 2002—(Senate bill)**—(*Senator Brown*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 20 June 2002*).
  - 25 **Family Law Amendment (Joint Residency) Bill 2002—(Senate bill)**—(*Senator Harris*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Harris, in continuation, 20 June 2002*).
  - 26 **ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organisation (AIPO)—Report of the Australian parliamentary delegation to the 22nd AIPO General Assembly, Thailand, 2 to**

**5 September 2001; Visits and briefings, Bangkok, 6 to 8 September 2001; and Bi-lateral visit to Singapore, 9 to 13 September 2001**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Calvert—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Calvert, in continuation, 27 June 2002*).

**27 Family and Community Services—Family tax benefits**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate—

- (a) condemns the Howard Government's decision to strip, without warning, the tax returns of Australian families who have been overpaid family payments as callous and unfair to parents trying to survive under increasing financial pressures;
- (b) notes that this is not consistent with the statement of the Minister for Family and Community Services (Senator Vanstone) in July 2001 in which she assured families that, 'The Government has also decided that it would be easier for any family who still had an excess payment to have it recovered by adjusting their future payments, rather than taking it from their tax refund. This is because people may have earmarked their refund for use for specific things';
- (c) considers that the Government's 2-year-old family payments system is deeply flawed, given that it delivered average debts of \$850 to 650 000 Australian families in the 2001-02 financial year and continues to punish families who play by the rules; and
- (d) condemns the Howard Government and its contemptible attack on Australian families (*Senator Tierney, in continuation, 22 August 2002*).

**28 Health—Medicare—Bulk billing**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Evans—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) since the election of the Howard Government, the rate of bulk billing by general practitioners (GPs) has dropped from 80.6 per cent to 74.5 per cent, and that the average patient cost to see a GP who does not bulk bill has gone up 41.8 per cent to nearly \$12, and
  - (ii) in every year from the commencement of Medicare in 1984 through to 1996, bulk billing rates for GPs increased, but that, in every year since the election of the Howard Government, bulk billing rates have decreased;
- (b) recognises that the unavailability of bulk billing hurts those Australians who are least able to afford the rising costs of health care and those who are at greatest risk of preventable illness and disease;
- (c) condemns the Howard Government's failure to take responsibility for declining rates of bulk billing; and
- (d) calls on the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Patterson) to release publicly the June 2002 quarter bulk billing figures so that the true extent of the problem is made known (*Senator Moore, in continuation, 29 August 2002*).

**29 Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (Licence Charges) Amendment Bill 2002—Document**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ludwig, in continuation, 16 September 2002*).

- 30 **Kyoto Protocol (Ratification) Bill 2002**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Brown*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 19 September 2002*).
- 31 **Communications—Regional telecommunication services—Inquiry**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Mackay—That the Senate—
- (a) condemns the Howard Government for establishing an inquiry into regional telecommunications services, the Estens inquiry, which is chaired by a member of the National Party and friend of the Deputy Prime Minister, and has a former National Party MP as one of its members;
  - (b) condemns the Government's decisions that the inquiry will hold no public hearings and must report within little more than 2 months of its commencement; and
  - (c) calls on the Government to address all issues associated with Telstra's performance, including rising prices, deteriorating service standards and inadequate broadband provision (*Senator Tierney in continuation, 19 September 2002*).
- 32 **Trade Practices Amendment (Public Liability Insurance) Bill 2002 [No. 2]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Conroy*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Conroy, in continuation, 23 September 2002*).
- 33 **Corporations Amendment (Improving Corporate Governance) Bill 2002 [No. 2]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Conroy*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Conroy, in continuation, 23 September 2002*).
- 34 **Trade Practices Amendment (Credit Card Reform) Bill 2002 [No. 2]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Conroy*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Conroy, in continuation, 23 September 2002*).
- 35 **Superannuation**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Sherry—That the Senate notes the Howard Government's third term failures on superannuation, including:
- (a) the failure to provide for a contributions tax cut for all Australians who pay it, rather than a tax cut only to those earning more than \$90 500 a year;
  - (b) the failure to adequately compensate victims of superannuation theft or fraud;
  - (c) the failure to accurately assess the administrative burden on small business of the Government's third attempt at superannuation choice and deregulation;
  - (d) the failure to support strong consumer protections for superannuation fund members through capping ongoing fees and banning entry and exit fees;
  - (e) the failure to provide consumers with a meaningful, comprehensive and comprehensible regime for fee disclosure; and
  - (f) the failure to cover unpaid superannuation contributions in the case of corporate collapse as part of a workers' entitlements scheme (*Senator Ferguson, in continuation, 26 September 2002*).
- 38 **Parliament House security—Statement by President**



- Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ray—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Ray, in continuation, 11 November 2002*).
- 39 **Convention on Climate Change (Implementation) Bill 1999 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Brown*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*2 September 1999*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 12 November 2002*).
- 40 **Customs Amendment (Anti-Radioactive Waste Storage Dump) Bill 1999 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Brown*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*20 October 1999*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 12 November 2002*).
- 41 **Human Rights (Mandatory Sentencing for Property Offences) Bill 2000 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Brown*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*6 September 2000*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 12 November 2002*).
- 42 **Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Bartlett*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 19 November 2002*).
- 43 **Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry (Bali Bombings) Bill 2002**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Brown*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 4 December 2002*).
- 44 **Health—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme—Order for Production of Documents—Statement by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell)**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Nettle—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Nettle, in continuation, 4 December 2002*).
- 45 **Trade—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme—Order for Production of Documents—Statement by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell)**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Nettle—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Nettle, in continuation, 4 December 2002*).
- 46 **Public Interest Disclosure (Protection of Whistleblowers) Bill 2002**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Murray, in continuation, 11 December 2002*).
- 47 **Uranium Mining in or near Australian World Heritage Properties (Prohibition) Bill 1998 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Allison*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*28 May 1998*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 11 December 2002*).
- 48 **Environment—National radioactive waste repository**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate condemns the Government for:

- (a) its failure to respect the rights of the people of South Australia in its consultation process over the location of the planned low-level radioactive waste repository;
- (b) its decision to replace effective and meaningful consultation and discussion with a \$300 000 propaganda campaign, designed to sway the opinions of South Australians towards locating the repository in that state, in the absence of genuine efforts to provide accurate and exhaustive information on the suitability of the selected site, close to Woomera; and
- (c) its lack of a thorough examination of the environmental impact of this plan, in particular the possible dangers caused by the site's proximity to the Woomera rocket range, and the serious concerns of both the Department of Defence and private contractors on this issue (*Senator Buckland, in continuation, 6 February 2003*).

**49 Immigration—East Timorese asylum seekers—Document**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Crossin, in continuation, 3 March 2003*).

**50 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Protecting the Great Barrier Reef from Oil Drilling and Exploration) Amendment Bill 2003 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator McLucas and the Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Bartlett)**  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*6 March 2003*).

**52 Islamic Republic of Iran and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan—Report of the Australian parliamentary delegation, October to November 2002**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ferris—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ferris, in continuation, 6 March 2003*).

**53 Taxation—Small business**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Conroy—That the Senate—

- (a) calls on the Government to take action to crack down on late payments by big business and government customers to their small business suppliers; and
- (b) notes that:
  - (i) late payments by big businesses are a major issue for small businesses as they create cash flow problems,
  - (ii) this comes on top of the cumbersome administrative arrangements of the new tax system, and
  - (iii) the problems faced by small business are being ignored by the Howard Government—(*adjourned, 20 March 2003*).

**54 Environment—Rehabilitation of former nuclear test sites at Emu and Maralinga (Australia)—Ministerial statement**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Chapman, in continuation, 25 March 2003*).

**55 Building and Construction Industry—Royal Commission—Ministerial statement and documents**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Sherry—That the Senate take note of the documents (*Senator Santoro, in continuation, 26 March 2003*).

**56 Defence Amendment (Parliamentary approval for Australian involvement in overseas conflicts) Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Bartlett, and Senator Stott Despoja)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 27 March 2003*).

**57 Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Murray, in continuation, 27 March 2003*).

**58 Sexuality Anti-Vilification Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Greig)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Greig, in continuation, 27 March 2003*).

**59 Governor-General**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)—That the Senate—

(a) notes with concern that:

- (i) the Government has failed to respond to evidence of sexual abuse of children in our society and within our public institutions,
- (ii) the independent report of the Diocesan Board of Inquiry found that Dr Peter Hollingworth, while occupying a position of public trust as Archbishop of Brisbane, allowed a priest to remain in the ministry after an admission of sexual abuse, and the Board of Inquiry found this decision to be ‘untenable’,
- (iii) the Governor-General has admitted that he made a serious error in doing so,
- (iv) Dr Peter Hollingworth, through his actions while in the Office of Governor-General, in particular his interview on ‘Australian Story’ and his apparent ‘reconstruction’ of evidence before the Diocesan Board of Inquiry, has shown himself not to be a person suitable to hold the Office of Governor-General,
- (v) members of the House of Representatives, senators, and premiers and members of state parliaments have called upon the Governor-General to resign, or failing that, to be dismissed by the Prime Minister,
- (vi) the Governor-General is now no longer able to fulfil his symbolic role as a figure of unity for the Australian people,
- (vii) the Governor-General is now no longer able to exercise the constitutional powers of the Office in a manner that will be seen as impartial and non-partisan,
- (viii) the Governor-General’s action in standing aside until the current Victorian Supreme Court action is resolved, does not address any of the issues surrounding his behaviour as Archbishop of Brisbane, and is therefore inadequate,
- (ix) the Governor-General has failed to resign and the Prime Minister has failed to advise the Queen of Australia to dismiss him, and
- (x) the Australian Constitution fails to set out any criteria for the dismissal of a Governor-General or a fair process by which this can be achieved; and

(b) urges:

- (i) the Prime Minister to establish a Royal Commission into child sexual abuse in Australia, and
- (ii) the Governor-General to immediately resign or, if he does not do so, the Prime Minister to advise the Queen of Australia to terminate the Commission of the Governor-General—(*Senator Ludwig, in continuation, 13 May 2003*).

And on the amendment moved by *Senator Murphy*—Omit all words after “That”, substitute “the Senate—

- (a) notes with concern that:
  - (i) Dr Peter Hollingworth, while in the Office of Governor-General, gave in an interview on ‘Australian Story’, a version of events which have been found by the diocesan Board of Inquiry to be untrue, and
  - (ii) the same Board of Inquiry found that they could not accept Dr Hollingworth had a belief that the child sexual abuse was an isolated incident and that his handling of the matters was untenable;
- (b) finds that:
  - (i) the circumstances that have developed around the Office of Governor-General are doing irreparable damage to the Office and must be resolved,
  - (ii) the conclusions of the report of the Anglican Church clearly demonstrates that Dr Hollingworth failed in his duty as Archbishop,
  - (iii) such failing in a position of significant public trust renders Dr Hollingworth an unsuitable person to fill the Office of Governor-General,
  - (iv) the Governor-General’s action in standing aside until the current Victorian Supreme Court action is resolved does not address any of the issues surrounding his behaviour as Archbishop of Brisbane, and is therefore inadequate,
  - (v) the Governor-General is now no longer able to fulfil his symbolic role as a figure of unity for the Australian people, and
  - (vi) the Governor-General is now no longer able to exercise the constitutional powers of the Office in a manner that will be seen as impartial and non-partisan; and, therefore, in light of these unacceptable circumstances
- (c) urges:
  - (i) the Governor-General to immediately resign or, if he does not do so, the Prime Minister to advise the Queen of Australia to terminate the Commission of Governor-General, and
  - (ii) the Prime Minister to establish a Royal Commission into child sexual abuse in Australia.”—(*Senator Collins, in continuation, 14 May 2003*).

60 **Textbook Subsidy Bill 2003**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 18 June 2003*).

61 **Health—Medicare—Bulk billing**

Adjourned debate on the motion of *Senator McLucas*—That the Senate—

- (a) condemns the most damaging effects of the Government's proposed reforms to Medicare, which will create a user-pays, two-tiered health system in Australia and dismantle the universality of Medicare;
- (b) acknowledges that the first of the damaging effects of the Government's reform package is to cause bulk-billing rates to decline further, and that these reforms do nothing to encourage doctors to bulk bill any Australians other than pensioners and concession cardholders but make it clear that the Government considers bulk billing to be a privilege that accrues only to a subset of Australians, not an entitlement that all Australians have as a result of the Medicare charge;
- (c) notes that the second most damaging effect of the Government's proposed changes to Medicare is the facilitation and encouragement of higher and higher co-payments to be charged by medical practitioners, and that a central plank of the Government's package is the facilitation of co-payments to be charged by doctors who currently bulk bill Australian families, as well as to make it easier for doctors who currently charge a co-payment to increase the amount of this co-payment; and
- (d) notes, with concern, that the Government seeks to allow private health funds to offer insurance for out-of-pocket expenses in excess of \$1 000, a measure which, if implemented, would inflate health insurance premiums as well as be a real step towards a user-pays system in Australia where people who can afford co-payments and insurance premiums will be treated when they are sick, whereas those individuals and families on lower incomes will be forced to go without medical assistance—*(Senator Eggleston, in continuation, 19 June 2003)*

**62 Freedom of Information Amendment (Open Government) Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate *(Senator Murray, in continuation, 25 June 2003)*.

**63 Looking to the Future: A review of Commonwealth fisheries policy—Ministerial statement**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O'Brien—That the Senate take note of the statement *(adjourned, Senator McGauran, 25 June 2002)*.

**64 Social Security Amendment (Supporting Young Carers) Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Lees)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate *(Senator Lees, in continuation, 26 June 2003)*.

**65 National Animal Welfare Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Democrat, Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate *(Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 11 August 2003)*.

**66 Transport—Ethanol—Manildra Group**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O'Brien—That the Senate condemns the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) for his ongoing pattern of deceit in relation to his dealings with the chair of the Manildra Group, Mr Dick Honan, prior to a Cabinet decision that delivers direct financial benefits to that company—*(Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Ian Macdonald), in continuation, 14 August 2003)*



## BUSINESS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

### Next day of sitting (8 September 2003)

#### Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Economics Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 7) 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

### On the tenth sitting day after 30 June 2003 (9 September 2003)

#### Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Legislation Committees**

Reports to be presented on annual reports tabled by 30 April 2003.

### On 9 September 2003

#### Business of the Senate—Notice of Motion

*Notice given 24 June 2003*

- 1 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett):** To move—That the Migration Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 57 and made under the *Migration Act 1958*, be disallowed.

Six sitting days remain for resolving.\*\*

\*\* *Indicates sitting days remaining, including today, within which the motion must be disposed of or the Regulations will be deemed to have been disallowed.*

#### Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 **Medicare—Select Committee**

Report to be presented on the Health Legislation Amendment (Medicare and Private Health Insurance) Bill 2003.

2 **Medicare—Select Committee**

Report to be presented.

3 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Aviation Transport Security Bill 2003 and the Aviation Transport Security (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2003. (*Referred upon the introduction of the bill in the House of Representatives pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

\*4 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

#### Government Business—Orders of the Day

1 **Health Legislation Amendment (Medicare and Private Health Insurance) Bill 2003**—(Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 17 June 2003*).

2 **Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003**—(Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Moore, 19 August 2003*).

General Business—Notice of Motion

*Notice given 15 May 2003*

- 467 **Senator Lees:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to encourage a stronger civic culture in Australia, and for related purposes. ***Encouraging Communities Bill 2003.***

**On 11 September 2003**

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

\*1 **Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Migration Legislation Amendment (Identification and Authentication) Bill 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

\*2 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Non-Proliferation Legislation Amendment Bill 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Committee Reports and Government Responses and Auditor-General's Reports—Notice of Motion

*Notice given 26 June 2002*

1 **Chair of the Standing Committee of Senators' Interests (Senator Denman):**

To move—That the following amendments to the resolutions relating to senators' interests and declaration of gifts to the Senate and the Parliament be agreed to:

**Resolution 1—Registration of senators' interests**

Paragraph (1), omit—

“Within 14 sitting days after the adoption of this resolution by the Senate and 28 days of making and subscribing an oath or affirmation of allegiance as a senator”,

substitute—

“Within:

- (a) 28 days after the first meeting of the Senate after 1 July first occurring after a general election; and
- (b) 28 days after the first meeting of the Senate after a simultaneous dissolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives; and
- (c) 28 days after making and subscribing an oath or affirmation of allegiance as a senator for a Territory or appointed or chosen to fill a vacancy in the Senate”.

**Resolution 3—Registrable interests**

Paragraph (i), omit “\$5,000”, substitute “\$10,000”.

Paragraphs (k), (l) and (m), omit “\$500” wherever occurring, substitute “\$1,000”; omit “\$200” wherever occurring, substitute “\$500”.

**Resolution 4—Register and Registrar of Senators’ Interests**

Paragraph (3), omit “the commencement of each Parliament”, substitute “receipt of statement of registrable interests in accordance with resolution 1(1)”.

[Consequential on amendment to paragraph 1(1)]

**Resolution 5—Declaration of interest in debate and other proceedings**

To be omitted.

**Resolution relating to declaration of gifts to the Senate and the Parliament**

Paragraph (1)(a), omit “practical”, substitute “practicable”.

Sub-paragraph (ba), omit “\$500”, substitute “\$1,000”; omit “\$200” substitute “\$500”.

Sub-paragraph (d), line 2, omit “is to”, substitute “may”.

After sub-paragraph (h), insert—

- (i) When a senator who is using or displaying a gift ceases to be a senator, the senator may retain the gift:
  - (i) if its value does not exceed the stated valuation limits of \$1,000 for a gift received from an official government source, or \$500 from a private person or non-government body; or
  - (ii) if the senator elects to pay the difference between the stated valuation limit and the value of the gift, as obtained from an accredited valuer selected from the list issued by the Committee for Taxation Incentives for the Arts. The Department of the Senate will be responsible for any costs incurred in obtaining the valuation.
- (j) If the senator does not retain the gift in accordance with paragraph (i), the senator must return the gift to the registrar, who shall:
  - (i) dispose of it in accordance with instructions from the Committee of Senators’ Interests, as set out in paragraph 1(d) of this resolution; or
  - (ii) arrange its donation to a nominated non-profit organisation or charity, at the discretion of the senator who has returned the gift and the Committee of Senators’ Interests.
- (k) Any senator subject to paragraph (j) must formally acknowledge relinquishment of the senator’s claim to ownership of any surrendered gifts.

**On 15 September 2003****Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day****1 Economics Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

**2 Economics Legislation Committee**



Report to be presented on the provisions of the ACIS Administration Amendment Bill 2003 and the Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Bill 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

#### General Business—Order of the Day

- 51 **Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Senator Conroy)*

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Conroy, in continuation, 6 March 2003*).

#### On 16 September 2003

#### Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Legal and Constitutional References Committee**  
Report to be presented on progress towards national reconciliation.
- 2 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**  
Report to be presented on an examination of the Government's foreign and trade policy strategy.
- 3 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**  
Report to be presented on the role of libraries as providers of public information in the online environment.
- 4 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**  
Report to be presented on environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations.

#### On 18 September 2003

#### Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Finance and Public Administration References Committee**  
Report to be presented on recruitment and training in the Australian Public Service.
- 2 **Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee**  
Report to be presented on the provisions of the Age Discrimination Bill 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

#### On 3 October 2003

#### Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Regulations and Ordinances—Standing Committee**  
Report to be presented on the provisions of the Legislative Instruments Bill 2003 and the Legislative Instruments (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003.

#### On 7 October 2003

## Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

**1 Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the Plastic Bag Levy (Assessment and Collection) Bill 2002 [No. 2] and the Plastic Bag (Minimisation of Usage) Education Fund Bill 2002 [No. 2]. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

## General Business—Orders of the Day

**36 Plastic Bag (Minimisation of Usage) Education Fund Bill 2002 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Brown)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 21 October 2002.*)

**37 Plastic Bag Levy (Assessment and Collection) Bill 2002 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Brown)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 21 October 2002.*)

**On 8 October 2003**

## Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

**1 Finance and Public Administration References Committee**

Report to be presented on staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*.

**2 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee**

Report to be presented on forestry plantations.

**On 13 October 2003**

## Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

**\*1 Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the Workplace Relations Amendment (Compliance with Court and Tribunal Orders) Bill 2003 and the provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Codifying Contempt Offences) Bill 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

## Government Business—Orders of the Day

**1 Workplace Relations Amendment (Compliance with Court and Tribunal Orders) Bill 2003—(Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator Patterson)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 14 August 2003.*)

**\*2 Workplace Relations Amendment (Codifying Contempt Offences) Bill 2003—(Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Alston)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 20 August 2003.*)

### On 14 October 2003

#### General Business—Notice of Motion

*Notice given 15 May 2003*

- 466 **Senator Lees:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to enhance the protection of biodiversity on private land, and for related purposes. *Protection of Biodiversity on Private Land Bill 2003.*

### On 15 October 2003

#### Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee**

Report to be presented on the refusal of the Government to respond to the order of the Senate of 21 August 2002 for the production of documents relating to financial information concerning higher education institutions.

### On 28 October 2003

#### Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee**

Report to be presented on labour market skills requirements.

\*2 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Fuel Quality Standards Amendment Bill 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

### On 30 October 2003

#### Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee**

Report to be presented on proposed budget changes to higher education.

2 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

### On 3 November 2003

#### Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Ministerial Discretion in Migration Matters—Select Committee**

Report to be presented.

### On 4 November 2003

#### Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

**1 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**

Report to be presented on the performance of government agencies in the assessment and dissemination of security threats in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002.

**On 25 November 2003**

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

**1 Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**

Report to be presented on the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

**On 27 November 2003**

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

**1 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**

Report to be presented on issues involved in the negotiation of the General Agreement on Trade in Services in the Doha Development Round.

**2 Community Affairs References Committee**

Report to be presented on poverty and financial hardship.

**On 2 December 2003**

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

**1 ASIO, ASIS and DSD—Joint Statutory Committee**

Report to be presented on intelligence information received by Australia's intelligence services in relation to weapons of mass destruction.

**2 Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**

Report to be presented on the Australian telecommunications network.

**On 3 December 2003**

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

**1 Community Affairs References Committee**

Report to be presented on children in institutional care.

**On 4 December 2003**

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

**1 Economics References Committee**

Report to be presented on whether the *Trade Practices Act 1974* adequately protects small business.

### **By the last sitting day in 2003 (4 December 2003)**

#### Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee**  
Report to be presented on rural water resource usage.
- 2 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**  
Report to be presented on the administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority.
- 3 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**  
Report to be presented on the import risk assessment on New Zealand apples.
- 4 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**  
Report to be presented on the administration of AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Margaret J.*

### **On the first sitting day in 2004**

#### Business of the Senate—Notice of Motion

*Notice given 25 June 2003*

- 1 **Senator Tierney:** To move—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 2004:  
Parents as educators in the early childhood years, with particular reference to:
  - (a) the extent to which parenting skills and family support are factors in reducing educational and social risks of children in the 3 years and under age group;
  - (b) whether current patterns of parental involvement in community and school-based programs are adequate to respond to the challenge of assisting children with early learning and social behaviour problems;
  - (c) the current state and territory provisions and programs, whether based on pre-schools, schools, play groups or day-care centres etc, established to assist parents with early childhood learning support;
  - (d) best practice in home to school transition programs for children, and an assessment as to whether they can be adapted for national implementation; and
  - (e) the most appropriate role for the Commonwealth in supporting national programs for raising parental consciousness and levels of knowledge and competence in relation to the early educational, social and emotional and health needs of children.

### **On 3 March 2004**

#### Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Legal and Constitutional References Committee**  
Report to be presented on the capacity of current legal aid and access to justice arrangements to meet the community need for legal assistance.

**By the last sitting day in March 2004**

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**  
Report to be presented on competition in broadband services.
- 2 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**  
Report to be presented on the regulation, control and management of invasive species.

**By the first sitting day of the 2004 winter session**

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Community Affairs References Committee**  
Report to be presented on Hepatitis C in Australia.

**By the last sitting day in June 2004**

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Economics References Committee**  
Report to be presented on the structure and distributive effects of the Australian taxation system.

**On the next day of sitting after the government fully complies with the order for the production of documents relating to a proposed excise and production subsidy on ethanol made on 16 October 2002**

Government Business—Order of the Day

- 1 **Customs Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003**  
**Excise Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2003**—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*12 August 2003*).

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**BILLS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES**

**Bills currently referred†**

**Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003‡**

Referred to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee (*referred 20 August 2003; reporting date: 9 September 2003*).

**Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002‡**

Referred to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee (*referred 26 March 2003; order varied 26 June 2003; reporting date: 25 November 2003*).

**Health Legislation Amendment (Medicare and Private Health Insurance) Bill 2003**

Referred to the Select Committee on Medicare (*referred 19 June 2003; reporting date: 9 September 2003*).

**Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003‡**

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred 19 March 2003; reporting date varied 11 August 2003; reporting date: 15 September 2003*).

**Plastic Bag Levy (Assessment and Collection) Bill 2002 [No. 2]‡**

**Plastic Bag (Minimisation of Usage) Education Fund Bill 2002 [No. 2]‡**

Referred to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee (*referred 5 March 2003; reporting date: 7 October 2003*).

**Workplace Relations Amendment (Compliance with Court and Tribunal Orders) Bill 2003‡**

Referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee (*referred 20 August 2003; reporting date: 13 October 2003*).

**Provisions of bills currently referred†**

**ACIS Administration Amendment Bill 2003‡**

**Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Bill 2003‡**

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred 13 August 2003; reporting date: 15 September 2003*).

**Age Discrimination Bill 2003‡**

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (*referred 13 August 2003; reporting date: 18 September 2003*).

**Aviation Transport Security Bill 2003‡**

**Aviation Transport Security (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2003‡**

Referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (*referred upon the introduction of the bills in the House of Representatives pursuant to the Selection of Bills Committee report no. 4, 26 March 2003; bills introduced 27 March 2003; reporting date varied 14 May, 16 and 25 June and 14 August 2003; reporting date: 9 September 2003*).

**Financial Services Reform Amendment Bill 2003‡**

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred upon the introduction of the bill in the House of Representatives pursuant to the Selection of Bills Committee report no. 7, 25 June 2003; bill introduced 26 June 2003; reporting date varied 19 August 2003; reporting date: 21 August 2003*).

**Fuel Quality Standards Amendment Bill 2003‡**

Referred to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee (*referred 20 August 2003; reporting date: 28 October 2003*).

**Legislative Instruments Bill 2003**

**Legislative Instruments (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003**

Referred to the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (*referred 13 August 2003; reporting date: 3 October 2003*).

**Migration Legislation Amendment (Identification and Authentication) Bill 2003‡**

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (*referred 20 August 2003; reporting date: 11 September 2003*).

**Non-Proliferation Legislation Amendment Bill 2003‡**

Referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee (*referred 20 August 2003; reporting date: 11 September 2003*).

**Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 5) 2003‡**

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred 18 June 2003; reporting date varied 11 August 2003; reporting date: 21 August 2003*).

**Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 7) 2003‡**

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred 13 August 2003; reporting date: 8 September 2003*).

**Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2003‡**

Referred to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee (*referred 13 August 2003; reporting date: 30 October 2003*).

**Workplace Relations Amendment (Codifying Contempt Offences) Bill 2003‡**

Referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee (*referred 20 August 2003; reporting date: 13 October 2003*).

‡Further information about the progress of these bills may be found in the Department of the Senate's Bills to Committees Update.

‡Pursuant to adoption of report of Selection of Bills Committee.

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## BILLS DISCHARGED, LAID ASIDE OR NEGATIVED

**Government Bills****Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Australians Working Together and other 2001 Budget Measures) Bill 2002**

Redundant order relating to the bill discharged from *Notice Paper*, 12 December 2002.

**Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Disability Reform) Bill (No. 2) 2002**

Second reading negatived, 19 November 2002.

**Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Disability Reform) Bill (No. 2) 2002 [No. 2]**

Second reading negatived, 24 June 2003.

**Migration Legislation Amendment (Further Border Protection Measures) Bill 2002**

Second reading negatived, 9 December 2002.



**Migration Legislation Amendment (Further Border Protection Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]**

Second reading negatived, 16 June 2003.

**National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002**

Second reading negatived, 20 June 2002.

**National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]**

Second reading negatived, 4 March 2003.

**Superannuation (Surcharge Rate Reduction) Amendment Bill 2003**

Second reading negatived, 24 June 2003.

**Trade Practices Amendment (Small Business Protection) Bill 2002**

Third reading negatived, 19 August 2002.

**Trade Practices Amendment (Small Business Protection) Bill 2002 [No. 2]**

Third reading negatived, 3 March 2003.

**Workplace Relations Amendment (Secret Ballots for Protected Action) Bill 2002**

Third reading negatived, 25 September 2002.

**Workplace Relations Amendment (Secret Ballots for Protected Action) Bill 2002 [No. 2]**

Third reading negatived, 24 March 2003.

**Workplace Relations Amendment (Termination of Employment) Bill 2002**

Third reading negatived, 11 August 2003.

**Private Senator's Bills**

**Constitution Alteration (Right to Stand for Parliament—Qualification of Members and Candidates) 1998 (No. 2) [2002]**

Laid aside pursuant to standing order 135, 15 May 2003.

**Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2000 [2002]**

Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 27 March 2003.

**Freedom of Information Amendment (Open Government) Bill 2000 [2002]**

Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 25 June 2003.

**Public Interest Disclosure Bill 2001 [2002]**

Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 11 December 2002.

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**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

*Questions remaining unanswered*

Question Nos, as shown, from 55 to 1646 remain unanswered for 30 or more days (see standing order 74(5)).

*Notice given 12 February 2002*

55 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is it the case that the Melbourne office of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) failed to notify trustees of pre-existing pooled superannuation trusts (PSTs) that, under new regulations, they were required to notify APRA in writing that they wished their trusts to continue to be treated as PSTs by 31 October 2000.
- (2) Is it the case that trusts that have failed to so notify APRA will become non-complying superannuation funds, attracting a tax rate of 48.5 per cent on fund earnings instead of the concessional 15 per cent.
- (3) How long has APRA been aware of the failure to notify outlined in (1).
- (4) How long has the Minister or the department been aware of the failure to notify.
- (5) Has APRA or the Government taken any action to resolve this matter.
- (6) What action will the Government and APRA be taking to resolve this matter.

*Notice given 15 March 2002*

196 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Did Mr Ron Walker attend the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting; if so, in what capacity.

*Notice given 8 April 2002*

222 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Special Minister of State—With reference to travel undertaken to Melbourne between 1 October 2001 and 18 November 2001, by all staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*, in each instance can the following details be provided:

- (1) The name of each staff member, and the name of the member or senator for whom that staff member worked.
- (2) The dates for which travel allowance (TA) was claimed, including whether the claim was for consecutive nights.
- (3) The rate of TA paid and the total amount of TA paid to each staff member relating to that period.
- (4) The dates of airline flights taken to and from Melbourne by that staff member during that period.
- (5) Whether the staff member claimed for commercial or non-commercial accommodation, and the name of hotels stayed at by the staff member (if known).
- (6) The cost of any Cabcharge and/or other hire car charges, including Comcar.
- (7) The name and position of the person who certified the TA claim form and/or acquittal submitted to the Department of Finance and Administration.

*Notice given 18 April 2002*

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 247-273)—

- (1) What programs and/or grants administered by the department provide assistance to people living in the federal electorate of Kennedy.
- (2) What was the level of funding provided through these programs and/or grants for the 2000-01 and 2001-02 financial years.

- (3) Where specific projects were funded: (a) what was the location of each project; (b) what was the nature of each project; and (c) what was the level of funding for each project.

271 Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer

*Notice given 19 June 2002*

388 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Can the Treasurer confirm whether minutes were kept by the Australian Taxation Office Part IVA Panel of the meeting in which a recommendation was made against the first cooperative investment project considered by the panel in late 1997; if so, can a copy of those minutes be provided.
- (2) How do the loans in the cooperative investment projects differ from those in Lau's case.

*Notice given 2 July 2002*

411 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to all forms of end product report by the Defence Signals Directorate (DSD reports) which summarise raw intelligence product:

- (1) Which ministers received any of the DSD reports that were found by the Inspector-General to be in breach of the Rules on Sigint and Australian Persons.
- (2) On what precise dates did this occur.
- (3) Which minister's offices, that is personal staff members or departmental liaison officers, received the DSD reports that were in breach of the Rules on Sigint and Australian Persons.
- (4) On what precise dates did this occur.
- (5) Did any departments receive any of the DSD reports that were in breach of the Rules on Sigint and Australian Persons; if so, which ones and on what dates.
- (6) For both (1) and (3), were all four DSD reports that the Inspector-General found breached the rules received by any minister or minister's office; if not, how many of the four reports were received by each of the ministers and/or minister's office.
- (7) Of those reports that were made in breach of the rules and were received by a minister and/or minister's office, did they include either of the two reports containing intelligence information on communications by an Australian lawyer with a foreign client.

(In this question, the phrase 'DSD reports' refers to all forms of end product by the DSD which summarise raw intelligence product. Such reports are variously referred to in the summary of the Inspector-General for Security and Intelligence's *MV Tampa* investigation as 'reports summarising the results of collection activity', 'end product reports' and 'situation updates'.)

*Notice given 11 July 2002*

450 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is it a fact that loans to investors in the Active Cattle project were found by the Federal Court never to have been made.

- (2) Is the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) now a shareholder in Active Cattle on the basis that tax has nevertheless been levied on the loan amounts as income in the hands of the project manager, and could not be paid.
- (3) Is the ATO still the largest creditor of the Australian Tea Tree Oil Research Institute, even though the Federal Court found in the *Phai See* case that the Australian Research and Development Board had wrongly decided that the institute did not qualify as a research institute, and hence it was actually entitled to tax exempt status.

451 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is it the case that it was possible up until 30 June 2002 to invest in an existing infrastructure bond, relinquished by another investor, through the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) or Westpac.
- (2) Did that investment, by offering a large loan, potentially allow an upfront tax deduction such that the cash amount contributed was exceeded by the tax refund and hence would confer a tax benefit.
- (3) Was that loan non-recourse, and for a term of as little as one year.
- (4) Did the loan which could be taken out actually include an amount to be paid tax free to the investor as interest on the loan at the end of 12 months.
- (5) Is it the case that the Economics References Committee inquiry into mass-marketed tax effective schemes was told by First Assistant Commissioner, Mr Peter Smith, that some of these infrastructure borrowings could fall under Part IVA of the Income Tax Assessment Act.
- (6) Has any action been taken by the Australian Taxation Office to investigate whether Part IVA applies to the infrastructure bonds offered in 2002 to investors by the CBA and Westpac.

*Notice given 22 July 2002*

**Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 464-481)—

- (1) How many mobile phones has the department, or any agency within the portfolio, provided to the following: (a) a minister (please include the name of the minister or ministers); (b) staff of a minister employed under the Members of Parliament (Staff) (MoP(S) Act); (c) a departmental liaison officer in a minister's office; (d) a parliamentary secretary (please include the name of the parliamentary secretary or secretaries); (e) the staff of a parliamentary secretary employed under the MoP(S) Act; and (f) a departmental liaison officer in the office of a parliamentary secretary.
- (2) What was the total cost of the provision of mobile phones to the above-named persons during the 2000-01 and 2001-02 financial years.

464 Minister representing the Prime Minister

465 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

466 Minister representing the Treasurer

467 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

468 Minister for Defence

469 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

470 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

471 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

472 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

- 473 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage
- 474 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 475 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 476 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 477 Minister for Family and Community Services
- 478 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
- 479 Minister for Health and Ageing
- 480 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
- 481 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

*Notice given 15 August 2002*

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 535-536)—What action, if any, has the Minister or the department taken to protect or increase Australian wheat sales to Iraq in the 2002-03 financial year.

- 536 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

*Notice given 20 August 2002*

569 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—With reference to Part X Bankruptcy Agreements lodged in each of the 2000-01 and 2001-02 financial years:

- (1) How many barristers and lawyers applied for, and were successful in obtaining, Part X agreements in each Australian state and territory.
- (2) How much tax revenue to the Australian Taxation Office was forgone through part payments resulting from Part X agreements filed by barristers and lawyers in each Australian state and territory.
- (3) What was the total amount of tax revenue lost to the Australian Taxation Office through part payments resulting from Part X agreements in each Australian state and territory.
- (4) How many Part X creditors' meetings did officers of the department attend in each Australian state and territory.

*Notice given 13 September 2002*

628 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) How many applications for exceptional circumstances (EC) declarations have been lodged since 1996.
- (2) How many applications have resulted in EC declarations.
- (3) With respect to EC declarations, can the following information be provided: (a) the source of the applications (state government or peak body); (b) the geographic regions or industries concerned; (c) the dates on which the applications were lodged; and (d) the dates on which the declarations were made.
- (4) Were any EC declarations made concerning geographic regions contained wholly or partly within the electorates of Gwydir or Wide Bay.
- (5) With respect to unsuccessful applications, can the following information be provided: (a) the source of the applications (state government or peak body); (b) the geographic regions or industries concerned; (c) the dates on

which the applications were lodged; and (d) the dates on which the decisions to refuse the declarations were made.

- (6) Of the unsuccessful applications, were any made concerning geographic regions contained wholly or partly within the electorates of Gwydir or Wide Bay.
- (7) With respect to all unsuccessful applications, has the Government provided other special assistance, including ex gratia income support, to the regions or industries identified in the applications.
- (8) Was any such special assistance given to geographic regions contained wholly or partly within the electorates of Gwydir or Wide Bay.
- (9) Have there been any occasions since 1996 in which the Government has not accepted the recommendation of the Rural Adjustment Scheme Advisory Council (RASAC) or the National Rural Advisory Council (NRAC) in respect to EC applications; if so, can details of these occasions and the applications concerned be provided.
- (10) Have there been any occasions since 1996 in which EC applications have not been subject to an independent assessment by the RASAC or NRAC; if so, can details of these occasions and the applications concerned be provided.
- (11) In the case of each EC declaration: (a) what was the income threshold used; (b) did all applications meet the income threshold criterion; if not, can details be provided where applications for an EC declaration were made despite the income threshold not being met; and (c) for each of these applications: (i) what was the income level identified in the application, and (ii) what was the applicable income threshold.

*Notice given 17 September 2002*

638 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Is the Motomed, a therapeutic exerciser, subject to the goods and services tax (GST).
- (2) Has the Australian Taxation Office made a ruling that the Motomed is not GST-exempt.
- (3) Does the Treasurer acknowledge that the Motomed is a medically-prescribed movement therapy product specifically designed to treat profound physical disabilities and is entirely unsuited for use by able-bodied persons; if not, why not.
- (4) Will the Government take steps to amend taxation legislation to make this device GST-exempt; if so, will the Government make this amendment retrospective and provide GST refunds to the people who have already purchased this appliance.

*Notice given 23 September 2002*

678 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) When will legislation be introduced that will allow for workers to be paid their entitlements ahead of banks and other creditors.
- (2) Will that legislation apply to any current liquidations.
- (3) In the case of Computerised Holdings Pty Ltd, did the liquidator identify the cause of liquidation as being insolvent trading; if so, why did the Australian Securities and Investment Commission not prosecute.

- (5) What are the criteria being used for making claims against the liquidator in the case of Computerised Holdings.
- (6) Is it intended that legal advice be sought on any distribution of assets ahead of the payment of workers' entitlements.

679 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) What is the anticipated cost of the decision to allow a corporate group to transfer losses and be taxed as a single entity.
- (2) Is there any truth to the claim by some mining executives that this new arrangement will allow them to unlock \$11 billion in losses and enjoy a tax holiday for 20 years.
- (3) Is it true that, under these new arrangements, businesses will be able to revalue all assets to 'market value' without having to pay capital gains tax on the revaluations.
- (4) Is it true that for depreciation purposes the new 'market value' can be used as an expense over the estimated useful life of the asset.

*Notice given 24 September 2002*

682 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—For each month of the past 2 full calendar years, what are the figures for staff absent on stress leave in the Department of the Treasury.

687 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Does the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) investigate instances of profiteering in relation to grains, fodder and other livestock animal feeds; if so, how many instances of profiteering in relation to grains, fodder and other livestock animal feeds have been investigated in each of the past 10 financial years.
- (2) How many prosecutions have been obtained in each of the past 10 financial years for profiteering from grains, fodder or other foodstuffs used as livestock feed.
- (3) How many convictions have been obtained in each of the past 10 financial years for profiteering from grains, fodder or other foodstuffs used as livestock feed.
- (4) What are the current penalties for profiteering from grains, fodder or other foodstuffs used as livestock feed.
- (5) Have these penalties changed within the past 10 years; if so, can details of these changes be provided.

*Notice given 15 October 2002*

778 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the proponents of a steel profiling plant at Moruya, New South Wales, listed in the Dairy Regional Assistance Program project summary of round 6 for the 2001-02 financial year; and (b) was the Minister or his office contacted by any person on behalf of the proponents of the above project.
- (2) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the Federal Member for Eden Monaro (Mr Nairn) in relation to the above project.

- (3) Was the Minister or his office contacted by any member of the South East New South Wales Area Consultative Committee in relation to the above project.
- (4) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, or his staff, or officers of the Department of Transport and Regional Services in relation to the above project.
- (5) With reference to any contact by the persons listed above with the Minister or his office: (a) when did each communication take place; (b) who was involved in each communication; (c) what was the nature of each communication; (d) what was the form of each communication; and (e) which officers from the department were involved in any way in these contacts.

779 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) Was the Minister or his office contacted by Australian Solar Timbers about an application for funding through the Dairy Regional Assistance Program for the development of a short floor manufacturing project in Kempsey; and (b) was the Minister or his office contacted by any person on behalf of the proponents of the above project.
- (2) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the Federal Member for Lyne (Mr Vaile) in relation to the above project.
- (3) Was the Minister or his office contacted by any member of Australia's Holiday Coast Area Consultative Committee in relation to the above project.
- (4) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, or his staff, or officers of the Department of Transport and Regional Services in relation to the above project.
- (5) With reference to any contact by the persons listed above with the Minister or his office: (a) when did each communication take place; (b) who was involved in each communication; (c) what was the nature of each communication; (d) what was the form of each communication; and (e) which officers from the department were involved in any way in these contacts.

*Notice given 7 November 2002*

867 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What assessment has been made of Australia's actual environmental and economic loss from the incursion of marine pests.
- (2) What assessment has been made of the potential environmental and economic loss from the incursion of marine pests.
- (3) What contribution has the department made to the development of a national management system for managing marine pests.
- (4) Which stakeholders have participated in the development of a national management system.
- (6) When will a national management system be implemented.

*Notice given 8 November 2002*



879 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to the following information in the 2001-02 Annual Report of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA), tabled on 23 October (and where APRA cannot disclose names and other sensitive information relating to particular cases can as much other detail as possible be provided):

- (a) the statement on page 8 that in December 2001 APRA accepted an enforceable undertaking from a superannuation fund for the first time: can APRA provide details of: (i) that enforceable undertaking and all subsequent enforceable undertakings, including any breaches of the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993, (ii) any other problems involved, and (iii) the specific commitments made by the trustee(s) in these undertakings;
- (b) the statements on page 9 that in June 2002 APRA commenced prosecutions against trustees of regulated superannuation entities who failed to lodge an annual return for 2000-01 and on page 27 that 13 trustees had been referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions and two successfully charged: (i) have any further charges been made, and (ii) have any trustees been convicted for offences named in these charges, if so, what penalties have been imposed;
- (c) the statement on page 21 that APRA is currently reviewing the operations of a number of multi-employer corporate superannuation funds: can APRA provide details of: (i) the problems it has encountered in such funds, and (ii) any enforcement actions to date, particularly in relation to the equal representation requirements in the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993;
- (d) the list on page 24 of enforcement activities undertaken during the year: can APRA provide details of the specific breaches of the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993, or other APRA-enforced conditions, that gave rise to each of these enforcement activities;
- (e) the statement on page 40 that a number of joint visits to financial institutions were conducted with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) in 2001 as part of an APRA review of unit pricing in the superannuation industry: can APRA provide details of this review including: (i) any problems encountered, (ii) actions taken by trustees to address these problems, and (iii) enforcement actions taken by APRA or ASIC; and
- (f) the noting on page 41 of the establishment of the International Network of Pensions Regulators and Supervisors (INPRS): can APRA provide further details of: (i) the INPRS activities, and (ii) APRA's contribution to date.

*Notice given 11 November 2002*

886 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What recommendations were contained in the Rural Economic Services review of the AAA-Farm Management Deposit scheme, completed in June 2002.
- (2) Have these recommendations been adopted by the Government; if so, when were the recommended changes adopted; if not, why have the recommendations been rejected.
- (3) What did the review cost.

- (4) Can a copy of the review be provided; if not, why not.

*Notice given 12 November 2002*

908 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) When was the decision made to have a Life of Type Extension (LOTE) to the Landing Craft Heavy (LCH) fleet.
- (2) Were any options apart from the LOTE considered, for example, was the option of replacement rather than refurbishment considered.
- (3) Were any proposals to replace the LCHs received from Australian small- to medium-sized enterprises; if so, which organisations submitted proposals.
- (4) (a) Why were these proposals rejected; and (b) was the decision made on the basis of cost; if not, what factors led to the decision to refit rather than replace the current fleet.
- (5) Of the proposals submitted: (a) how many had existing units that could be directly evaluated by the Navy; and (b) what were the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed units.
- (6) What was the original budget for the refit of the LCH fleet.
- (7) What were the costs of any other options.
- (8) (a) What has been the cost of the refit to the LCH fleet to date; and (b) what is the complete refit expected to cost.
- (9) When will the refit be delivered.

*Notice given 21 November 2002*

954 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) On what date did the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet first become aware that some Farm Management Deposit (FMD) products may not comply with legislation applicable to the Government's FMD scheme.
- (2) (a) What was the source of this information; and (b) in what form was this information conveyed, for example, correspondence, e-mail, telephone conversation or direct conversation.
- (3) What was the nature of the problem specifically identified in this information.
- (4) On what date did the department inform the Prime Minister, or his office, of this problem.
- (5) Did the Prime Minister, or his office, receive advice about this problem from a source other than the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet; if so: (a) on what date was this information first received; (b) what was the source of this information; (c) in what form was this information conveyed; and (d) what was the nature of the problem specifically identified in this information.
- (6) (a) On what date, or dates, did the department take action in response to this identified problem; and (b) what action did the department take.
- (7) (a) What departments, agencies, banks or non-bank financial institutions did the department communicate with in relation to this matter; (b) on what date, or dates, did that communication occur; and (c) what form did that communication take.

- (8) (a) What responses, if any, has the department received in respect to those communications; (b) in what form have those responses been received; and (c) what was the content of those responses.
- (9) What action has the department taken in response to communications from departments, agencies, banks or non-bank financial institutions.
- (10) Was the Prime Minister aware when he spoke to the Committee for Economic Development of Australia, on 20 November 2002, about the FMD scheme, of:
  - (a) the report on page 3 of the Australian Financial Review, of 20 November 2002, stating that the Government 'has been forced to seek an Australian Taxation Office ruling over a potential legal flaw in its \$2 billion farm management deposit scheme'; and/or
  - (b) evidence given by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee, on 20 November 2002, that the department had been aware of uncertainty over some FMD products since July 2001.

957 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) On what date did the Department of the Treasury and/or the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) first become aware that some Farm Management Deposit (FMD) products may not comply with legislation applicable to the Government's FMD scheme.
- (2) What was the source of this information; and (b) in what form was this information conveyed, for example, correspondence, e-mail, telephone conversation or direct conversation.
- (3) What was the nature of the problem specifically identified in this information.
- (4) On what date did the department and/or the ATO, inform the Treasurer, or his office, or the Assistant Treasurer, or her office, of this problem.
- (5) Did the Treasurer, or his office, receive advice about this problem from a source other than the Treasurer's department or the ATO; if so: (a) on what date was this information first received; (b) what was the source of this information; (c) in what form was this information conveyed; and (d) what was the nature of the problem specifically identified in this information.
- (6) On what date, or dates, did the department and/or the ATO take action in response to this identified problem; and (b) what action did they take.
- (7) (a) What departments, agencies, banks or non-bank financial institutions did the department and/or the ATO communicate with in relation to this matter; (b) on what date, or dates, did that communication occur; and (c) what form did that communication take.
- (8) (a) What responses, if any, has the department and/or the ATO received in respect to those communications; (b) in what form have those responses been received; and (c) what was the content of those responses.
- (9) What action has the department and/or the ATO taken in response to communications from departments, agencies, banks or non-bank financial institutions.

*Notice given 26 November 2002*

959 **Senator Conroy:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With respect to those persons who hold private health insurance which is eligible for the 30 per cent private health insurance rebate and who receive the benefit of the rebate as a rebate through the tax system:

- (1) How many persons are covered by private health insurance by postcode and by federal electorate division, as at: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 30 June 2002; and (c) the most current date for which information has been compiled.
- (2) How many contributor units hold private health insurance by postcode and by federal electorate division, as at: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 30 June 2002; and (c) the most current date for which information has been compiled.

*Notice given 29 November 2002*

973 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) How many matters relating to insolvencies or external administrations in which applications were made for payment of entitlements under the Federal Government's Employee Entitlements Support Scheme or General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme have been referred by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations to each of: (a) the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC); and (b) the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).
- (2) In each matter, what concerns were identified.
- (3) What was the outcome of the ASIC's and the ACCC's consideration of each of these matters.

*Notice given 3 December 2002*

980 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Is the Government examining options for tracking livestock via systems such as a national livestock identification system.
- (2) Which identification systems has the Government examined in the past 5 years.
- (3) What was the quantum of funding spent by the department during each of the past 5 financial years on feasibility studies on national livestock identification systems.
- (4) What was the quantum of funding spent by the department on feasibility studies of each system examined in past 5 financial years.
- (5) Is the Minister aware of any meetings between the department, and state and territory departments on the issue of a national approach to livestock identification in the past 2 years.
- (6) (a) When did these meetings occur; (b) who attended each meeting; (c) what was discussed at each meeting; and (d) what records have been kept of the discussion at these meetings.

*Notice given 10 December 2002*

1012 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) In how many cases have claimants for compensation by personnel with East Timor service, pursuant to the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986, been referred to and examined by the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Medical Service.
- (2) At what level of injury under the scale set out in the Guide for the Assessment of Rates of Pension, under the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986, would a serving member be considered unfit for duty.
- (3) What penalty is provided to serving members who conceal an injury or make false statements about their fitness.
- (4) Is evidence of disabilities claimed and accepted under the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 considered as part of that assessment.
- (5) Will the Minister ask the Inspector-General to conduct an investigation into alleged fraud by serving ADF personnel making claims under the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986 and representing themselves as fit for duty.
- (6) What steps are being taken to remove the effect of the Privacy Act 1988 which prevents the Department of Veterans' Affairs advising the Department of Defence of disability claims lodged and accepted from serving personnel.
- (7) With reference to the answer given to question on notice no. 743 (Senate Hansard, 4 December 2002, p. 6796) on Gulf War compensation, how many personnel with accepted claims are still serving.

1014 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that in the recent decision of the Federal Court of Australia in the case of *MLC Limited v Deputy Commissioner of Taxation* [2002] FCA 149, in responding to the Commissioner's statement of reasons which accompanied notification of the disallowance of the applicants' objections, the judge stated: 'It may be said that it is hard to see how the applicants or their agent could have taken into account in preparing the returns lodged in 1996 and 1997 the views expressed in TD 1999/1 when those views did not appear publicly for some years after the returns were lodged.'
- (2) Is the Minister prepared to make any changes to tax law to avoid the need for a taxpayer to have the crystal ball the Commissioner apparently expects.

**Senator Lundy:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1019-1020)—

- (1) Can the following information in the form of a spreadsheet be provided, in both hard copy and electronically, for each contract entered into by agencies within the department which has not been fully performed or was entered into during the 2001-02 financial year, and that is wholly, or in part, information and communications technology-related with a consideration of \$20 000 or more: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (g) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (h) the amount applicable to the current budget year in Australian dollars; and (i) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).

- (2) With reference to any contracts that meet the above criteria, can a full list of sub-contracts valued at over \$5 000 be provided, including: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (g) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (h) the amount applicable to the current budget year in Australian dollars; and (i) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).

1019 Minister representing the Attorney-General

*Notice given 11 December 2002*

1026 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Can a full list be provided of real property owned by the department, indicating: (a) the address; (b) the type of property (for example, vacant building etc.); (c) the size of the property; and (d) the property valuation.
- (2) Can a full list be provided of the real property sold by or on behalf of the department in the 2002-03 financial year, indicating: (a) the address; (b) the type of property (for example, vacant building etc.); (c) the size of the property; (d) the type of sale (auction or advertised price); (e) the date of sale; (f) the reason for the sale; and (g) the price obtained.
- (3) Can a full list be provided of the real property proposed to be sold by or on behalf of the department in the 2002-03 financial year, indicating: (a) the address; (b) the type of property (for example, vacant building etc.); (c) the size of the property; (d) the type of sale proposed (auction or advertised price); (e) the expected price range; and (f) the likely timing of the sale.
- (4) Can a full list be provided of real property currently leased by the department, indicating: (a) the owner of the property; (b) the address; (c) the type of property; (d) the size of property; (e) the length of current lease; (f) the value of the lease; (g) the departmental activities conducted at the property; and (h) any sub-leases entered into at the property, including details of: (i) the name of sub-tenants; (ii) the length of sub-leases; (iii) the value of sub-leases; and (iv) the nature of sub-tenant activities.

*Notice given 13 December 2002*

1036 **Senator Cook:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) (a) How many taxpayers, in circumstances similar to those of Julie Vincent's have settled and agreed to pay amounts to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) that have now been found not to be owing, as a result of the Full Court decision in *Vincent v Commissioner of Taxation* [2002] FCA 656; and (b) what is the amount of money that has been, will be or would otherwise have been collected irrespective of the Vincent case.
- (2) (a) Is it the case that most taxpayers issued with amended assessments for 1994, 1995 and 1996 potentially fall within the ambit of the Vincent decision based on the Commissioner's own assessment of the deductibility

of their claimed expenditure; and (b) what is the amount of money collected from taxpayers during these years of income.

- (3) Has the ATO accepted settlement offers from taxpayers after the decision in the Vincent case in circumstances in which the taxpayers are agreeing to settle for an amount that the full court decision has shown is not owing; and (b) how many have they accepted in these circumstances.
- (4) Can the ATO provide any statistics on the number of taxpayers who have entered into bankruptcy in circumstances where the decision in the Vincent case indicates that the amended assessments issued to them were in fact not owing.
- (5) Has the ATO notified taxpayers that one of the implications of the decision in the Vincent case is that a tax deductible loss may be claimed on the cessation of their projects, in circumstances where their projects were commercial failures.
- (6) If the decision of Justice Stone in *Cooke v Commissioner of Taxation* [2002] FCA 1315 is upheld on appeal, how much money will have been collected from taxpayers in circumstances where the court has found that no money is owing by these taxpayers.
- (7) Why did the ATO refuse test case funding for the Vincent appeal.
- (8) Why did the ATO select 'Budplan' as a so-called representative test case when the Vincent case and the Cooke case have shown it was not representative of other tax effective investment projects.
- (9) Given that immediately prior to the settlement offer closing the Commissioner was suggesting that the first instance decision in the Vincent case had broad application to all taxpayers: Now that the decision has been overturned on appeal, why is the Commissioner now stating that the decision of the Full Court in the Vincent case has limited application to other taxpayers.
- (10) Does the Assistant Treasurer believe that the Commissioner, in forcing ordinary taxpayers to settle prior to court appeals being decided, is acting as a model litigant in accordance with the Attorney-General's policy statement.

*Notice given 7 January 2003*

- 1072 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—Will the Government indemnify the family of Rola McCabe for legal costs incurred in taking action against British American Tobacco relating to her death.

*Notice given 14 January 2003*

- Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1079-1082)—With reference to energy policy and greenhouse gas emissions:

- (1) Does the department have copies of any reports or documents produced by Roam Consulting in the past 5 calendar years; if so, in each case: (a) for whom was the report or document prepared; (b) what is the full title and date of the report or document; (c) what was the brief; (d) what were the main findings; and (e) can a copy of the report or document be provided.
- (2) Have any documents prepared by the department or its agencies, including by the Chief Scientist, used information supplied by Roam Consulting; if so, in each case: (a) what was the full title and date of the document from

which the information was used; and (b) what other data supported any conclusions drawn.

1082 Minister representing the Minister for Science

*Notice given 17 January 2003*

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1090-1120)—

- (1) What programs and/or grants administered by the department provide assistance to the people living in the federal electorate of Gippsland.
- (2) When did the delivery of these programs and/or grants commence.
- (3) What funding was provided through these programs and/or grants for the people of Gippsland in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02.
- (4) What funding has been appropriated for these programs and/or grants in the 2002-03 financial year.
- (5) What funding has been appropriated and/or approved under these programs and/or grants to assist organisations and individuals in the electorate of Gippsland in the 2002-03 financial year.

1100 Minister representing the Attorney-General

1102 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

1107 Minister for Justice and Customs

1116 Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer

1119 Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women

1120 Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation

*Notice given 17 February 2003*

1163 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) With reference to the Minister's media release of 19 July 2001 announcing a 3-year project to examine the feasibility of segregating genetically-modified products across their entire production chains: what are the specific stated objectives of this study.
- (2) Does the study deal with issues of food safety and food quality; if so, how.
- (3) Does the study deal with making sure that products are identified to meet labelling laws and to preserve the identity of products in the market place; if so, how.
- (4) How specifically do the objectives of the study announced on 19 July 2001 differ from those of the four case studies announced on 10 February 2003.

1168 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's joint statement of 11 February 2003, reference AFFA03/023WTJ, regarding the \$5.3 million water saving pilot program in the Murrumbidgee Valley:

- (1) What are the specific stated objectives of the pilot program as presented to the Commonwealth by Pratt Water and upon which Commonwealth funding was approved.
- (2) Can a copy be provided of the Pratt Water proposal upon which Commonwealth funding was approved; if not, why not.
- (3) What is the total budgeted cost of the pilot program.



- (4) Which Commonwealth departments are contributing to the funding of the pilot program; and (b) how much will each department contribute.
- (5) Which non-government organisations or individuals are contributing to the pilot program and what is their budgeted contribution.
- (6) (a) When will the pilot program commence; and (b) when is it due to be completed.
- (7) In relation to the joint media statement, which quotes Mr Pratt as saying that his 'company has contributed significant resources to get the proposal to its current stage of development and is contributing key staff to manage the project': (a) what is the quantum and exact type of resources Mr Pratt is referring to; (b) what is the number of staff Pratt Water will contribute to the management of this project; and (c) what are the names and qualifications of those staff.
- (8) Where exactly in the Murrumbidgee Valley the pilot program will be conducted.
- (9) (a) What consultations have been undertaken with residents within the Murrumbidgee Valley; and (b) who will be affected by the pilot program.
- (10) If no consultations have yet taken place: (a) when will these consultations take place; and (b) how will these consultations be conducted.

*Notice given 25 February 2003*

1202 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the department's evidence to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee on 10 February 2003 concerning under-reporting of executive remuneration in the department's 2000-01 and 2001-02 financial statements:

- (1) On what day did the department seek advice from the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) about whether the under-reporting constituted a 'material breach'.
- (2) Which officer sought that advice.
- (3) Was the request oral or written.
- (4) On what day did the ANAO provide advice to the department.
- (5) Which officer provided this advice.
- (6) What was the content of this advice.
- (7) Was this advice oral or written.
- (8) If oral, can confirmation of this advice be provided; if not, why not.
- (9) If written, can a copy of this advice be provided.
- (10) Has the department sought advice from the ANAO on whether it is necessary to issue a corrigendum to the 2000-01 and 2001-02 financial statements: (a) if so: (i) on what day was this advice sought, (ii) which officer sought this advice, and (iii) was the request for this advice oral or written; and (b) if not, (i) from which agency was this advice sought, (ii) which officer sought this advice, and (iii) was the request oral or written.
- (11) On what day was advice on the matter of the corrigendum received.
- (12) What was the content of this advice.
- (13) Was this advice oral or written.
- (14) Which officer and agency provided this advice.

- (15) What specific change to departmental procedures has occurred since the under-reporting of executive remuneration was revealed in November 2002.
- 1203 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the department's portfolio additional estimates statements for the 2002-03 financial year:
- (1) Why has the estimate of revenue from the all milk levy increased by \$5 509 000 from \$30 000 000 to \$35 509 000.
  - (2) Can the data for the revised estimate be provided.
- 1204 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's media statement AFFA03/033WT:
- (1) To what time period does the expenditure in the 'EC Expenditure' column relate.
  - (2) Can an explanation of the figures, including a state and financial year breakdown, be provided.
- 1208 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—What was the date of formation and what is the composition of the following committees involving departmental staff working on the development of a free trade agreement between the United States of America and Australia: (a) Deputy Secretary-Level Committee; (b) Officials Committee on Agriculture; and (c) Industry-Government Committee.
- 1209 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) On what date did the department first receive a request from the Department of Finance and Administration (DOFA) for payment of \$1 144.64 relating to the Minister's police escort during a 2002 visit to the Philippines.
  - (2) On what dates have the department and DOFA communicated in relation to this matter.
  - (3) Has the department complied with the request from DOFA for payment of this account; if so, when was the account paid; if not, why not.
  - (4) Did the negotiation of heavy traffic facilitated by the police escort enable the Minister to attend his key meetings on time.
- 1211 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—In relation to the administration of Australia's United States (US) beef quota:
- (1) Why is it that the US Customs figures do not correspond with export figures maintained by the department for the 2002 quota year.
  - (2) What are the details of the 5 500 tonne discrepancy for the 2002 quota year, on a month-by-month basis.
  - (3) When did the department first become aware that the Australian quota would be under-filled for the 2002 quota year.
  - (4) How will the 5 500 tonnes of quota be allocated.
  - (5) On what date or dates did the department consult with US authorities on this proposal.
  - (6) (a) On what date or dates did the department consult with Australian beef exporters on this proposal; and (b) which exporters were consulted.

- (7) What action has been taken to ensure the discrepancy between Australian and US export figures does not recur in the 2003 quota year.

1212 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the current *Quarantine Matters!* campaign:

- (1) Is the total budget for the 2002-03 financial year \$6.894 million.
- (2) How much has been expended.
- (3) Can a detailed breakdown be provided of the budget and expenditure figures including media, production, talent and non-media costs.
- (4) What is the total proposed campaign budget for: (a) metropolitan television; (b) non-metropolitan television; (c) metropolitan radio; (d) non-metropolitan radio; (e) metropolitan newspapers; and (f) non-metropolitan newspapers.
- (5) What amount has been expended to date on: (a) metropolitan television; (b) non-metropolitan television; (c) metropolitan radio; (d) non-metropolitan radio; (e) metropolitan newspapers; and (f) non-metropolitan newspapers.
- (6) Can a copy of the complete media schedule for the campaign, including that for international in-bound in-flight television, be provided; if not, why not.
- (7) Is it the case that the campaign began on 14 December 2002; if not, when did it commence.
- (8) Has the campaign concluded; if so, when did it conclude; if not, when will it conclude.
- (9) What is the campaign's target audience.
- (10) What percentage of the budget has been allocated to communication with overseas audiences.
- (11) What assessment was made of the need for the campaign prior to its commencement.
- (12) Was benchmark research undertaken prior to the commencement of the campaign.
- (13) Assuming that focus group research was conducted into the advertising concept, can a copy of the report from the research company in relation to the outcomes of focus group testing be provided; if not, why not.
- (14) Besides the Quarantine Matters! campaign, what other concepts were considered and developed.
- (15) What performance indicators have been established to measure the effectiveness of this campaign.
- (16) How has the effectiveness of the campaign been measured against these indicators.
- (17) Is the department undertaking ongoing tracking research; if so, how often are reports received by the department and can copies of the reports received by the department be made available.
- (18) When will the overall performance of the campaign be measured.
- (19) How will the overall performance of the campaign be measured.
- (20) What provision has the campaign made for audiences from non-English speaking backgrounds (NESB).
- (21) Was an NESB consultant engaged to advise on the campaign.

- (22) Was an advertising agency engaged in relation to the campaign; if so: (a) was the engagement subject to tender; if so, was the tender open or select; if not, why not; (b) which agency was engaged; (c) when was the agency engaged; (d) what is the value of the contract with the agency; (e) can a copy of the contract with the agency be provided; if not, why not.
- (23) Was a production agency engaged to produce the television and/or radio advertisements; if so: (a) was the engagement direct or indirect; (b) was the engagement subject to tender; if so, was the tender open or select; if not, why not; (c) which agency was engaged; (d) when was the agency engaged; (e) what is the value of the contract with the agency; and (f) can a copy of the contract with the agency be provided; if not, why not.
- (24) Did Mr Steve Irwin and/or a talent agency charge a fee for Mr Irwin's participation in the campaign; if so, what was the fee.
- (25) How many shooting days were required to film the television advertisements.
- (26) With reference to the Minister's media statement AFFA02/354WT, what 'range of other targeted campaign activities including press and radio advertising, offshore internet activity and stakeholder relations' does the campaign complement.

*Notice given 27 February 2003*

1225 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Will the Treasurer ensure that the Energy Grants Credit Scheme (EGCS), which is to be introduced on 1 July 2003, has a substantial environmental component and that payments under the scheme are made only in respect of vehicles that meet strict environmental standards.
- (2) Given that pollution from old diesel trucks is a major problem, particularly in the workplace, and that a growing number of companies are now demanding that delivery vehicles entering warehouse areas comply with Australian Design Rule 80/00 (low emission), with the Truck Industry Council attaching a large logo to all ADR 80/00 trucks identifying them as low emission vehicles): Will the Treasurer ensure that the EGCS supports the use of such vehicles.

1227 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the attack on Elsy Rumbiak Bonai and her 12-year old daughter, Mariana, in West Papua on 28 December 2002:

- (1) (a) When was the Minister informed of the attack; and (b) was the Minister aware that Ms Bonai is the wife of the director of the Institute for Human Rights Study and Advocacy, Johannes Bonai.
- (2) What was the involvement of the Indonesian Army in this attack.
- (3) How was the attack carried out and who else was involved.
- (4) What has the Australian Government done to help bring the attackers involved to justice, including ensuring a full and independent inquiry into the atrocity.

*Notice given 18 March 2003*

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1270-1272)—With respect to the additional \$8 per passenger increase in the Passenger Movement Charge that came into effect on 1 July 2001 to fund increased passenger

processing costs as part of Australia's response to the threat of the introduction of foot and mouth disease:

- (1) What was the total additional revenue raised by this extra \$8 in each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03 to date.
- (2) What is the total additional revenue estimated to be raised by this extra \$8 in each of the following financial years: (a) 2002-03; (b) 2003-04; (c) 2004-05; and (d) 2005-06.
- (3) What was the total amount of Passenger Movement Charge collected at each airport and port for each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03 to date.
- (4) What is the total amount of Passenger Movement Charge estimated to be collected at each airport and port for each of the following financial years: (a) 2002-03; (b) 2003-04; (c) 2004-05; and (d) 2005-06.
- (5) How much has been spent by the Government on new quarantine screening equipment at each airport and port since 1 July 2001.
- (6) (a) How much additional money has the Government spent on other quarantine processing costs at each airport and port since 1 July 2001; and (b) what services, measures or expenses comprise that additional expenditure at each airport and port.
- (7) How much additional money is estimated to be spent on new quarantine screening equipment and other processing costs respectively at each airport and port for each of the following financial years: (a) 2002-03; (b) 2003-04; (c) 2004-05; and (d) 2005-06.
- (8) (a) Which programs are administering costs associated with increased passenger processing costs as part of Australia's response to the threat of the introduction of foot and mouth disease; (b) how much has been spent, and is it estimated will be spent, from each program in each year it has or is budgeted to operate; and (c) which department is responsible for the administration of each program.
- (9) Are there any outstanding claims by any organisation or individual for expenditure on equipment or measures as part of Australia's response to the threat of foot and mouth disease; if so: (a) who are the claimants; (b) what is each claim for; and (c) will each be paid and when.
- (10) (a) How many passengers departing Australia were exempted from paying the Passenger Movement Charge; and (b) what is the legal basis and number of passengers for each category of exempted passengers.
- (11) Will the \$8 foot and mouth response component of the Passenger Movement Charge be removed, increased or reduced commensurate with the movement in costs associated with Australia's response to the threat of the introduction of foot and mouth disease; if so, when; if not, why not.

1271 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

1273 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement, dated 31 October 2001, concerning support for the bio-fuels industry:

- (1) Did the statement announce a \$50 million capital subsidy for new or expanded bio-fuel capacity.
- (2) Did the Minister consult with any bio-fuel producers, or bio-fuel industry organisations, prior to his announcement; if so, which producers or organisations did he consult.

- (3) When was the capital subsidy introduced.
- (4) What department is administering this subsidy.
- (5) Under which program is the subsidy funded.
- (6) What rules apply to subsidies under the scheme.
- (7) Can a copy of an application form and the scheme rules be provided; if not, why not.
- (8) What subsidy expenditure was budgeted for in the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03.
- (9) How much has been expended on the subsidy, by year, in each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03 to date.
- (10) How much is budgeted, by year, in the period 2003-04 to 2006-07.
- (11) What was the basis of the Minister's assertion that the subsidy would generate 'at least five new ethanol distilleries' and 'around 2 300 construction jobs and 1 100 permanent jobs, mostly in rural areas'.
- (12) (a) What companies have received the capital subsidy; and (b) what subsidy amount has each company received.
- (13) How many new ethanol distilleries have been constructed.
- (14) Where have these distilleries been constructed.
- (15) Which existing distilleries have been expanded.
- (16) How many of the promised 2 300 construction jobs have been generated.
- (17) How many of the promised 1 100 permanent jobs have been generated.
- (18) What percentage of these permanent jobs has been generated in rural areas.
- (19) When did construction of each new distillery, or distillery expansion, commence.
- (20) How many construction jobs have been created in respect to each distillery construction project.
- (21) When did construction of each new distillery, or expanded distillery, conclude.
- (22) How many permanent jobs, full-time and part-time, have been created in respect to each new or expanded distillery project.
- (23) How much additional ethanol has each new or expanded ethanol distillery produced.

1274 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement, dated 31 October 2001, concerning support for the bio-fuels industry:

- (1) Was the statement issued during the 2001 Federal Election campaign.
- (2) Did the Minister promise that, 'the current excise exemption for fuel ethanol will be retained'.
- (3) Was the Minister consulted before the Prime Minister announced the imposition of an excise on fuel ethanol on 12 September 2002.

1276 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—How much excise on fuel ethanol has been collected, by month, since 17 September 2002.

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1280-1287)—What payments, subsidies, grants, gratuities or awards have been made to the Manildra group of companies, including but not necessarily limited to Manildra Energy Australia Pty Ltd, since March 1996.

1285 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

1288 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What has been the measurable increase in use of sugar and/or sugar by-products as feedstock for fuel ethanol since the introduction of the ethanol production subsidy on 17 September 2002.
- (2) What is the projected increase in the use of sugar and/or sugar by-products as feedstock for fuel ethanol over the 12-month life of the ethanol production subsidy introduced on 17 September 2002.

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1289-1290)—

- (1) What representations has the Government received from Brazil about its decision to impose a customs duty of 38.143 cents per litre on fuel ethanol and provide a subsidy to domestic ethanol producers.
- (2) (a) When were those representations received; and (b) what was the Government's response.
- (3) Has the Government received representations from countries other than Brazil about its decision to impose a customs duty of 38.143 cents per litre on fuel ethanol and provide a subsidy to domestic ethanol producers.
- (4) (a) When were those representations received; and (b) what was the Government's response.

1289 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

1290 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

1291 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Trade—

- (1) Did any government seek consultations through the World Trade Organization in relation to the Government's decision in September 2002 to impose a customs duty of 38.143 cents per litre on fuel ethanol and provide a subsidy to domestic ethanol producers; if so: (a) on what date did each country seek consultations; and (b) on what basis were consultations sought.
- (2) Did any third party participate in these consultations.
- (3) In each case, has the matter been resolved; if so, on what date and how was the matter resolved; if not, what resolution process is underway.

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1292-1298)—

- (1) On what date or dates did: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department, become aware that Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd proposed to import a shipment of ethanol to Australia from Brazil in September 2002.
- (2) What was the source of this information to: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department.
- (3) Was the Minister or his office or the department requested to investigate and/or take action to prevent the arrival of this shipment by any ethanol producer or distributor or industry organisation; if so: (a) who made this request; (b) when was its made; and (c) what form did this request take.
- (4) Did the Minister or his office or the department engage in discussions and/or activities in August 2002 or September 2002 to develop a proposal to prevent the arrival of this shipment of ethanol from Brazil; if so, what was the nature of these discussions and/or activities, including dates of discussions and/or activities, personnel involved and cost.

- 1292 Minister representing the Prime Minister
- 1293 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services
- 1294 Minister representing the Minister for Trade
- 1295 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 1296 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 1299 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Trade—
- (1) Did the Minister, his office and/or the department ask the Australian Embassy in Brazil in August 2002 and/or September 2002 to make enquiries about the proposed export of ethanol to Australia by Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd.
  - (2) How did the Minister, his office and/or the department become aware of the proposed shipment.
  - (3) On what date did the Minister, his office and/or the department become aware of the proposed shipment.
  - (4) Who made this request.
  - (5) Why was the request made.
  - (6) Was the request made at the behest of the Prime Minister, another minister, an ethanol producer, and/or an industry organisation.
  - (7) On what date was this request made.
  - (8) In what form was the request made.
  - (9) Who received this request.
  - (10) Did the Australian Embassy in Brazil make this enquiry on behalf of the Minister, his office and/or the department; if so, on what date or dates was this enquiry made and what form did it take.
  - (11) What information was provided to the Minister, his office and/or the department.
  - (12) On what date and in what form was this information provided.
  - (13) On what dates and to whom did the Minister, his office and/or the department communicate the information provided by the Embassy.
- 1300 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Did the Minister receive a request from the Minister for Trade to authorise staff at the Australian Embassy in Brazil in August 2002 and/or September 2002 to gather and provide information about a proposed shipment of ethanol to Australia by Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd.
  - (2) Did staff at the Australian Embassy in Brazil in August 2002 and/or September 2002 gather and provide information about a proposed shipment of ethanol to Australia by Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd; if so: (a) who requested the staff to engage in that task; (b) who authorised staff to agree to the request; (c) what action did staff take; (d) which staff engaged in the task; (e) on what date or dates did staff engage in the task; (f) what was the cost of engaging in the task; (g) to whom did the staff deliver this information in Australia; and (h) what form did that communication take.
- 1301 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—



- (1) Did the Minister meet with representatives of the Australian Institute of Petroleum on 21 August 2002; if so: (a) at what time did the meeting commence; (b) at what time did the meeting conclude; (c) where did the meeting take place; (d) who was present at the meeting; (e) who initiated the meeting; (f) what was the purpose of the meeting; and (g) what matters were discussed at that meeting.
- (2) Did the Minister refer to a detailed record of that meeting made by his office in answer to a question without notice in the House of Representatives on 25 September 2002.
- (3) Can a copy of that record be provided; if not, why not.

1302 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Has the Minister received written or oral representations from representatives of the Manildra group of companies, including but not necessarily limited to Manildra Energy Australia Pty Ltd, concerning government support for the ethanol industry; if so: (a) on what dates were those representations received; and (b) in what form were they made.
- (2) Has the Minister received written or oral representations from representatives of the Australian Bio-fuels Association concerning government support for the ethanol industry; if so: (a) on what dates were those representations received; and (b) in what form were they made.

*Notice given 20 March 2003*

1315 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With respect to question no. 16 taken on notice by Telstra during the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee hearing, on 6 December 2002, into the Australian Telecommunications Network:

- (1) Can details be provided of the categories of work which is outsourced to contractors, and the approximate amount of time at which Telstra benchmarks each task.
- (2) How does Telstra ensure quality control over the network repair work done by: (a) contractors; and (b) sub-contractors.
- (3) (a) How long after a job is completed is that work checked; and (b) what is the Telstra company practice for this.
- (4) (a) Who in Telstra checks the work done by contractors on the network; and (b) can details of the process used for this checking be provided.
- (5) (a) What percentage of contractor work is checked; and (b) can figures be provided for daily, weekly and monthly basis of the Telstra company practice for this process.
- (6) (a) How is the quality control of contractor work reported on to Telstra management; and (b) what form does this reporting on quality control take.

1319 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—For each of the following financial years: 1996-97, 1997-98, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03: (a) how many overseas trips did the minister responsible for primary industries and agriculture undertake; (b) what countries were visited on those trips; and (c) on how many of those trips was the Minister accompanied by a business delegation.

1340 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to the recent decision in the Federal Court determining that Ms Julie Vincent was not liable to pay taxes to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) and did not owe the tax debt attributed to her:

- (1) Will the ATO contact Ms Vincent's fellow investors who have made settlement offers to the ATO and inform them that they are not liable to pay the tax claimed by the ATO on their amended assessments.
- (2) Can assurance be given that no other taxpayers will be financially disadvantaged as a result of ATO actions against them, particularly those who have made settlement offers to the ATO.
- (3) Why did the settlement process require that taxpayers make an offer to the ATO on a document prepared by the ATO which could not be accepted if there were any deletions or additions.
- (4) Has the ATO undertaken a review of the approximately 174 tax effective projects on which it has disallowed deductions, to determine the categories that would define projects in good, bad or alternative groups (eg structure, investor investment/deductions ratios, investor risk, profitability potential, export potential, certification and endorsement levels and employment opportunities); if so, will the ATO release the results of that review.
- (5) Has the ATO undertaken a review of the project type and/or such ratings, against the decisions made by the Federal Court to date.
- (6) How does the ATO explain the original letters sent to investors, with the prominent use of Budplan and Vincent case names, implying that these projects were typical and applied to all tax effective projects, given that rulings in the Federal Court to date paint a completely different picture and suggest that the average mum and dad investor has been misled by the ATO.
- (7) Does the ATO intend to issue to all investors a letter of explanation and an opportunity to withdraw any settlement offer.

1341 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Following Ms Julie Vincent's win before the Full Bench of the Federal Court, does the Minister accept that the amended assessment sent to her was wrong.
- (2) Does the Minister accept that Ms Vincent would have been required to pay tax for which she was not liable had she followed the settlement process provided by the ATO.
- (3) Can a guarantee be given that not one of the approximately 45 000 people caught up in this campaign will be similarly disadvantaged.
- (4) Does the Minister believe that the 'one size fits all' approach taken by the Commissioner of Taxation to the mass marketed tax effective investments campaign has resulted in gross unfairness to taxpayers who sought professional advice and told the truth when filling out their returns.
- (5) What is the Minister prepared to do about the growing feeling that the Commissioner of Taxation has taken advantage of his powers by bullying and intimidating taxpayers into accepting offers that can seriously disadvantage them.

1342 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to mass marketed tax effective investment (MMTEI) schemes:

- (1) Does the Minister believe that the Taxpayers' Charter of Rights should be dissolved.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm: (a) that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) had concerns about the charter in the early 90s or even earlier; and (b) that the ATO took no action.
- (3) Does the Minister agree that if the taxpayer has to 'get it right' or face the repercussions then so, too, the ATO must also 'get it right' or also face the repercussions.
- (4) (a) Is the Minister aware that the settlement process document provided by the ATO to taxpayers states that the Budplan and Vincent court wins for the ATO prove the ATO was right, however in a letter to Australians for Tax Justice, the ATO states that the result of the Federal Court win for Ms Vincent was confined to a small number of participants in the project; and (b) why is this the case.
- (5) Does the Minister agree that the actions of the ATO in regard to the freedom of information (FOI) requests from MMTEI taxpayers, including originally attempting to charge five and six figure fees, were designed to avoid the ATO's obligations under FOI law.
- (6) Will the Minister admit that the failure on the ATO's side to meet FOI requests by the deadline for settlement meant that MMTEI taxpayers were forced to decide on settlement without being fully informed.
- (7) Does the Minister agree that the ATO failed to comply with directions from the AAT to provide documents to at least one appellant and sought repeated stays of hearing as the deadline for settlement approached.
- (8) Why does the ATO operate on the basis that it does not have to apply the principles of natural justice (ie procedural fairness) when conducting an internal review of a taxation decision.
- (9) Can the Minister confirm that the decision to disallow MMTEIs was taken at Casselden Place, Melbourne 5 months before the ATO had informed the public of its views by issuing Draft Ruling TR97/D17.
- (10) Will the Minister confirm that the ATO issued at least seven Private Binding Rulings (PBR) concerning the following primary production MMTEIs between 3 December 1992 and 19 January 1998, as follows:
  - (a) 1/ Main Camp Tea Tree Oil Project No. 1 (at least 2 PBRs were issued);
  - (b) 2/ Main Camp Tea Tree oil Project No. 2;
  - (c) 3/ Tumut River;
  - (d) 4/ Orchard Project;
  - (e) 5/ Golden Vintage 1996;
  - (f) 6/ WA Paulownias;
  - (g) and 7/ Plantations and Red Claw Partnerships.
- (11) Does the Minister agree that all but one of these seven PBRs are unqualified as to Part IVA provisions of the Income Tax Assessment Act, and that the financing arrangements (associated companies, non recourse loans, round robin of cheques) are specifically acknowledged in four of them.
- (12) Does the Minister agree that the Commonwealth's stated position (after the Sherman report) on the applicability of PBRs is that they should be available to ATO officers and taxation advisers for guidance, and 'legally binding on the Commissioner for a taxpayer whose circumstances are comparable to those dealt with by the ruling'.
- (13) Why is it that the ATO continues to resile from the applicability of these (and possible other) PBRs to many of the 174 disallowed MMTEIs.

1343 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to mass marketed tax effective investment (MMTEI) schemes:

- (1) Can details be provided of how much the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has spent on the MMTEI campaign.
- (2) Has the Treasurer allocated additional funds to the ATO to carry out this campaign; if so, can details of additional funds be provided.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that the ATO has spent over \$100 million on the MMTEI investigations.
- (4) (a) Has the Minister failed in her duty to the Parliament by not taking earlier action; and (b) why should Australian taxpayers pay for this level of inadequacy.
- (5) Will the Minister make a commitment that she will not waste any more public money when it is clear that the ATO has been proven wrong in the eyes of the law.
- (6) (a) Does the Minister accept the ruling of the Federal Court in the cases Vincent, Puzey and Cooke; and (b) will the Minister put a plan in action if it becomes more obvious that the ATO cannot sustain arguments in the court.
- (7) If a taxpayer has availed himself of the settlement process issued by the ATO and it is subsequently found that investors in the project have their deductions allowed by the court, as in the Vincent case, can the Minister confirm that the ATO will contact the acceptors and inform them that their deductions are allowed.
- (8) Will the Minister inform the Senate what mischief there is in aggressive tax planning.
- (9) Is aggressive planning illegal; if so, under what head of power.
- (10) Is it possible for an ATO product ruling to allow a project manager to go out and mass market an aggressive tax planning strategy.
- (11) Is tax minimisation illegal; if so, under what head of power.
- (12) Is it true that, in May 1997, officers of the ATO met in Casselden Place, Melbourne to discuss the disallowance to the deductions in MMTEIs.
- (13) Why was a further \$2 billion in tax deductions recovered by the ATO and accepted as claims in the following 2 years before the market effectively knew that the ATO had agreed to disallow the deductions.
- (14) Was the Treasurer made aware of the ATO's intentions in this matter before action was taken; and, if so, what was his reaction.
- (15) Given that the Treasurer re-appointed the Commissioner of Taxation for another 7 years, a full year before he was required to, and given that, in a press release, he stated that the re-appointment was because of his work on aggressive tax planning: is this just another way of securing 7 years for the Commissioner to promise the Treasurer hundreds of millions of dollars.

*Notice given 25 March 2003*

1346 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to comments by a spokesperson for the Minister, reported in AAP story number 3132, dated 24 March 2003:

- (1) Since January 2000, on how many occasions have rural groups, state agencies and veterinary surgeons been contacted by the Government about animal disease threats to Australia.

- (2) (a) What rural groups were contacted; (b) on how many occasions was each group contacted; (c) when was each contact made and who made the contact; (d) what was the nature of the disease threat that required contact with each group; and (e) what action was taken by each group and by the Government as a result of the contact.
- (3) (a) What state agencies were contacted; (b) on how many occasions was each state agency contacted; (c) when was each contact made and who made the contact; (d) what was the nature of the disease threat that required contact with each state agency; and (e) what action was taken by each state agency and by the Government as a result of the contact.
- (4) (a) Which veterinary surgeons were contacted; (b) on how many occasions was each veterinary surgeon contacted; (c) when was each contact made and who made the contact; (d) what was the nature of the disease threat that required contact with each veterinary surgeon; and (e) what action was taken by each veterinary surgeon and by the Government as a result of the contact.

1348 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—How many consignments of genetically-modified seeds have been imported into Australia with an import permit in each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03.

1349 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to public quarantine alert PQA0251:

- (1) How many consignments of genetically-modified seeds have been imported into Australia without an import permit in each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03.
- (2) Have all these consignments been detected by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service.
- (3) What action was taken when these unauthorised consignments were detected.

1350 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—What are the details of the import conditions and treatment requirements that apply to imported stock feed, including but not limited to conditions C5278 and C8779 and treatment T9902.

1351 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—In respect of the 2002-03 financial year:

- (1) How many expressions of interest for the importation of grain for stock feed have been received.
- (2) (a) How many applications for the importation of grain for stock feed have been received; and (b) how many tonnes have these applications concerned.
- (3) (a) How many applications for the importation of grain for stock feed have been approved; and (b) how many tonnes have these approvals concerned.
- (4) (a) How many applications for the importation of grain for stock feed have been rejected; and (b) how many tonnes have these rejections concerned.
- (5) How many shipments of grain for stock feed have been imported.
- (6) How many tonnes have been imported.
- (7) In relation to each shipment: (a) what country and region was the source of the grain; (b) how many tonnes have been imported; (c) at what port or

ports has the grain been off-loaded and on what dates; and (d) what pre-entry and post-entry quarantine measures have been applied.

1353 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to public quarantine alert PQA0221:

- (1) When did the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service review of import conditions for frozen fruit and vegetables commence.
- (2) Was the review due to be completed by 31 December 2002.
- (3) Why was the review not completed by 31 December 2002.
- (4) Has the review been completed; if so, what changes, if any, have been made to the import conditions for frozen fruit and vegetables; if not: (a) why not; and (b) when will the review be completed.

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1355-1356)—

- (1) Does the European Union prohibit the export of ruminant livestock from Australia; if so, when was this prohibition applied.
- (2) Has the European Union recently moved to regularise third-country trade in live animals.
- (3) Has a draft amendment to Council Decision 79/542/EEC been prepared.
- (4) When did the Minister become aware the draft amendment was in preparation.
- (5) Would the application of this amendment further restrict live animal exports from Australia to member countries of the European Union.
- (6) Has the amendment been agreed to by the European Union; if so, when was it agreed to; if not, when is it likely to be agreed to.
- (7) Has the Minister sought advice on the impact on Australian exporters of the application of this amendment; if so, what is the likely impact, including affected breeds, export volume, export value and number of affected producers and exporters.
- (8) Has the Minister made representations to the Commission of European Communities, or individual member countries of the European Union, about this matter; if so: (a) when were these representations made; and (b) what form did they take.
- (9) Has the Minister received any representations from Australian producers and/or exporters about this matter; if so: (a) when were those representations received; and (b) what form did they take.

1356 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

*Notice given 27 March 2003*

1363 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to the answer to question no. E763-03 taken on notice by the department during estimates hearings of the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee:

- (1) Can a full list be provided of all reports that have been published, including on the Internet, without an accompanying press release since 11 November 2001, including the dates and form of publication for those reports.
- (2) What is the name and position of the person who judged that the publication of the Anderson report was a 'routine matter'.
- (3) What is the name and position of the person who decided that the Anderson report should not be accompanied by a media alert.

- (4) Who is typically responsible for judging whether the publication of a report should be accompanied by a media alert.

1366 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) With reference to the establishment of Dairy Australia Limited as a corporate entity: What procedures does the department have to ensure that legislation, regulations or principles and guidelines for the establishment of a new entity are followed; and (b) can a copy of those procedures be provided.
- (2) With reference to the imposition of a levy payable to Dairy Australia Limited: What procedures does the department have to ensure that legislation, regulations or principles and guidelines for the implementing of levies payable to a corporation are complied with; and (b) can a copy of those procedures be provided; if there are no departmental procedures, why do they not exist.
- (3) What measures have been taken to ensure that the existing levy payers were consulted, regarding the proposed establishment of Dairy Australia Limited.
- (4) Can the following information be provided: (a) Full details of the public meetings held to discuss the formulation of Dairy Australia Limited; (b) details of the numbers present at these meetings; and (c) the details of the votes taken at each public meeting supporting or opposing the establishment of Dairy Australia Limited, expressed in both numerical terms and as a percentage of attendees.
- (5) Can a list be provided of any departmental media advertisements placed for these meetings.

*Notice given 2 April 2003*

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1371-1374)—

- (1) (a) Does the department or any of its agencies hold unpublished data from Roam Consulting, dated 2002, relating to electricity costs for new entrants, comparing 'zero emissions' coal with other fuels including conventional coal, gas combined cycle and renewables; (b) for whom was this data prepared; (c) what was the cost of the work; (d) who paid for it; (e) what was the estimated cost of electricity generated from 'zero emissions' coal and what information was used to derive this estimate; and (f) can a copy of the data be provided.
- (2) (a) Has unpublished data from Roam Consulting relating to the cost of 'zero emissions' coal been used in reports or advice provided to the Minister in the past 2 years, including reports and advice from the Chief Scientist; if so, can the following details be provided: title, author, date, nature of the advice or report, and its purpose; (b) what was the estimated cost of electricity generated from 'zero emissions' coal and what information was used to derive this estimate; (c) for whom was the data prepared; and (d) can a copy of the information be provided.

1374 Minister representing the Minister for Science

1376 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What was the actual Commonwealth outlay for each financial year since 1996-97, and what are the forward projections to 2005-06, for each of the

following categories of rail expenditure: (a) expenses associated with the former Australian National Railways Commission; (b) expenses associated with the Alice Springs to Darwin Railway; (c) expenses associated with special tourist railways; (d) expenses associated with the Australian Rail Track Corporation; (e) any other expenses associated with earlier commitments to conditionally outlay \$250 million to upgrade Australia's interstate track and safe working systems (can the information also be provided for each state); and (f) expenses associated with planning of rail development, including for the 'Inland Route' between Melbourne, Queensland and the Northern Territory (can the information be provided in a table format).

- (2) What were the Commonwealth receipts from the Australian Rail Track Corporation for each financial year since 1996-97, and what are the forward projections to 2005-06, including (separately identified): (a) dividends; and (b) any interest and loan repayments.

*Notice given 8 April 2003*

1380 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) [Withdrawn: 24.4.03]
- (2) (a) Can a list be provided of current National Heritage Trust advisory and assessment panels; and (b) which of these panels have community representation.
- (3) (a) What were the reasons for discontinuing National Heritage Trust funding for the Victorian Grassland Network; and (b) what are the consequences of the closure of this program.

*Notice given 14 April 2003*

1387 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) When was the application from Dectar Pty Ltd for a tourist pontoon development on Moore Reef in the Cairns section of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park received by the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.
- (2) When was the proposal referred to the Minister under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- (3) How did the Minister determine that the appropriate method of review was a public environment report.
- (4) How did the Minister determine that the public environment report should be prepared and conducted through the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1999 and not under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
- (5) Are there specified procedures for the environmental assessment of projects requiring permits issued by the authority; if so, what are these procedures.
- (6) Did the authority require an environmental assessment of the application from Dectar Pty Ltd; if so: (a) was Dectar Pty Ltd required to prepare a public environment report for the authority; and (b) when was Dectar Pty Ltd advised of this requirement.
- (7) Has this public environment report been prepared; if so: (a) has the authority received a copy of the report; and (b) can a copy of the report be provided.



- (8) Has the authority completed an initial assessment of the public environment report; if so, can a copy of this assessment be provided.
- (9) What matters have been identified as requiring further information from Dectar Pty Ltd.
- (10) What public consultation is proposed to be undertaken by the authority.
- (11) Can the time for public comment be extended; if so, who can make the decision to extend the time for public consultation and by what authority.
- (12) (a) Will the Minister be providing advice on this matter to the authority once the assessment process is complete; and (b) is the authority required to act on that advice.

*Notice given 17 April 2003*

1393 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement AFFA02/289WT of 17 October 2002 announcing the provision and requirements under the Sugar Industry Reform Program relating to Sugar Enterprise Viability Assessments (SEVAs) and Sugar Enterprise Activity Plans (SEAPs):

- (1) How many applications have been received to date for the preparation of SEVAs and SEAPs from: (a) cane farmers; and (b) cane harvesters.
- (2) How many SEVAs and SEAPs have been completed to date for: (a) cane farmers; and (b) cane harvesters.
- (3) With reference to Fact Sheet SE020.0210 (page 1) accompanying the Minister's statement: (a) what are the 'special provisions' that customers who have accessed Farm Help within the past 12 months prior to claiming will be subject to; (b) how many calls have been received on the 1800 050 585 telephone number from: (i) cane farmers, and (ii) cane harvesters, querying their position regarding these 'special provisions' and the preparations of SEVAs and SEAPs; and (c) how many, (i) cane growers, and (ii) cane harvesters, have had their access eligibility for funds to pay for SEVAs or SEAPs reduced or rejected on the basis of these 'special provisions'.
- (4) What has been the total expenditure by the Commonwealth on SEVAs or SEAPs to date under the Sugar Industry Reform Program.
- (5) What is the total projected expenditure by the Commonwealth on SEVAs or SEAPs under the Sugar Industry Reform Program.

1394 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement AFFA03/008WT of 5 February 2003 announcing the provision under the Sugar Industry Reform Program of the availability of sugar industry exit grants:

- (1) On what date do applications for these grants close.
- (2) How many application forms for these grants have been distributed to date.
- (3) On what date did the application form become available on a Commonwealth website.
- (4) On what date did the printed application form become available.
- (5) On what date were the first application forms mailed to potential applicants.
- (6) To date how many applications for these grants have been: (a) received; (b) rejected; and (c) approved.

- (7) What has been the total expenditure by the Commonwealth on these grants to date.
- (8) What is the total projected expenditure on these grants under the Sugar Industry Reform Program.

1395 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement AFFA02/300WT of 29 October 2002 announcing the provision under the Sugar Industry Reform Program of 50 per cent interest rate subsidies over two years on loans of up to \$50,000 taken out for replanting purposes:

- (1) On what date do applications for these subsidies close.
- (2) How many application forms for these subsidies have been distributed to date.
- (3) On what date did the application form become available on a Commonwealth website.
- (4) On what date did the printed application form become available.
- (5) On what date were the first application forms mailed to potential applicants.
- (6) To date, how many applications for these subsidies have been: (a) received; (b) rejected; and (c) approved.
- (7) What has been the total expenditure by the Commonwealth on these subsidies to date.
- (8) What is the total projected expenditure on these subsidies under the Sugar Industry Reform Program.

1396 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement of 10 September 2002 (reference AFFA02/233WT) announcing the provision of short-term income support measures to help stabilise the industry and to help those in immediate need:

- (1) How many applications had been received from cane farmers for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.
- (2) How many applications from cane farmers had been approved for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.
- (3) How many applications from cane farmers had been rejected for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.
- (4) How many applications had been received from cane harvesters for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.
- (5) How many applications had been approved for cane harvesters for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.
- (6) How many applications from cane harvesters had been rejected for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.
- (7) What has been the total expenditure by the Commonwealth on these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003 for: (a) cane farmers; and (b) cane harvesters.
- (8) What is the total projected expenditure under these measures for: (a) cane farmers; and (b) cane harvesters.

1397 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) When did the Minister become aware that the CSIRO plant laboratories in Canberra were suspected of being infected with wheat streak mosaic virus; (b) who advised the Minister; and (c) how was the Minister advised.
- (2) (a) When did the Minister become aware that the CSIRO plant laboratories in Canberra were confirmed as being infected with wheat streak mosaic virus; (b) who advised the Minister; and (c) how was the Minister advised.
- (3) When did CSIRO first suspect that its plant laboratories in Canberra were infected with wheat streak mosaic virus.
- (4) With reference to the suspicion by CSIRO that its Canberra or other plant laboratories were infected with wheat streak mosaic virus (i.e. before the virus was confirmed as being present in the Canberra laboratories in April 2003): (a) what actions were taken by the Commonwealth (and on what dates) to advise the following stakeholders: (i) rural industry peak bodies, (ii) state government agriculture ministers and/or their departments, (iii) individual growers, (iv) appropriate government agencies within overseas trading nations, and (v) any other stakeholders; and (b) in each instance: (i) who was advised, and (ii) how were they advised.
- (5) Did the Department advise Plant Health Australia (PHA) of CSIRO's suspicion that wheat streak mosaic virus may be present in its Canberra or other plant laboratories; if so, when and how was PHA advised.
- (6) With reference to the confirmation by CSIRO that its Canberra plant laboratories were infected with wheat streak mosaic virus: (a) what actions were taken by the Commonwealth (and on what dates) to advise the following stakeholders: (i) rural industry peak bodies, (ii) state government agriculture ministers and/or their departments, (iii) individual growers, (iv) appropriate government agencies within overseas trading nations, and (v) any other stakeholders; and (b) in each instance: (i) who was advised, and (ii) how were they advised.
- (7) Did the Minister's Department advise Plant Health Australia (PHA) of CSIRO's confirmation that wheat streak mosaic virus was present in their Canberra or other plant laboratories; if so, on what day and how was PHA advised.
- (8) With reference to the suspicion by CSIRO that its Canberra plant laboratories were infected with wheat streak mosaic virus (i.e. before the virus was confirmed as being present in April 2003) what actions were taken by the Commonwealth to trace the destination of plant seeds or other plant material from CSIRO plant laboratories in Canberra.
- (9) With reference to the confirmation by CSIRO that its Canberra plant laboratories were infected with wheat streak mosaic virus: (a) what actions were taken by the Commonwealth to trace the destination of plant seeds, or other plant material from CSIRO plant laboratories in Canberra; and (b) can a list of confirmed destinations be provided.
- (10) On what date did the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) commence investigations to determine the source of the suspected introduction of wheat streak mosaic virus into the CSIRO Canberra plant laboratories.
- (11) (a) What actions were taken by AQIS to determine the source of the introduction of wheat streak mosaic virus into the CSIRO Canberra plant laboratories; and (b) what was the outcome of those enquiries (if completed).

- (12) If AQIS has not completed its investigations, when are those investigations likely to be concluded.

1399 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement AFFA02/300WT of 29 October 2002 announcing that a "levy will be placed on all domestic sugar sales (for manufacturing, food service and retail uses) at 3 cents a kilogram for approximately 5 years" (sugar tax) and that exports of refined sugar will be exempt from the levy, and that a rebate will be available for sugar used in manufactured products for export (sugar tax rebate):

- (1) How many Australian companies or other enterprises are currently paying the sugar tax.
- (2) For each of the 5 years of its proposed existence, what is the total projected amount to be collected under the sugar tax.
- (3) How much has been collected under the sugar tax to date.
- (4) How many Australian companies or other enterprises have applied for a sugar tax rebate to date.
- (5) For each of the 5 years of its proposed existence, what is the total projected amount to be repaid to Australian companies or other enterprises under the sugar tax rebate.
- (6) What steps is the Commonwealth taking to monitor the effect of the sugar tax on Australian companies or other enterprises in terms of: (a) international price competitiveness of Australian manufactured products which use sugar as an input; (b) employment growth or decline within Australian manufacturing sectors which produce goods which use sugar as an input; (c) the increase or decrease in sugar imports by Australian manufacturing sectors which produce goods which use sugar as an input; (d) the increase or decrease in sugar exports by Australian manufacturing sectors which produce goods which use sugar as an input; (e) the substitution of sugar with non-sugar products by Australian manufacturing sectors which produce goods which normally use sugar as an input; and (f) the substitution within the Australian market of the consumption of manufactured sugar bearing products manufactured in Australia with imported manufactured sugar bearing products.
- (7) What is the department's current estimate of how much the sugar tax will cost to administer for: (a) the department; and (b) industry.
- (8) What is the department's current estimate of how much the sugar tax rebate will cost to administer for: (a) the department; and (b) industry.

*Notice given 22 April 2003*

1403 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) With reference to a claim made by the Prime Minister before the war that only the threat of force by the United States of America (US) allowed the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) weapons inspectors back into Iraq, and given that it was the threat of force by Washington which pulled the weapons inspectors out of Iraq in March 2003 before they could complete their work (as in December 1998), does the Prime Minister now concede that the threat of force failed again to disarm Iraq of its weapons of mass destruction.
- (2) What is the Government's response to the claim of the Executive Chairman of UNMOVIC, Dr Blix, that the US was guilty of 'fabricating' evidence

against Iraq to justify the war, and his belief that the discovery of weapons of mass destruction had been replaced by the main objective of the US of toppling Saddam Hussein (The Guardian, 12 April 2003).

- (3) With reference to claims made by the Prime Minister before the war that there was no doubt that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and that that this was the primary reason for Australia's participation in the 'coalition of the willing', what is the Prime Minister's position now that, even after the collapse of the regime in Baghdad, no weapons of mass destruction have been found despite United States Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's claim to know where they are.
- (4) Given the Prime Minister's statements that 'regime change' was only a secondary concern for Australia, does the Government agree that the primary justification for the war may prove to be a lie.
- (5) If, as the Prime Minister repeatedly claimed, Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and Saddam Hussein could not be contained or deterred, what is the Government's analysis of why they were not used in the regime's terminal hours against the invading US, United Kingdom and Australian forces.
- (6) With reference to the Prime Minister's argument that stopping the spread of weapons of mass destruction was a primary motive for Australia's participation in a war against Iraq: (a) is the Government concerned that one of the direct effects of the war may be the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to third parties, including other so called 'rogue states' and possibly terrorist groups, and (b) what analysis has the Government done of this likelihood, and (c) can details be provided.
- (7) Does the Prime Minister now regret saying just before the war (at the National Press Club and elsewhere) that Saddam Hussein could stay on in power providing he got rid of his weapons of mass destruction, thus allowing him to continue the repression of Iraqis; if so, what circumstances altered the Prime Minister's view.

*Notice given 7 May 2003*

1431 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—In relation to Defence property sales:

- (1) For each financial year since 1996-97, what were the Budget forecasts of receipts from Defence property sales.
- (2) For each financial year since 1996-97, what were the actual receipts from Defence property sales.
- (3) For each financial year from 1996-97 to 1999-2000 (inclusive) can a list be provided of all property sold by Defence, in the same format as the answer to question no. W10 taken on notice during the estimates hearings of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee in February 2002, indicating the location (town/suburb, state/territory, postcode), size of the property, nature of the property (vacant land, facilities), sale price and purchaser.

*Notice given 7 May 2003*

1441 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) For each of the past 3 financial years, how much has been spent in Outcome 2 on: (a) chiropractic; (b) osteopathy; (c) physiotherapy; (d) ophthalmology; (d) optometrical; (e) aids and appliances; (f) dentistry; (g) diagnostic imagery; and (h) pathology.
- (2) Can an update be provided of the tables showing compensation claims accepted for service in Timor and the Gulf, as contained in the answer to part (6) of question on notice no. 743 (Senate Hansard, 4 December 2002, p.7212) and part (2) of question on notice no. 744 (Senate Hansard, 12 December 2002, p. 8175).
- (3) Further to the answer to question on notice no. 747 (Senate Hansard, 13 November 2002, p. 6318): What is the current position with respect to the review of dosimetry data from the atomic testing program.
- (4) What is the current position with respect to tendering for transport services, as sought in the answer to question on notice no. 748 (Senate Hansard, 15 November 2002, p. 6557).
- (5) Further to the answer to question on notice no. 802 (Senate Hansard, 15 November 2002, p. 6558): (a) what commission has been paid to Defence Service Homes Insurance (DSHI) by QBE/Mercantile Mutual over each of the past 3 years; and (b) what proportion has that commission been of DSHI's running costs in each year.
- (6) Can an update be provided of the data in the answer to parts (4), (5), (6), (19), (23) and (26) of question on notice no. 819 (Senate Hansard, 18 March 2003, p. 9581).
- (7) Further to the answer to question on notice no. 968 (Senate Hansard, 5 February 2003, p. 8661): Can an update be provided to March 2003 of the data on Department of Veterans' Affairs health card usage and costs.
- (8) With reference to the answer to question on notice 1004 (Senate Hansard, 18 March 2003, p. 9621): Were prosecutions launched against those medical providers identified by type in part (2); if not, why not; if so, with what outcome in each case.
- (9) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 697 (Senate Hansard, 11 November 2002, p. 6042) concerning the review of tier-one hospitals: Can an answer be provided to those parts which remained unanswered.

*Notice given 9 May 2003*

1447 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) Can the Minister advise why the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) was set up with such restricted terms of reference; (b) why is it that the OGTR can only look at aspects of the introduction of genetically-modified (GM) material into Australia under the terms of 'health and environment'.
- (2) Why was the Gene Technology Grains Committee (GTGC) put together with a majority of 'pro-GM' interests; and (b) why did it ignore submissions that do not agree with its philosophy.
- (3) (a) Is the Minister aware that the 'Canola Industry Stewardship Protocols' ignore any aspect of possible and very probable on-farm contamination of GM canola into non-GM canola, either through direct grains contamination or, the most likely and by far the greatest source of probable contamination,

environmental transfer via pollen, bees, etc.; and (b) what steps has the department taken to scrutinise the possibility of contamination of non-GM canola.

- (4) Can the Minister explain how and why the GTGC has been able to place the onus, responsibility and, ultimately, liability on everyone else except the technology providers in its 'Canola Industry Stewardship Protocols'.
- (5) Can a copy of the final report relating to Bayer for Invigor Canola, Crop Management Plan, that was passed by the OGTR, be provided to the Senate and the industry.
- (6) Why is it that the New South Wales Farmers' Association (NSWFA) and the Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) refuse to survey their own members to gain a grass roots feeling of GM canola.
- (7) Can documentation be provided on how many members or executive members of the NSWFA and the VFF were invited or taken on a fact-finding tour to the United States of America by the technology providers.
- (8) (a) Is the Minister aware that the New Zealand Agricultural Minister said, in late 2002, that 'New Zealand was very unlikely to gain a Free Trade Agreement with America because of our stance on GM crops and our stance on nuclear ships'; and (b) what commitments has the Australian Government made to be able to have a free trade agreement with America.

*Notice given 13 May 2003*

1454 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that, following the decision of the Federal Court of Wood v ACPA, the Australian Community Pharmacy Authority (ACPA) has rejected an application for the opening of a second pharmacy in Karratha, Western Australia, in line with the provisions of the new rules of the 'Third Community Pharmacy Agreement', which came into effect on 1 July 2002.
- (2) During the period in which the Federal Court was considering the matter prior to 19 December 2002, can the Minister confirm that the ACPA sought to issue an approval for an additional pharmacy in Karratha, even though such a decision was subject to a stay of proceedings.
- (3) (a) What consideration is currently being given by the department to the amendment of the new rules of 1 July 2002; and (b) on how many occasions since 1 July 2002 have discussions been held with the Pharmaceutical Guild of Australia on the matter.
- (4) Have oral or written representations been made by the Member for Kalgoorlie or by any other Member or Senator from Western Australia to the Minister on revising the new rules; if so, on what dates.
- (5) Is the Minister aware that one of the proponents of the proposed second pharmacy in Karratha advised a meeting of the Roebourne Shire on 16 December 2002, that that proponent was actively working with the Health Insurance Commission to 'fix the legislation'.
- (6) Since 1 July 2002, what representations have been made to the department, the Health Insurance Commission or the ACPA, written or oral, and on what dates, by any party associated with the rejected application for the establishment of a second pharmacy in Karratha.

*Notice given 14 May 2003*

1463 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) For each of the past 5 years, what sum has been spent from Commonwealth funds on legal aid to veterans by each state Legal Aid Commission.
- (2) What is the current rate payable in each state for veterans' matters.
- (3) For each of the past 5 years: (a) how many applications were received from veterans for legal aid in each state, (b) what percentage were rejected in each year, and (c) how many were for: (i) Federal Court, (ii) High Court, and (iii) state Supreme Court applications.
- (4) For each of the past 5 years, what sum was spent by state, on: (a) Federal Court; (b) High Court; (c) Supreme Court; and (d) other court applications.

*Notice given 15 May 2003*

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1468-1469)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that logging is being conducted on private property at Black Tier near Woodbury and Bowsden Hill at Lake Tiberias, Tasmania.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the area in which these logging operations are taking place is suffering serious tree decline.
- (3) (a) How much Commonwealth funding has been given to individuals and agencies in Tasmania to research or combat tree decline in the past decade; and (b) can a list of all projects and recipients be provided.
- (4) Has any Commonwealth funding been spent on the private properties at Black Tier or Bowsden Hill where the logging is taking place; if so: (a) how much; (b) when; and (c) subject to what conditions.
- (5) Is Commonwealth funding related to tree decline specifically, or land and water degradation generally, in Tasmania contingent on the state and/or landholder protecting native vegetation from logging or clearing; if not, why not.
- (6) Does the Minister agree with the Chief Practices Officer of the Forest Practices Board who was quoted in the Mercury, of 27 April 2003, as saying, 'the selective logging that was going on at the two sites would not impact on tree decline' and 'the logging would help the trees to survive by promoting regeneration'.

1468 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

1469 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

*Notice given 22 May 2003*

1477 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) How much of the \$250 million promised for the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) in the 2002-03 Budget has been released by the Commonwealth, apart from the \$50 million so far announced for Envirofund and drought recovery grants.
- (2) Can a breakdown be provided of commitments and/or expenditure for all components of the NHT for each of the 2002-03 and 2003-04 financial years.



- (3) Have any regional resource management plans yet been accredited under the NHT; if so, which ones; if not, when might the first of the 62 regions pass that hurdle.
- (4) Which, if any, of the current NHT support programs, such as the Bushcare Support Program, the Landcare Support Program or the Farm Forestry Support Program, will be continued in the 2003-04 financial year.
- (5) If the continuation of these programs is dependent upon the finalisation of bilateral agreements with the states, are there any contingency plans in place for NHT support workers in the four states that are still dead-locked in negotiations with the Commonwealth, or will these staff be made redundant after June 2003.

1478 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—Was any information prepared by consultant Rio Tinto Ltd as part of the mining and energy biotechnology sector study, undertaken under contract for the department in the 1999-2000 financial year; if so, what was that information and can a copy be provided.

*Notice given 5 June 2003*

1489 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*:

- (1) Can a list be provided of the recovery plans that have been made or adopted under Part 13 of the Act for listed threatened species and ecological communities, including information on when each plan was made or adopted.
- (2) How many wildlife conservation plans have been made, or adopted, under Part 13 of the Act for conservation-dependent species, listed migratory species, listed marine species and cetaceans.
- (3) How many permits have been issued under: (a) Part 13, Division 1, of the Act; (b) Part 13, Division 2, of the Act; (c) Part 13, Division 3, of the Act; and (d) Part 13, Division 4, of the Act.
- (4) How many conservation agreements has the Commonwealth entered into under Part 14 of the Act.
- (5) How many management plans has the Commonwealth prepared under section 321 of the Act in relation to World Heritage properties.
- (6) How many management plans has the Commonwealth prepared under section 333 of the Act in relation to Ramsar wetlands.
- (7) Is the Commonwealth proposing to amend the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Regulations 2000 to ensure that regulatory offences concerning the taking of native fauna and flora in Commonwealth reserves are strict liability offences.
- (8) Can details be provided of the Commonwealth's annual financial contribution to the management of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area since 1996.
- (9) Can a list be provided of species that have been included on the list of migratory species under section 209 of the Act since 16 July 2000.
- (10) How many nominations for the inclusion of a species on the list of threatened species that is maintained under Part 13 of the Act has the Minister received since 16 July 2000.

- (11) How many assessments of nominations for the inclusion of a species on the list of threatened species has the Threatened Species Scientific Committee completed since 16 July 2000.
- (12) How many assessments of nominations for the inclusion of a species on the list of threatened species has the Threatened Species Scientific Committee submitted to the Minister since 16 July 2000.
- (13) How many decisions has the Minister made in relation to the amendment of the list of threatened species pursuant to a nomination made under section 191 of the Act since 16 July 2000.
- (14) How many nominations for the inclusion of an ecological community on the list of threatened ecological communities that is maintained under Part 13 of the Act has the Minister received since 16 July 2000.
- (15) How many assessments of nominations for the inclusion of an ecological community on the list of threatened ecological communities has the Threatened Species Scientific Committee completed since 16 July 2000.
- (16) How many assessments of nominations for the inclusion of an ecological community on the list of threatened ecological communities has the Threatened Species Scientific Committee submitted to the Minister since 16 July 2000.
- (17) How many decisions has the Minister made in relation to the amendment of the list of threatened communities pursuant to a nomination made under section 191 of the Act since 16 July 2000.
- (18) How many nominations for the inclusion of a process on the list of key threatening processes that is maintained under Part 13 of the Act has the Minister received since 16 July 2000.
- (19) How many assessments of nominations for the inclusion of a process on the list of key threatening processes has the Threatened Species Scientific Committee completed since 16 July 2000.
- (20) How many assessments of nominations for the inclusion of a process on the list of key threatening processes has the Threatened Species Scientific Committee submitted to the Minister since 16 July 2000.
- (21) How many decisions has the Minister made in relation to the amendment of the list of key threatening processes pursuant to a nomination made under section 191 of the Act since 16 July 2000.

*Notice given 6 June 2003*

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1490-1493)—With reference to the answers to questions on notice nos 1122 to 1125:

- (1) Who contributed to and who owns: (a) the Forestry Eco Centre at Scottsdale; (b) the centre at Freycinet National Park; and (c) each of the centres and facilities networked in the vicinity of the Great Western Tiers.
- (2) Was, or is, Forestry Tasmania involved in any of these centres; if so, how and to what degree.
- (3) Have any of the centres been sold or subject to transfer of ownership; if so, can details be provided.
- (4) If any of the centres were sold or ownership transferred was the Government consulted; if so, how and what was the Government's input.

1490 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

1491 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

- 1492 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
1493 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

*Notice given 10 June 2003*

- 1502 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—Can a list be provided of all Defence aircraft charters over the past 5 financial years, indicating in each instance: (a) the date of charter; (b) the cost of the charter; (c) the purpose of the charter; (d) the company from which the aircraft was chartered; and (e) the type of plane that was chartered.
- 1503 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) (a) On how many occasions in the past 5 financial years, has Defence chartered Ilyushin aircraft to transport equipment or Defence personnel; and (b) on each occasion, what was: (i) the date of the charter, (ii) the cost of the charter, (iii) the purpose of the charter, (iv) the company from which the aircraft was chartered, and (v) the equipment that was being transported and/or the group of Defence personnel that was being transported.
  - (2) Is Defence aware of any safety concerns regarding Ilyushin aircraft.
  - (3) What steps were taken to ensure that the Ilyushin aircraft chartered by Defence met appropriate safety standards and standards of maintenance.
  - (4) Were all of the Ilyushin aircraft chartered by Defence maintained at a standard equivalent to that which the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) maintains its fleet of aircraft.
  - (5) (a) Does the navigation and safety equipment on board all of the Ilyushin aircraft chartered by Defence meet Australian standards; (b) is the equipment of an equivalent standard to the equipment on Australian commercial aircraft; and (c) is the equipment of an equivalent standard to the equipment on RAAF aircraft.
  - (6) Were all of the Ilyushin aircraft chartered by Defence crewed by Australians; if not, what was the nationality of the Ilyushin crews and their standard of accreditation.

*Notice given 11 June 2003*

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1513-1514)—Given the proposed construction and operation of a links golf course on the Henley floodplain of the Yarra River involving huge levee banks, total remodelling of the floodplain, and use of biocides and fertilizers: (a) will the Minister guarantee that there will be no detrimental impacts on what is possibly the last viable population of Macquarie Perch left on the planet; and (b) is the Minister prepared to intervene to stop this invidious project.

- 1514 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

*Notice given 13 June 2003*

- 1515 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—
- (1) What was the cost of the arrangements for providing pensions to former Governors-General in the past 5 financial years in both cash and accrual terms.
  - (2) What is the estimated or projected cost of these arrangements in the 2002-03 financial year and each of the years over the forward estimate period.

- (3) What is the Commonwealth's current unfunded liability in relation to these arrangements.
- (4) When was the last actuarial review conducted of the long-term cost of these arrangements.
- (5) What is the average effective annual Commonwealth contribution as a percentage of salary represented by these arrangements.
- (6) Are current Governors-General required to make contributions to the Commonwealth as part of their pension arrangements.
- (7) Has the department sought advice in the past 12 months on superannuation surcharge liabilities arising from these arrangements; if so, what was that advice.

*Notice given 16 June 2003*

1518 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What is the total budget for the 91 Commonwealth Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) and National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality facilitator positions recently advertised in national newspapers (and now listed on the department's web site) and being recruited through Effective People Pty Ltd and; and (b) from which program or programs is this funding coming.
- (2) (a) How much is Effective People Pty Ltd being paid to recruit these people; and (b) from which program or programs is this funding coming.
- (3) Can an organisational chart for the positions be provided showing how they will report to the department.
- (4) How is coordination of NHT activities managed with the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry.
- (5) How will these facilitators work with state department-employed NHT facilitators and project officers.
- (6) Can a copy be provided of all documentation which outlines the rationale for the employment of these facilitators, including how their effectiveness will be measured and/or evaluated.

1519 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What is the total budget for the 91 Commonwealth Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) and National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality facilitator positions recently advertised in national newspapers (and now listed on the department's web site) and being recruited through Effective People Pty Ltd and; and (b) from which program or programs is this funding coming.
- (2) (a) How much is Effective People Pty Ltd being paid to recruit these people; and (b) from which program or programs is this funding coming.
- (3) Can an organisational chart for the positions be provided showing how they will report to the department.
- (4) How is coordination of NHT activities managed with Environment Australia.
- (5) How will these facilitators work with state department-employed NHT facilitators and project officers.

- (6) Can a copy be provided of all documentation which outlines the rationale for the employment of these facilitators, including how their effectiveness will be measured and/or evaluated.

*Notice given 17 June 2003*

1532 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What internal resources has Telstra allocated to the monitoring of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee inquiry into the Australian telecommunications network.
- (2) At how many hearings of the inquiry has Telstra had a staff member present for monitoring purposes.
- (3) What is the name and position of the Telstra employee who has been attending inquiry hearings on a regular basis.
- (4) Of what Telstra Business Unit is he a part.
- (5) Who does he report to in Telstra.
- (6) What is his annual salary.
- (7) What has been the cost of travel and travel allowance for the purpose of monitoring this inquiry.
- (8) What is his position description and/or brief in regard to this inquiry.
- (9) What hearings of the Australian telecommunications network has this person attended.
- (10) (a) Does he present a report to Telstra after each hearing; and (b) who is given a copy of that report.

1533 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) How many RAM 8s are used in the Bendigo, Gippsland and Southern Gippsland regions.
- (2) Does Telstra agree with the assertion that the quality of service is reduced with RAM 8s, such as slower Internet connections and static; if so, what is Telstra doing to improve the service.
- (3) How many complaints, concerning network faults, has Telstra received in the past year from customers in the Bendigo, Gippsland and Southern Gippsland regions.
- (4) (a) What is slavey cable; and (b) what it is used for.
- (5) Is Telstra using slavey cable to aid the provision of services to customers.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm whether Telstra is not allowing 'expense works' unless they are emergency patch ups only.
- (7) Given that at the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee additional estimates hearings in November 2002 Telstra stated that under the Regional Network Taskforce program cable replacement was conducted in the Southern Gippsland area (QoN 47), can Telstra provide a percentage figure for old and new cable in the area.

1534 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the Cable Air Pressure Program:

- (1) How many staff are being assigned to work on the this program in each of the priority areas of Illawarra, Newcastle, Sydney, Perth, Adelaide, Tasmania and Canberra.
- (2) Can figures be provided on how many of those assigned under the program, for each of the above priority areas, are: (a) Network Design and Construction staff; (b) National Network Solutions staff, (c) contractors; and (d) Telstra field staff.
- (3) How many cables were in alarm in each of these priority areas at the start of this program.
- (4) How many cables in each of the categories of platinum, gold and silver, were identified as being in alarm in New South Wales.
- (5) How many cables are now in alarm in each of these priority areas.
- (6) How many of the cables in alarm are due to inaccessible leaks.
- (7) What is the process for repairing inaccessible leaks.
- (8) How many inaccessible leaks in New South Wales are being repaired by cable length replacement under this program.
- (9) Given that cables in Tasmania are not under APCAMS but under the AMS system, are AMS reports available; if so, can a copy of the most recent AMS report be provided; if not, how are the priority areas being determined in Tasmania.
- (10) What broadly is the state of the cables in Tasmania as far as this issue is concerned.
- (11) Is the APCAMs alarm system being installed in any new areas; if so, where.
- (12) How much is being spent on APCAMS installation.

1535 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the Customer Network Improvement (CNI) database:

- (1) How many CNIs are there in the database at present, given that on 6 December the total figure quoted by Telstra was 112 159, an increase from the number quoted by Mr Estens in his report, which was 104 500 for February 2002.
- (2) How many CNIs are there in each of the five priority classifications at present.
- (3) What is the oldest CNI in each of the five priority classifications at present.
- (4) What is the volume of CNIs that have been cleared from the database since 6 December 2002, in each of the priority classifications.
- (5) Is it true that Telstra has changed the reporting process for CNIs, given the evidence presented by the Communications, Electrical, Electronic, Energy, Information, Postal, Plumbing and Allied Services Union at the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee hearing into the Australian telecommunications network in Sydney on 19 May 2003 that there is a new process which involves a telephone call to the CNI phone number, and that the paperwork that used to be utilised is no longer required under this new process.
- (6) (a) When did this system change; and (b) what is the rationale behind it.
- (7) How are CNI tasks now allocated to customer field staff.
- (8) Who can access the CNI database.

(9) Can team leaders in specific regional areas access the CNI database.

1536 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) At what date did Pracom commence supplying contractors to Telstra in Perth.
- (2) (a) How many Pracom contractors, by dates of contracts, have been contracted by Telstra for the 2002-03 financial year.
- (3) How many Citadel Securix contractors, by dates of contracts, have been contracted by Telstra for the 2002-03 financial year.
- (4) How does the Corporate Sourcing Group operate; and (b) is there a separate Corporate Sourcing Group in each Telstra region.
- (5) Who does the General Manager of Metro Services Infrastructure Services report to in the Telstra organisation.
- (6) Can details be provided of which expenses are covered by Telstra and which expenses are covered by contractors when contractors are flown in to a capital city to do work for Telstra; for example does Telstra pay for the cost of travel, travel allowance and other expenses.
- (7) If any of these expenses are covered by Telstra, which part of Telstra's budget are these costs covered by.
- (8) Has Telstra made any changes in the 2002-03 financial year to the way these expenses are recorded.
- (9) What investigations has Telstra done into the connections between Ms T Jakszewicz, or members of her immediate family, and the contracting company Pracom.
- (10) (a) Is Ms Jakszewicz still an employee of Telstra; and (b) can the dates of her employment with Telstra be provided.
- (11) With regard to the use of contractors generally: For each Telstra region, on how many occasions has the inspection of work done by contractors resulted in a re-report of that work.

1537 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) (a) How much money did Telstra spend on advertising its specialised services for the aged and disabled in the last year; (b) what advertising medium did Telstra use to promote these services; and (c) where did Telstra predominantly advertise these services.
- (2) (a) Where are the aged and disability managers located in Australia; and (b) how many staff work with the managers.
- (3) (b) Will Telstra be training other staff in dealing with aged and disability problems; if so, where will these staff be located; and (b) how much training will be provided per staff member, for example, days or weeks.

1538 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) With reference to Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee Hansard, 27 May 2003 page 142, can the Minister confirm the statement by Mr Rix that it is only in 'contingency' workload that Telstra has 'an opportunity to look for additional resources such as the use of overtime'.

- (2) (a) Does Telstra use additional resources such as overtime or external contractors under any other workload condition, such as low workload, normal workload, high workload or contingency; and (b) can details be provided of each category of additional resources for each workload for each area this financial year, including Network Design and Construction, National Network Solutions resources.
- (3) (a) If no preventative maintenance work is done under contingency, is preventative maintenance work done under any other workload condition, such as low workload, normal workload or high workload; and (b) can details be provided of the percentage of resources for preventative maintenance work under each other workload condition.
- (4) How many days of normal workload were there this financial year for each Telstra region including: (a) Sydney Metro; (b) NSW Regional; (c) Melbourne Metro; (d) Vic Regional; (e) Brisbane Metro; (f) Qld Regional; (g) Perth Metro; (h) WA Regional; (i) Adelaide Metro; (j) SA Regional; (k) NT; and (l) Tas.
- (5) How many days of high workload were there this financial year for each Telstra region including: (a) Sydney Metro; (b) NSW Regional; (c) Melbourne Metro; (d) Vic Regional; (e) Brisbane Metro; (f) Qld Regional; (g) Perth Metro; (h) WA Regional; (i) Adelaide Metro; (j) SA Regional; (k) NT; and (l) Tas.
- (6) How many days of low workload were there this financial year for each Telstra region including: (a) Sydney Metro; (b) NSW Regional; (c) Melbourne Metro; (d) Vic Regional; (e) Brisbane Metro; (f) Qld Regional; (g) Perth Metro; (h) WA Regional; (i) Adelaide Metro; (j) SA Regional; (k) NT; and (l) Tas.
- (7) How many days of contingency were there this financial year for each Telstra region including: (a) Sydney Metro; (b) NSW Regional; (c) Melbourne Metro; (d) Vic Regional; (e) Brisbane Metro; (f) Qld Regional; (g) Perth Metro; (h) WA Regional; (i) Adelaide Metro; (j) SA Regional; (k) NT; and (l) Tas.
- (8) What is the fault level at which each of these regions would be considered in contingency if in Melbourne Metro contingency is above 1 900 faults: (a) Sydney Metro; (b) NSW Regional; (c) Brisbane Metro; (d) Qld Regional; (e) Perth Metro; (f) WA Regional; (g) Adelaide Metro; (h) SA Regional; (i) NT; and (j) Tas.
- (9) With reference to evidence by Mr Rix, Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee Hansard, 27 May 2003, page 144, if the normal range of faults for Melbourne is between 850 and 1 300 faults, what is the normal range of faults for each other area including: (a) Sydney Metro; (b) NSW Regional; (c) Brisbane Metro; (d) Qld Regional; (e) Perth Metro; (f) WA Regional; (g) Adelaide Metro; (h) SA Regional; (i) NT; and (j) Tas.

1539 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) (a) Has 'FuturEdge' been implemented across Telstra yet; and (b) can an update be provided on how this has been proceeding.
- (2) (a) Was this system trialled in any location before it was implemented across the company; if so, where was it trialled, and for how long; and (b) is it still being trialled anywhere.



- (3) (a) Is it correct that there was a trial of 'FuturEdge' in Brisbane earlier this year; and (b) has the program been fully implemented in Brisbane now.
- (4) With reference to information provided to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee: (a) is it true that the Brisbane Work Management Centre experienced so many problems with 'FuturEdge' that it had to assign hundreds of jobs manually; and (b) what sorts of problems were these and what did Telstra do to fix these.
- (5) How has Telstra changed the way fieldwork calendars are managed to improve fault rectification times as reported by Telstra in the Estens Report (page 85).

1540 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Can a list be provided of the names of the cities and towns that have had Telstra employees from other home base locations working in them, the number of employees in each, and the city or town of origin and number from that place of those workers for each month of the 2002-03 financial year.
- (2) How much does Telstra pay in travel allowance for its employees for each night away from their home base.
- (3) How many nights of travel allowance has Telstra paid its employees in the customer field workforce in the past financial year.
- (4) What is the total amount of travel allowance paid in the past financial year by Telstra to its customer field employees.
- (5) What is the total cost of: (a) airfares; and (b) other travel expenses, ie, car travel, to transport Telstra customer field employees from their home base to another location for this financial year.
- (6) Have the internal accounting or costing codes that Telstra uses to classify these expenses changed at all in the past few years; if so, how.
- (7) What section of the Telstra budget are these costs reported in.

1541 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What measures does Telstra take to 'lightning proof' its cable network.
- (2) Does Telstra know of any new technology that is available to minimise damage to cables from lightning strikes.
- (3) What damage do lightning strikes do to cables and how does it affect services.
- (4) With reference to the mass service disruption (MSD) notice declared in Tasmania in March 2003, which referred to a lightning storm on 19 March and declared an exemption from customer service guarantee (CSG) performance standards from Friday, 21 March, to Saturday, 29 March: What was the exact damage caused by this lightning storm (given the evidence to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee hearing in Launceston on 24 April 2003, in relation to the Australian telecommunications network inquiry, that this storm caused minimal damage in Tasmania).
- (5) When and how did Telstra notify customers of this MSD in Tasmania.
- (6) Were the CSG provisions adhered to in this case.

- (7) Has Telstra paid any compensation to Tasmanian customers in respect of this case.

1542 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee *Hansard*, 27 May 2003, pp 175-177:

- (1) How many hours of overtime were worked by Telstra customer field staff in each year of the past 5 financial years.
- (2) What is the average amount of overtime per customer field staff employee in each year of the past 5 financial years.
- (3) Have any Telstra customer field staff worked for any continuous periods in excess of 30 days; if so, in which location did these employees work and what was the number of days of continuous work.
- (4) Have any Telstra staff or Telstra contractors ever worked more than 20 hours straight within a 24 hour period; if so, in which location did these employees work and what has been the number of hours of overtime worked.
- (5) Have Telstra team leaders been asked to rank their staff by performance or productivity.
- (6) (a) How have Telstra team leaders decided which staff members are to be offered redundancies; and (b) was this on the basis of productivity or performance.
- (7) Can information be provided on the measures that Telstra has used to measure field staff against the quality of work, amount of work done each day, their utilisation and how often they are available, and what these criteria have been benchmarked at.
- (8) How is the criterion of 'how often they are available' for customer field staff measured and benchmarked.
- (9) What is the benchmark for the number of installations for a Telstra customer field employee.
- (10) What is the benchmark for the number of fault repairs for a Telstra customer field employee.

1543 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What is the process for clearing cash out of pay phones; and (b) how does Telstra know when a phone is ready to be cleared.
- (2) Is it the case that when a coin box in a public phone is full that this means the telephone cannot be operated by someone attempting to use it with coins.
- (3) When a 'coin box full' message is received at a Telstra call centre from a pay phone, how quickly does Telstra send out someone to clear this box.
- (4) Who clears phone boxes.
- (5) Is there any difference in the timeframe or process for doing this in metropolitan areas or regional areas; if so, can details be provided.
- (6) What does Telstra say about reports that Telstra does not act on this information until the third 'coin box full' message is received.

1544 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Can an update be provided on how the new Priority Service Program is working.
- (2) What is the budget for administering this program for the 2003-04 financial year.
- (3) (a) How many staff will be allocated to work on this program in the 2003-04 financial year; and (b) if there is a variation to 2002-03 figures, what positions are involved and what is the reason for the variation.
- (4) How many customers are currently registered on this program.
- (5) What is the rate of assistance being provided by the Priority Assistance Program to customers: ie, what percentage, and number of the registered priority assistance customers have received assistance from the Telstra priority program.
- (6) Can a geographical breakdown be provided of where this assistance was given, and how many times for each customer and in each area this assistance was provided, since the program began.
- (7) Has the program been well received by registered customers.
- (8) Have there been any customers who wished to register that Telstra has refused registration to; if so, can details be provided of the reasons for rejection and the number rejected.
- (9) What steps is Telstra taking to promote this program to customers.

1545 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) How much notice did Telstra give its 'communic8' customers in Southern Tasmania that the promotion providing free 15 minute calls to other Telstra mobiles would not be renewed after 15 February.
- (2) With reference to the statement by a Telstra spokesperson on 18 February 2003 in the Mercury that 'there was a need to review the promotion', has Telstra conducted the review; if so, what was the outcome.

1546 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Can an update be provided on the \$187 million Regional Network Taskforce that was announced in July 2002.
- (2) Has there been any change to these funding amounts; if so, can details be provided.
- (3) (a) How much of the above budget was spent in 2002-03 and how much will be carried forward to future years; and (b) can details be provided.
- (4) (a) Under what part of Telstra's capital expenditure budget, or general budget, is this program funded; (b) is it included in the \$420 million capital spending; and (c) can funding details be provided.
- (5) (a) Does the program for 'copper network rehabilitation' include any remedial work on the 'seal the CAN' corrosive gel affected cables; if so, how much; (b) what work is covered in this category; and (c) can details be provided.
- (6) (a) Does the \$88 million on 'copper network rehabilitation' include any cable air pressure remedial work, such as the \$40 million program to bring

cable air pressure up to 40kpa in certain priority areas; and (b) can details be provided.

- (7) For each category of spending listed, please indicate in which geographical locations each category of this program has done work.

1547 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the use of encapsulant sealant gel:

- (1) Does Telstra still stand by the statement that in 97 percent of cases where the gel is in place that it continues to work well.
- (2) How much of the \$110 million allocated to this program has been spent in the 2002-03 financial year.
- (3) Has this funding level changed at all; if so, can details be provided.
- (4) What is the sub-category of the domestic capital expenditure budget that this program is funded under.
- (5) (a) Is it the case that if it is costing \$110 million to fix 100 000 cable joints then each cable joint costs \$100 000 to fix; (b) how was this figure calculated; and (c) can a breakdown of projected costings be provided.
- (6) How many of these 100 000 joints identified have so far been fixed.
- (7) (a) What are the geographical locations that are priorities for the repair of the 100 000 joints which have been targeted for remedial action; and (b) can a list of priority location areas be provided.
- (8) (a) Is Perth one of the priority areas under the Telstra program; and (b) how many cable joints have been repaired in Perth under this program.
- (9) (a) Are there still 100 people across Telstra exclusively focusing on identifying, prioritising and repairing cable joints where the gel has degraded the network; and (b) have any of these 100 people been moved from cable rehabilitation to other fault repair work this year for any period of time; if so, how many and where, and for what periods of time.

1548 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to the following list of firms that have given written advice about their mass marketed tax-effective investments schemes:

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu: Budplan, Central Highlands wine Grape, Connect the World, Educational Devices, Equity Match, Harcourt Ridge, No Regrets, Satcom, Tentas;

Ernst & Young: Northern Rivers Tea Tree, Pacific Tea Tree;

KPMG: Freedom Express, Interest Recount, Tentas; and

Pricewaterhouse Coopers: Austvin, Equity Match, Liar Liar (Film), Oil Fields Project, Simple Simon/Mercury Rising (Film), Tradematch Licence:

- (1) Have any representatives of the above firms served on advisory panels to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) or the Board of Taxation.
- (2) Can taxpayers undertaking self-assessment of tax be reasonably sure that they can rely on the opinion of the above firms, particularly if their representation have served on advisory panels to the ATO or the Board of Taxation.

1549 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to mass-marketed tax effective investment schemes:

- (1) (a) Have the Part IVA determinations which constitute the formal notice of tax avoidance been withdrawn from members of the federal ministry and state ministries; and (b) will the remaining 40 000 Australians that invested in cooperative agriculture and film projects receive the same benefit.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the Commissioner of Taxation advised the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell) that investors who chose not to settle would need to comprehensively succeed in any litigation of the case to be better off than the investors that settled.
- (3) Is it true that the Commissioner of Taxation has indicated to the Parliamentary Secretary that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) intend to challenge any future mass marketed tax-effective investment cases taken before the courts, even though the Assistant Commissioner, Mr Peter Smith, wrote in 2001 that the ATO would test case two projects and that the outcomes from those selected cases would provide greater certainty for other participants in similar structured cases.
- (4) With reference to the Vincent decision, in which the determination that deductions were not allowed under the general deductibility provisions was not made, and the amendment assessment was not issued, until more than 4 years after the original assessment allowing the deductions: Can the Minister indicate to how many unfinalised settlement offers in relation to projects and reassessments will the same outcome apply.
- (5) (a) How many cases are there in which the ATO failed to issue a reassessment by the final date to accept settlement (21 June 2002) and in which deductions were therefore disallowed under the general deductibility provisions; (b) would any of the reassessments issued at that date have fallen out of the 4 year period; (c) did the ATO indicate that if taxpayers did not settle it would have to contest the matter in court after objection; and (d) did the ATO maintain this view even after the Vincent appeal decision.

*Notice given 18 June 2003*

**Senator Nettle:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1550-1551)—With reference to the Regional Solutions Program, can a breakdown be provided of funding in Western Australia for the years 2001 to 2003, including: (a) areas receiving funding; (b) the amount of funding received by each area; and (c) a brief job description.

1550 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

1551 Minister representing the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government

1552 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) Given that page 19 of the Higher Education—Report for the 2003-05 Triennium indicates that the proportion of domestic students from low socio-economic status (SES) backgrounds has declined from 14.7 per cent in 1991 to 14.5 per cent in 2002, while the Minister stated on the SBS Insight program on 22 May 2003 that there has been ‘an increase from 19% of the poorest socio-economic status 18-year-olds in Australia in 1989 [to] a decade later ... 25% of the poorest 18-year-olds getting access to higher education’: Can the Minister indicate whether the Minister’s statement reflects an increase in participation by 18-year-olds from low SES backgrounds and, if so, whether this reflects an even larger decrease in participation by Australians of other ages from low SES backgrounds; and

- (b) what are the age specific participation rates by Australians from low SES backgrounds.
- (2) (a) What funding, direct or indirect, and in-kind support is provided to the Australian Education Office (AEO) in Washington by: (i) the department, and (ii) Australian universities; (b) what is the role of the AEO and how is it governed; (c) what role does the Government play in the development of the material of the AEO; (d) what role does the Government have in ensuring that the material is accurate and in the interests of Australia and its higher education system; and (e) what recourse does the Government have if it finds that material is inaccurate.
- (3) With reference to the 1998 research by Dr Karmel, published on the department's website, which indicates that approximately 45 per cent of Australians are likely to enrol in a university at some point during their life and that 90 per cent will enrol in tertiary education: (a) Does this research remain valid; and (b) has any further work been undertaken on the subject since 1998.

*Notice given 19 June 2003*

1556 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the Rural Other Medical Practitioner Program:

- (1) How many of the current Other Medical Practitioner participants are undertaking training through distance learning or other means that will lead to the fellowship of Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (FRACGP).
- (2) (a) What training schemes are available to these Other Medical Practitioners to achieve FRACGP, (for example, alternative pathways, distance learning, etc); and (b) what is the status of these programs.
- (3) What is the estimated full-time equivalent number of the 1 100 Other Medical Practitioners active in the program.
- (4) Do the numbers of Other Medical Practitioners operating in Queensland include only the Rural Other Medical Practitioner Program or do they include data from the Queensland Country Relieving Program.
- (5) What has been the cost of this program to the department in terms of administration and program costs for each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03.

1557 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the Rural Locum Relief Program (RLRP):

- (1) What is the estimate of the full-time equivalent (FTE) doctors that the 1 285 participating doctors in 2000-01 represent.
- (2) (a) How many of the 1 285 participating doctors were: (i) overseas trained doctors, (ii) temporary visa doctors, or (iii) Australian graduates; and (b) for each of these groups, what is the FTE contribution.
- (3) Are there more recent participation figures available for this program; if so, can a copy of these figures be provided.
- (4) Can the activity and service access data reviewed in the 2001 evaluation and referred to in the briefing paper on the program, be presented in a summary format that would indicate broad trends.
- (5) Can a breakdown be provided, by state and territory, of the number of participating doctors and FTE doctors.

- (6) Does the reference in the briefing paper to Queensland as a dominant user of the program refer only to the RLRP or does it also refer to data from the Queensland Country Relieving Program.
- (7) What has been the cost of this program to the department in terms of administration and program costs for each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03.

1558 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—Given the ruling by the Federal Court in 2001 in relation to mass marketed tax-effective investments (MMTEIs) and the seriousness with which the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) regarded MMTEIs: Have any firms been brought before the Tax Agents Board as a consequence of the failed MMTEI's Federal Court case; if so, can a list of those firms be provided; if not, why has the ATO not commenced any action.

1559 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that in the recent Cooke case involving Horticultural Project No.1, Justice Stone said that:
  - (a) the Spotless case had little relevance to an Australian-based project with a clear commercial purpose;
  - (b) the 'scheme' considered by the Australian Taxation Office in relation to Messers Cooke and Jamieson must include only those financial aspects of the project of which Messers Cooke and Jamieson were aware; and
  - (c) Messrs Cooke and Jamieson's testimony about the dominant purpose of the investment must be accorded due weight;

if so: (a) can the Minister provide an explanation as to why the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) relied primarily on Spotless in its administration of mass marketed tax-effective investment (MMTEI) taxpayers' reassessments; and (b) in its administration of MMTEI taxpayer reassessments, how does the ATO treat a person who enters into a MMTEI, which included financial aspects of projects of which the taxpayer was unaware when entering the scheme.

- (2) Has the ATO, in its administration of MMTEI taxpayer reassessments, ignored evidence presented by taxpayers, at the ATO's invitation, in regard to the dominant purpose of their investment, contrary to the requirements in Section 177A(5) of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936.

1560 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—Can figures for the following categories be provided, on a state by state basis, of males receiving unemployment benefits: (a) married with dependants; (b) in de facto relationships with dependants; (c) separated with dependants; (d) separated without dependants; (e) separated with child support commitments; and (f) separated without child support commitments.

*Notice given 20 June 2003*

1561 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) For the state of Western Australia, for each of the financial years ending 30 June 1997, 30 June 1998, 30 June 1999, 30 June 2000, 30 June 2001 and 30 June 2002: what was the proportion of total Centrelink debt incurred for each of the following benefit categories: (a) age pension; (b) Austudy; (c) disability support pension; (d) Newstart allowance; (e) parenting

payment; (f) partner allowance; (g) youth allowance; (i) carer allowance; and (j) family tax benefit.

- (2) For the state of Western Australia, by local government authority: (a) what is the total number of debts incurred for each of the benefits listed above; and (b) what is the average amount of these debts for each of the benefits.

1562 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the Approved Medical Deputising Service Program:

- (1) What is the estimate of the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) doctors that the approximately 75 participants in November 2002 represent.
- (2) (a) What proportion of these participants were: (i) overseas trained doctors, (ii) temporary visa doctors, or (iii) Australian graduates; and (b) what is the FTE contribution for each group.
- (3) How many 'after hours only' clinics operated by the Approved Deputising Services have program participants providing medical services from these clinics.
- (4) How many doctors and FTE doctors are providing services through these clinics.
- (5) What is the number of Medical Benefits Schedule services provided through these clinics in November 2002 or in any other close period for which the department has collected data.
- (6) (a) Has the internal review of this program been completed; if so, what were its conclusions; and (b) will this program continue past the end of the 2002-03 financial year.
- (7) What has been the cost of this program to the department in terms of administration and program costs for each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03.

1563 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Which areas of the Mullungdung State Forest are protected under the Gippsland Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) as part of the comprehensive, adequate and representative (CAR) reserve system.
- (2) Is any part of the Mullungdung State Forest traversed by Basslink; in particular, does any part of the route pass through the Special Protection Zone (SPZ).
- (3) What impact will Basslink have on Mullungdung State Forest, especially the SPZ, including the area and kind of vegetation affected, fragmentation of habitat, weed and pest invasion, and changes to hydrological regimes.
- (4) (a) Does the Basslink route comply with clauses 62 to 67 of the Gippsland RFA; and (b) can an itemised list be provided of how the requirements of each of these clauses have been met.

*Notice given 23 June 2003*

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1564-1565)—

- (1) (a) Does the Minister support the integrated management of surface run-off, river water and ground water, recognising that these systems are physically interconnected; and (b) will the Minister make this a pre-requisite for water reform through the Council of Australian Governments process.



- (2) What steps are being taken to achieve integrated water management, including protection of the environment and common systems of allocating water so that switching between sources is accounted for.

1564 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

1565 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

**Senator Webber:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1570-1575)—

- (1) How many staff at the senior executive service (SES) level are employed in the department within Western Australia.
- (2) Given Western Australia's contribution to the nation's economy, is the department adequately represented in Western Australia to ensure that development opportunities are maximised.
- (3) Does the lack of senior Commonwealth departmental representatives or SES staff have a negative impact on Commonwealth program funds in Western Australia.
- (4) Would Western Australia be advantaged by an increase in the number of SES staff located within the state.

1571 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

1572 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

*Notice given 24 June 2003*

1578 **Senator Carr:** To ask the President of the Senate—Can the President request the Speaker to provide answers to the following questions in respect of the Department of the House of Representatives, noting that these questions have also been asked of the other parliamentary departments and executive departments and agencies through the estimates process:

- (1) What was the number of senior executive service (SES) staff at each SES band level at 30 June 1996 and at 30 June for each subsequent year, and the number and level of SES staff as at 31 March 2003.
- (2) What were the minimum and maximum salary levels for each SES band, whether determined by Australian Workplace Agreements or otherwise, as at 30 June 1996 and at 30 June in each subsequent year, and at 31 March 2003.
- (3) (a) What was the number of staff with salaries overlapping SES salaries as at 30 June 1996 and at 30 June in each subsequent year, and at 31 March 2003; and (b) what were the minimum and maximum levels of these salaries.
- (4) (a) How many people are currently employed other than under the Parliamentary Service Act 1999, including under contract arrangements, at salary levels equivalent to the SES; and (b) what are the minimum and maximum levels of the salaries paid.
- (5) Has the department introduced arrangements whereby SES or other staff who are entitled to a motor vehicle as part of their remuneration are able to cash the vehicle out and have the cashed out amount count as salary for superannuation purposes; if so: (a) when were these arrangements introduced and do they still apply; (b) what was the policy justification for long-term costs of these arrangements; and (c) were any actuarial calculations made of the long-term costs of these arrangements; if so, what were the details of the estimates; if not, why was this not done.

*Notice given 25 June 2003*

1582 **Senator Marshall:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to surplus former Defence land at Point Nepean:

- (1) Will the Minister make public the expressions of interest received by the Government from individuals, organisations and governments for the 85 hectares of land at Point Nepean; if not, why not.
- (2) (a) Can the Minister confirm when the Government intends to make a decision as to its preferred submission of interest; and (b) will the decision be made public; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (3) Can an outline be provided of the process and timeline for putting the 85 hectares to tender.
- (4) Has the Government closed the door on negotiations with the Victorian Government over a transfer of the remaining 85 hectares of land to the State of Victoria; if so, why; if not: (a) what has been undertaken to further these negotiations with the Victorian Government; and (b) how are these negotiations proceeding.
- (5) Why was the decision taken not to gift the entire 315 hectare site at Point Nepean to the Victorian Government.
- (6) Why will the Government not gift the 85 hectares of remaining surplus Defence land at Point Nepean to the State of Victoria, on the same basis that it did with similar land in New South Wales and Western Australia.
- (7) Can the Minister explain the differing circumstances between the land at Sydney Harbour and in Western Australia and the land at Point Nepean, which would prevent it from being gifted to the State of Victoria.
- (8) Can the Minister clarify the Government's position in relation to placing obligations upon any potential buyers of the 85 hectares of surplus Defence land, for example, will the Government be regulating future uses and/or proscribing activities or uses of the land; if so, can details be provided; if not, why not.
- (9) Can the Minister categorically rule out the land being sold for either private residential use or tourist-style accommodation.
- (10) Will the Minister oblige a potential buyer of the 85 hectares to uphold and implement the objectives of the departmentally-commissioned Portsea Defence Land Community Master Plan; if so, can details be provided; if not, why not.
- (11) What was the overall budget for undertaking the Portsea Defence Land Community Master Plan; and (b) can this budget be broken down into appropriate budget lines noting different areas of spending on the project.

*Notice given 26 June 2003*

1587 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—With reference to Tasmania's rainforests, including those on private lands, and their conversion to plantations under the Government's Regional Forest Agreement:

- (1) What area and percentage of the original area remained in 1996.
- (2) Since 1996, what area and percentage of the rainforests has been converted to plantations.
- (3) From 1996, what area and percentage of the rainforests will be converted to plantations.

- 1588 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—  
With reference to Tasmania's native forests and their conversion to plantations under the Government's Regional Forest Agreement (RFA):
- (1) What area and percentage of Tasmania's original native forest cover remained in 1996.
  - (2) Since 1996, what additional area and percentage of the remaining area has been converted.
  - (3) From 1996, what further area and percentage of the remaining area will be converted.
  - (4) Where, in the RFA, are these parameters set out and agreed to.
- 1589 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—  
With reference to Tasmanian forests on public and private lands, under the Regional Forest Agreement planning:
- (1) (a) How many specific coupes have been assured for: (i) clearfell logging, and (ii) selective logging; and (b) in each case, how many of the coupes were assessed by a qualified: (i) archaeologist or anthropologist, (ii) botanist, (iii) zoologist, (iv) geologist, and (v) pleontologist.
  - (2) If figures are not kept, is it a fact, in each case, that much less than one quarter of the coupes were assessed.
- 1590 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) On how many occasions since 1997 have representatives of the Commonwealth Government inspected proposed or active logging sites under the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement to make independent assessments.
  - (2) What did these assessors report.

*Notice given 27 June 2003*

- 1591 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) research divisions are facing cuts of up to 15 per cent in their research budgets as a consequence of the Government refusing to adequately fund CSIRO's Flagship projects.
  - (2) Can the Minister also confirm that, anticipating the significant redundancies that will inevitably follow major research budget cuts, divisional managers were instructed not to discuss redundancies with staff until the completion of the recent estimates hearings of the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee.
  - (3) What decisions were made on the matter of staff redundancies at the CSIRO Executive Management Committee meeting held in late June 2003.
  - (4) (a) How many research positions will now be made redundant at CSIRO; and (b) how many research programs have been abandoned or reduced in size.
- 1593 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—
- (1) In each of the past 3 years, what sum has been spent by the Military Compensation and Rehabilitation Service (MCRS) on hire of counsel, including solicitors and barristers, for: (a) legal advice on compensation

policy and specific claims, including at internal review; and (b) fees for representing MCRS at: (i) the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, (ii) the Federal Court, and (iii) the High Court.

- (2) (a) How many counsel were hired in total; and (b) of those, how many were Queen's Counsel.
- (3) (a) Which legal firms are on the panel for MCRS; and (b) for the 2002-03 financial year, what sum of money had been paid to each firm as at 30 June 2003.
- (4) What are the details, as sought in parts (1) to (3) of this question, for counsel hired for cases under the Veterans' Entitlement Act 1986.

1594 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Can details be provided of all individuals and their quantities of production units for all mass marketed tax-effective investments (MMTEIs).
- (2) If an accountancy firm, rather than an individual, were to procure all production units for any MMTEI would they also have received a Part IVA determination, which remains withdrawn.
- (3) Are firms that procured production units subject to the same exclusion as financial planners from the settlement offer.

1595 **Senator Santoro:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) When did Australia Post sell the post office building and land at 1 Bowser Parade, Sandgate, in Queensland.
- (2) To whom was this property sold.
- (3) What was the sale price.
- (4) Is any land adjoining this property currently owned by, or has it ever been owned by, Australia Post; if so, what is: (a) the current ownership status of this adjoining land; and (b) the sale history of such land.
- (5) Does Australia Post consider that the sale price paid represented value for money for the vendor.
- (6) On what basis did Australia Post decide that this property should be sold at the time that it was sold.
- (7) Did Australia Post ever receive any expressions of interest to purchase this property prior to making the decision to sell; if so, can details of where these expressions of interest came from and when they were made be provided.
- (8) What was the improved land value of this property at the time of the sale.
- (9) (a) What is the zoning of the property; and (b) are there any restrictions on the use of the property.
- (10) (a) What valuations did Australia Post received for this property prior to its sale; and (b) what was the estimated value of the property provided in these valuations.
- (11) Was the sale of the property put out to public tender; if so, how was it publicly tendered and advertised; if not: (a) why not; and (b) who made the decision not to have a public tender and on what basis.
- (12) By what means was the property sold, for example, privately, by auction or by other means.

- (13) Did Australia Post engage an agent or any other intermediary to conduct the sale of the property; if so, can the following details be provided: (a) the name, or company name, of the agent or intermediary; (b) the commission paid to them; and (c) the period over which they were engaged.
- (14) Has any state or federal Member of Parliament or local councillor or member of their staff or any representatives of a political party ever made representations to Australia Post about the purchase of this property; if so, can the following details of any such representations be provided: (a) who made them; (b) what they were; (c) on whose behalf they were made; (d) when they were made; and (e) what response or action resulted from them.

1596 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) In the proposed higher education changes, a regional loading of up to 30 per cent is proposed for universities: does this mean that the Northern Territory is to get 30 per cent.
- (2) Is the Northern Territory already receiving a regional loading of approximately 17 per cent; if not: what is the current loading being paid to the Northern Territory University (NTU); if so, does this mean that that the NTU will actually receive only an additional 13 per cent.
- (3) Is this regional loading to be paid based on the number of students enrolled full time; if so, is this full time and on campus; if not, what is this loading based upon.
- (4) Does the loading apply to enrolled students undertaking distance education studies.
- (5) What funding is allocated to universities to cover the costs of distance/external studies.
- (6) Will there be a cap on the number of new Government-subsidised places available to private institutions.
- (7) Can the Minister clarify what the link is between the workplace reforms which might make universities more efficient and the provision of better quality education.
- (8) What is meant by productivity in the university context.
- (9) Does the Government genuinely understand the role of modern day student unions in the provision of additional services and facilities from union fees, and the implications for such services and facilities if union membership is voluntary and fee collections fall dramatically.
- (10) Will additional Government funding be given to provide such services, or will such a decline be allowed to happen as just another lessening of the quality of campus life.
- (11) While not proposed until 2006, the Teaching and Learning package contains the proposition that student evaluation of courses and staff may be placed on Internet for public viewing: (a) can the Minister either confirm or deny this; and (b) if it is confirmed, can the Minister explain the perceived benefits to outcomes.
- (12) (a) What is the proposed composition of the Indigenous Higher Education Advisory Council; (b) how and when will it be established; and (c) how will it be funded.

- (13) Is growth funding being provided for Indigenous employment in higher education.
- (14) Can the Minister explain how universities are expected to cope with the rising costs associated with running courses (of which salaries are the major part) when there is no indexation of funding allowed for in the budget.
- (15) Is it true that such rising costs will put ever increasing pressure on universities to keep on raising fees.
- (16) How can the Minister claim (in 'We can vault the Crossroads' article, the Australian Higher Education Supplement, 4 June 2003) that such a non-indexed scheme can 'develop in a way that is sustainable' other than by ever increasing financial contributions from students.
- (17) With reference to the comments made by Peter Karmel, in the Australian of 28 May 2003, that without cost escalation arrangements, in order to cover rising costs the universities will need to use all the additional Commonwealth contributions (if qualified to receive them) or increase HECS by 5 per cent per year, which they can do for only 6 years before reaching the maximum allowable 30 per cent increase: Does the Government agree with this.
- (18) What does the Government propose to do to put in place such arrangements to meet rising costs.
- (19) Given that it has been stated by Peter Karmel and others, that the real cost to students will not be the 28.6 per cent average of course costs claimed by the Government, but closer to 40 per cent, because the Government figures include many costs (such as research and other special purpose funding) which are not related to the costs of teaching undergraduate courses: Can the Minister either confirm or deny that government costs included those not directly related to teaching undergraduate courses, and therefore students will pay more than the average of 28.6 per cent.
- (20) Can the Minister either confirm or deny that the Government appears to be relying on student contributions to redress the shortage of resources in higher education.
- (21) Given that the Australian Vice Chancellors Committee has renewed a call for a review of Youth Allowance student support in order to assist students better financially and allow them to study more and work for some cash a bit less, does the Government intend doing such a review.
- (22) Given that the reform package talks about diversity and flexibility and that the Teaching and Learning funding is to be subject to teaching performance indicators: Will these be a uniformly prescribed set of indicators; if so, how does this fit with diversity and flexibility; if not, then how will they be a fair measure of outcomes towards dividing up the extra funds.
- (23) Given that the Federal Government book subsidy scheme ends next year, this having been introduced to soften the blow of the goods and service tax which will then apply in full, adding 8 per cent to the cost of text books: Will the Government act to prevent this additional impost on students.

*Notice given 30 June 2003*

- 1598 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—For the quarter ending 31 March in each year from 1995 to 2000, for total unreferrred attendances in the following Statistical Local Areas: (a) Latrobe City Council; (b) Bass Coast Shire Council; (c) South Gippsland Shire Council; (d) Baw Baw Shire Council;

and (e) Cardinia Shire Council: What was: (i) the percentage of total unreferral attendances that are bulk billed, and (ii) the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only).

*Notice given 3 July 2003*

1600 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Has the Minister authorised the aerial baiting of pests using 1080 on Commonwealth land in Western Australia in the past 12 months; if so: (a) where was the aerial baiting conducted or where will it be conducted; and (b) when was the aerial baiting conducted or when will it be conducted.
- (2) Has the aerial baiting program been referred to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

1601 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) For each of the past three financial years as well as for the 2003-04 financial year: (a) what was, or is, the salary of the director of the department's public relations unit; and (b) if the salary changed during this time, in what month and year was each salary increment paid and what did this bring.
- (2) For each of the past three financial years as well as for the 2003-04 financial year: (a) what was, or is, the budget allocation for the department's public relations unit; and (b) was any additional budgetary allocation made to the unit.

*Notice given 7 July 2003*

1602 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the Pan Pharmaceuticals product recall:

- (1) What prompted the Government to set up an expert committee to review complementary healthcare.
- (2) Why has the Government refused to allow a representative of the Complementary Healthcare Council to be on that committee.
- (3) With reference to a report that a member of the committee, Professor Alistair MacLennan, has said that the Government should not support the complementary healthcare industry: Can the Minister confirm this statement; if so, should this predisposition not rule Professor MacLennan out as a suitable, unbiased member of the committee.
- (4) (a) Who on the committee has expertise in regulatory controls to meet appropriate standards of quality, safety and efficacy; and (b) can details of this expertise be provided.
- (5) (a) Who on the expert committee has expertise on education, training and regulation of complementary healthcare practitioners; and (b) can details of this expertise be provided.
- (6) (a) Who on the expert committee has expertise on the interaction between complementary and prescribed medicines and the communication of this information to healthcare practitioners; and (b) can details of this expertise be provided.
- (7) Will consumer representation be included on the expert committee; if so, how will consumer representatives be appointed.

- (8) Will the committee call for public submissions; if not, why not.
- (9) By what method will the committee collect evidence.
- (10) Why was the Pan Pharmaceuticals recall a Level 1 recall.
- (11) (a) What other options were available; and (b) why were they not taken.
- (12) Why was it that Pan Pharmaceuticals' products other than Travacalm were recalled.
- (13) For each of those products recalled, what adverse reactions were reported.
- (14) Why did the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) not examine all these products before doing a total recall.
- (15) Why did the TGA not inform the Complementary Healthcare Council so the industry could work with the TGA to test all products in question.
- (16) Can the Minister confirm that Pan Pharmaceuticals' largest overseas customer, Walmart in America, is still selling Pan Pharmaceuticals' recalled products that they have tested and found to be good quality.
- (17) Can the Minister confirm that Pan Pharmaceuticals' products are still being sold in Europe, and that in New Zealand they are being sold with approval from the New Zealand Ministry of Health.
- (18) Given that the number of adverse reactions from complementary medicines was reported by the Australian Adverse Drug Reactions Advisory Committee as averaging only 23 per year compared with 400 000 in 1999-2000 for prescribed drugs, why were prescribed pharmaceuticals not included in the review.
- (19) Given that, according to the Complementary Healthcare Council, sales of complementary medicines are down 20 to 40 per cent and export sales are down by \$200 million, does the Government intend to compensate small retail businesses for this economic loss and the general decline in consumer confidence.
- (20) What response has the Government made to the request from the Complementary Healthcare Council for funds to invest in marketing for the industry and positive statements from the Government about complementary medicines.
- (21) What is the progress on the Government's request to major distributors that claims by small businesses for refunds to consumers on recalled products should be expedited.
- (22) Is the Government monitoring the financial impact of this recall on small business; if so, what is the impact; if not, why not.

*Notice given 8 July 2003*

1603 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Medicare Processing Centre in Brisbane, Queensland, to close with all 113 jobs transferred to New South Wales; if so, what is the rationale for this decision.
- (2) Was a cost-benefit analysis conducted for the proposed move; if so, can a copy be provided.
- (3) What is the cost of redundancy payments that would be necessary for workers in the Brisbane centre.
- (4) Which, if any, other Medicare Processing Centres are to be transferred elsewhere; and (b) can details of these transfers be provided.



1604 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Government aware of statements made recently by Dr Thomas Jefferson, a board member of the European research program for improved vaccine safety surveillance, criticising safety studies on childhood vaccines, viz, ‘There is some good research, but it is overwhelmed by the bad. The public has been let down because proper studies have not been done.’
- (2) What research into vaccine safety is conducted in Australia.
- (3) Is the Government satisfied that vaccine safety research conducted in Australia and elsewhere is adequate; if so, why.
- (4) (a) Can data be provided on the apparent rise in auto-immune diseases in Australian children; and (b) what research is being carried out as to its cause.
- (5) Under what circumstances are adverse reactions to vaccines required to be reported by health professionals.
- (6) Has the Government considered requiring all health professionals to report adverse reactions to vaccines when they occur; if not, why not.

1605 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—What are the implications for Australia of the British Government-commissioned report from the Committee on Toxicity of Chemicals in Food, Consumer Products and the Environment Working Group on Phytoestrogens in 2002 and the evaluation of that report by the Scientific Advisory Committee on Nutrition, which states at page 13 that, ‘Based on the evidence cited, SACN is in agreement that the use of soy-based infant formulae is of concern. While there is clear evidence of potential risk, there is no evidence that these products confer any health benefit ... The issue appears to be one of consumer choice, but there must be an onus on industry to better inform the general public, and secondly through a health professional, parents actually using these products to feed their infants ... SACN considered that there is cause for concern about the use of soy-based infant formula. Additionally, there is neither substantive medical need for, nor health benefit arising from, the use of soy-based infant formulae.’

1606 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What was the quantum of funding provided to the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) by the department for each of the following financial years: (a) 1997-98; (b) 1998-99; (c) 1999-2000; (d) 2000-01; (e) 2001-02; and (f) 2002-03.
- (2) What was the quantum of funding provided by the GRDC to the Gene Technology Grains Council (GTGC) for each of the financial years mentioned in (1).
- (3) What role does the department or the GRDC play in the selection of members to the GTGC.
- (4) In what way is the GRDC accountable to the Minister for expenditure made to the GTGC.
- (5) Can a synopsis be provided for each GTGC member, including: (a) full name; (b) details of formal qualifications; (c) details of current industry experience and employment; (d) details of past industry experience and employment; (e) details of the process of selection; and (f) term of membership.

- (6) Are members of the GTGC required to disclose their financial interests to the Government as a means of preventing any perception of a conflict of interest; if so, can a copy of the current register of interests be supplied; if not, why not.

*Notice given 9 July 2003*

1607 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to Defence property purchases:

- (1) For each financial year since 1996-97, what were the Budget forecasts of expenditure on Defence property purchases.
- (2) For each financial year since 1996-97, what was the actual expenditure on Defence property purchases.
- (3) For each financial year between 1996-97 and 2001-02 (inclusive), can a list be provided of all property purchased by Defence, indicating: (a) the location (town/suburb, state/territory, postcode); (b) the size of the property; (c) the nature of the property (vacant land, facilities); and (d) the purchase price and seller.

*Notice given 10 July 2003*

1609 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Was detainee Hammed Qhatani (VIL 14) ever refused delivery of postcards handed to centre officers at Woomera by nursing staff or anyone else; if so, why.
- (2) Was Mr Qhatani tortured as a child in Iraq.
- (3) Did Mr Qhatani have a bullet in his body.
- (4) Did Mr Qhatani request (at Villawood or Woomera) for this bullet to be removed.
- (5) Was a bullet removed from Mr Qhatani; if not, why not.
- (6) (a) How long was Mr Qhatani under special surveillance in detention in Australia; and (b) why.

1612 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to asylum seekers in detention who go on hunger strikes: (a) What instructions are given to staff to deal with these circumstances; and (b) can a copy of these instructions be provided.

1615 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the transfer of people to asylum-seeker detention in Australia or overseas:

- (1) Are such people handcuffed; if so: (a) how are they handcuffed; and (b) under what conditions and instructions.
- (2) Are people on plane flights allowed to urinate and/or defecate in private; if not, what are the conditions or restrictions.
- (3) Is it true that on some flights, taking some hours, no detainees have used toilet facilities because of the refusal of privacy.
- (4) What is the longest flight, for example, Christmas Island to the mainland, which has been, or is likely to be, undertaken by detainees, in terms of time.

1619 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What has been the total Commonwealth funding given to Telstra since the Coalition came to government.
- (2) Given that Telstra is 49 per cent privately-owned, does the Commonwealth funding given to Telstra provide a benefit to these private shareholders; if so, what is the rationale for funding the private half of the company.

*Notice given 11 July 2003*

1621 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—Given Australia's new interest in helping Pacific 'friends', such as the Solomon Islands, and the special concerns of the Pacific island states regarding the potentially disastrous effects upon them of global warming:

- (1) Will Australia sign the Kyoto Protocol.
- (2) What steps will Australia take to reduce the impact of global warming on Pacific islands.

*Notice given 14 July 2003*

1625 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) With reference to the Minister's Media Statement (reference AFFA03/095WT, 28 April 2003), can the Minister confirm who the Chief Executive Officer of Harvest FreshCuts Pty Ltd was at the time that this company was provided with a Food Innovation Grant (FIG) of \$1.25 million.
- (2) When did Harvest FreshCuts Pty Ltd apply for the grant.
- (3) What was the quantum of the grant applied for by Harvest FreshCuts Pty Ltd.
- (4) Who signed the application on behalf of Harvest FreshCuts Pty Ltd.
- (5) Which members of the National Food Industry Council assessed the Harvest FreshCuts Pty Ltd application for this grant.
- (6) Can the Minister advise whether applications for FIGs have been received from any of the following companies or their related entities: (a) Fletcher International Exports Pty Limited; (b) SPC Ardmona Ltd; (c) Peters and Brownes Foods Ltd; (d) Luken and May Pty Ltd; (e) National Foods Ltd; (f) Goodman Fielder Ltd; (g) Coca-Cola Amatil Ltd; and (h) Coles Myer Group Ltd.
- (7) Where applications for FIGs have been received from any of the above companies or their related entities, can the Minister advise in each case: (a) when was the application received; (b) what was the quantum of the grant applied for; (c) what was the stated purpose of the grant applied for; (d) who signed the application on behalf of the applying company or their related entity; (e) which members of the NFIC are assessing or have assessed each application; and (f) what is the status of the application.

1626 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—

- (1) Can the Minister advise the quantum of royalties earned for each of the past 8 years by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Organisation (CSIRO) for each of the following breeds of wheat: (a) Lawson;

(b) Brennan; (c) Gordon; (d) Dennis; (e) Patterson; (f) Rudd; (g) Tennant; (h) Mackellar.

- (2) Has the CSIRO modelled the expected future royalty revenue to be earned by it from the above varieties; if so, can the Minister advise for each variety: (a) the expected quantum of royalties to be paid to CSIRO; and (b) the expected time frame over which these royalties are to be paid to CSIRO.
- (3) Can the Minister advise how many breeds of wheat have been affected by the decision by CSIRO to destroy their wheat research crops as a result of the discovery during March 2003 of the presence of Wheat Streak Mosaic Virus (WSMV) at its research facilities.
- (4) For each breed of wheat affected by the above CSIRO decision, can the Minister advise: (a) the varietal name; (b) the details of the trait being developed under research (for example, higher yield, specific disease resistance, lower water usage, tolerance to saline soils, etc); (c) the projected delay in bringing the variety to commercial production as a result of CSIRO's actions on discovering WSMV at its facilities; (d) the quantum of Commonwealth funds expended on research to date; (e) the details of extra Commonwealth funds expected to be expended on research as a result of CSIRO's actions on discovering WSMV at its facilities; (f) the original projections of the benefit (in monetary and yield terms) to the Australian wheat industry from this research; (g) the projected delay or reduction in benefit (in monetary and yield terms) to the Australian wheat industry from this research as a result of CSIRO's actions on discovering WSMV at its facilities; (h) the original projections of royalties to be earned by CSIRO from these varieties; and (i) the projections of the delay or reduction in royalties to be earned by CSIRO from these varieties as a result of CSIRO's actions on discovering WSMV at its facilities.

1627 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—Can the Minister confirm that the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation is currently conducting, and has in the past 5 years conducted, research within Australian facilities on viable specimens of diseases which are communicable to Australia's human population, native flora or fauna or Australia's production herds or crops; if so, can the following information be provided: (a) a list of these diseases; (b) the start and end dates of projects involving each disease; (c) the stated goals of the research involving these diseases; (d) the status of research projects involving these diseases; and (e) the outcomes of any completed research projects involving these diseases.

1628 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the recent transport of asylum seekers from near Port Hedland to Christmas Island:

- (1) What was the cost of transporting the group from near Port Hedland to Christmas Island.
- (2) By holding the group on Christmas Island instead of at Port Hedland, what additional costs will be incurred by the Government, legal representatives for the group and any other people or agencies with responsibilities for them.

1629 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Is the Federal Government paying for public relations consultants to influence South Australians over the Commonwealth's acquisition of land known as site 40a to locate a national radioactive waste repository.
- (2) Is the consultant firm Michels Warren; if not, then who.
- (3) (a) How were the consultants selected; and (b) was a public tender undertaken.
- (4) Have any of the consultants carried out work for organisations associated with mining, energy or uranium; if so, can details be provided of: (a) the name of the consultant; (b) the name of the organisation; (c) the contract objective; and (d) the length of the job.
- (5) (a) What is the commencement date; and (b) what is the expected duration of the consultancy.
- (6) (a) What is the expected cost of the consultancy; and (b) from which budget will it be funded.
- (7) What objectives does the project brief outline.
- (8) What is the expected program for meetings, media, events, publications, advertising, research etc.
- (9) What are the key messages.
- (10) Will the Minister's office direct the consultants at any time; if not, who will be responsible.
- (11) (a) Will the name of the consultants and the budget for public relations be included in any publications or websites developed as part of the campaign; and (b) why.
- (12) How much has the Commonwealth spent on in-house public relations and external consultants for the national radioactive waste repository since 2001.
- (13) How much will the Commonwealth offer the owners of site 40a as compensation for its compulsory acquisition.

*Notice given 15 July 2003*

1631 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Does the Australian Government have a position on the acquisition and use of munitions containing depleted uranium; if so, can an outline of this position be provided.
- (2) Does the Australian Defence Force (ADF) have a position on the acquisition and use of munitions containing depleted uranium; if so, can an outline of this position be provided.
- (3) Do members of the ADF receive training on the use and handling of munitions containing depleted uranium; if so, what is the nature of this training.
- (4) What measures are in place to monitor and protect members of the ADF who may be exposed to munitions containing depleted uranium, such as in the recent conflict in Iraq.
- (5) Have munitions containing depleted uranium ever been used in exercises within Australia; if so, can a list be provided of the occasions on which such munitions were used, including the nature of the exercises.
- (6) (a) Does the ADF have a stock of munitions containing depleted uranium; and (b) has the ADF ever had a stock of depleted uranium munitions.

- (7) What Australian weapons systems have in the past used, or still do use, munitions containing depleted uranium.
- (8) Is the United States military permitted to transport munitions containing depleted uranium on Australian soil or within Australian waters.

*Notice given 16 July 2003*

- 1632 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—With reference to the superannuation preservation age:
- (1) Is the Government considering increasing the superannuation preservation age.
  - (2) Has the Minister submitted any proposal to Federal Cabinet to increase the superannuation preservation age; if so, what are the details of the proposal, including all options put forward for consideration.
- 1633 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Brighton Defence Estate known as the Brighton Army Camp in Tasmania:
- (1) Since 1990, what repairs, refurbishments, or capital works have taken place, when and at what price.
  - (2) (a) How many valuations for the Brighton Camp were sought since 1990 to the present; and (b) for each valuation: (i) who conducted the assessments, and (ii) what was the land value and the capital value as assessed for the Government.
  - (3) Since 1990, has any of the property been sold; if so: (a) what area was sold; (b) for how much; and (c) to whom.

*Notice given 17 July 2003*

- 1636 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) How much money has the Australian Government spent on human rights training in Burma.
  - (2) How much money does the Government propose to spend in the future on human rights training in Burma.
  - (3) Why is the AusAID report on the Burma human rights workshops not open to public scrutiny.
  - (4) Can the human rights workshops in Burma be postponed until there is official dialogue between the National League for Democracy, the State Peace and Development Council and ethnic minority groups.
- 1637 **Senator Collins:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) response to Senator Collins' question on notice 58, from the additional estimates hearings of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee in November 2002, in which it was indicated by the AFP that assistance was sought of the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) personnel at Post to calculate where the vessel [SIEV X] may have foundered:
- (1) What was the outcome of the RAN's investigations into calculating where the SIEV X sank.
  - (2) (a) What was the information that the RAN obtained about the company believed to have owned SIEV X; and (b) can the AFP name that company.
  - (3) Was the North Jakarta Harbourmaster's report of the SIEV X survivor rescue coordinates, dated 24 October 2001 (10241530 G), taken into

account when the RAN made attempts to calculate where the SIEV X foundered; if not, why not.

- (4) Did the AFP or any other Australian agency, whilst investigating where the SIEV X had foundered, ever interview the Harbourmaster at the Sunda Kelapa Port, North Jakarta; if so, what was the outcome of this interview; if not, why not.
- (5) If the Harbourmaster's coordinates have not been fully investigated by the AFP, how then can the AFP claim 'all avenues of enquiry have been exhausted' with regard to calculating where SIEV X foundered.

1638 **Senator Collins:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) response to Senator Collins' question on notice 58, from the additional estimates hearings of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee in November 2002, in which it was indicated by the AFP that assistance was sought of the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) personnel at Post to calculate where the vessel [SIEV X] may have foundered:

- (1) What was the outcome of the RAN's investigations into calculating where the SIEV X sank.
- (2) (a) What was the information that the RAN obtained about the company believed to have owned SIEV X; and (b) can the RAN name that company.
- (3) Did the RAN, when attempting to calculate where the SIEV X foundered, also take into account the North Jakarta Harbourmaster's report of the SIEV X survivor rescue coordinates dated 24 October 2001 (10241530 G); if not, why not.
- (4) Did the RAN or any other Australian agency, whilst investigating where the SIEV X had foundered, ever interview the Harbourmaster at the Sunda Kelapa Port, North Jakarta; if so, what was the outcome of this interview; if not, why not.
- (5) If the Harbourmaster's coordinates have not been fully investigated by the AFP, how then can the AFP claim 'all avenues of enquiry have been exhausted' with regard to calculating where SIEV X foundered.

1639 **Senator Collins:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the P3 patrol map data obtained during the period 18 to 20 October 2001, which appears in chapter 8 of the report of the Select Committee on a Certain Maritime Incident, dated October 2002, and the P3 Orion maps of 20 October 2001 that were supplied to the committee, which indicate that the flight (see maps A-9, A-10, A-11) from the NW end of the flight path to the NE end of the flight path, some 250 nautical miles away, took 2 hours:

- (1) Is it the case that the flight should have taken only one hour between these two points if the plane was flying at a rate of 200 to 330 knots per hour.
- (2) Can the department indicate why the flight of 20 October 2001 took longer than the normal one hour to fly this path.
- (3) What were the names of the crew on the P3 Orion flight on 20 October 2001.
- (4) Can any of the data recorded for, or by, the crew members on the P3 Orion flights between 18 and 20 October 2001 (under Operation Relex) be made public, for example, sortie green, inflight REDS, Post Mission Form PURPLE, and mission tapes.

- 1640 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—With reference to the Carer's Allowance:
- (1) What adjustment did the Commonwealth make to the Carer's Allowance in the 2003-04 Budget.
  - (2) What assessment was made of the impact of the goods and services tax in eroding the real value of the Carer's Allowance.
  - (3) What assessment has the Commonwealth conducted of the financial cost savings to government of the provision of unpaid community care.
  - (4) What assessment did the Commonwealth conduct with regard to the adequacy of the Carer's Allowance.
- 1641 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the provision of global education in Tasmania:
- (1) What is the strategy for the provision of global education in Tasmania following the cessation of funding to the Tasmanian Development Education Centre.
  - (2) (a) Who developed the strategy; and (b) was this done in consultation with anyone; if so, who.
  - (3) What is the allocated expenditure for the 2003-04 financial year.
  - (4) (a) What is the target group in Tasmania; and (b) what are their needs as identified by the Government.

*Notice given 21 July 2003*

- 1642 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to Migration Series Instruction No. 371 titled, 'Alternative Places of Detention', dated 2 December 2002:
- (1) How many 'unlawful non-citizens' are currently accommodated in alternative places of detention, in each of the following categories: (a) residential housing projects; (b) hospitals/nursing homes; (c) mental health facilities; (d) foster carer homes; (e) hotels/motels; and (f) community care facilities.
  - (2) Can details be provided of the general considerations or circumstances behind the decisions to place people in each of these alternative places of detention, including the decisions to place people in alternative places of detention other than the Woomera Housing Project.
  - (3) Can data be provided in respect of people in alternative places of detention, to show in each case: (a) gender; (b) age; (c) familial relationship grouping; (d) state; (e) duration in alternative places of detention to date; and (f) whether the detention was part- or full-time.
  - (4) How many instances have there been of women and children being housed full-time in alternative places of detention and fathers held in immigration detention centres being permitted to join them on a full- or part-time basis.
  - (5) On how many occasions and for what periods of time has permission been given for family members who remain in immigration detention centres to visit family in alternative places of detention.
  - (6) Can details be provided of what specific 'places of detention' have so far been approved by the Minister as alternative places of detention.



- (7) How many people have lodged expressions of interest in alternative accommodation but not met the condition of: (a) residential housing places being available; (b) health and character checks being completed and clear; (c) there being no high risk of the detainee absconding; and (d) any operational issues particular to the detainee and/or smooth management of the residential housing placement (RHP).
- (8) Can details be provided, by immigration detention centre, of how many people are currently on the 'discreet list of detainees who have volunteered and are eligible to participate in RHP but are still in detention'.
- (9) For each of the following years, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 to date; can data be provided for individual immigration detention centres of how many unaccompanied minors 'of tender years' remained or remain in those immigration detention centres.
- (10) For each of the following years, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 to date; how many unaccompanied minors older than those in (9) were or are in immigration detention centres.
- (11) For each of the following years, 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003 to date; how many children were or are placed in foster care whose parent or parents were or are held in immigration detention centres.
- (12) (a) How many people have chosen to return to detention after placement in alternative accommodation; and (b) can reasons be provided for their return.
- (13) Given that paragraph 1.1.7 of the instruction indicates that 'every effort should be made to enable the placement of women and children in RHP as soon as possible': (a) what efforts are being made; (b) by month, what percentage of women and children have been housed in alternative accommodation since December 2002; (c) what are the barriers to a greater take-up of the scheme.
- (14) What Commonwealth funding is provided for those placed in alternative accommodation for: (a) rent; (b) furniture; (c) food; (d) clothing; (e) footwear; (f) bedding; (g) education; (h) sporting, recreational, and leisure activities; and (i) religious needs.
- (15) For each of the categories mentioned in (1) and by state: (a) what was the total cost to the Commonwealth of alternative accommodation in June 2003; and (b) how does this compare with the cost of housing the same number of people in detention.
- (16) What has been the cost per head of accommodating people in the Woomera Housing Project since May 2002.
- (17) What is the current status of the Government's stated intention to extend to Port Augusta and Port Hedland the recent review of the success or otherwise of its objective to 'enable the placement of women and children in a RHP as soon as possible'.
- (18) Can copies be provided of correspondence between the Minister's office and/or the department and the Port Augusta and Port Hedland councils or mayors with regard to the proposed review extension.
- (19) Can copies be provided of correspondence between the Immigration Detention Advisory Group and the Minister's office and/or the department with regard to safety and duty of care at Woomera Immigration Detention Centre.

- (20) When is the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Committee report on children in detention due to be released.
- (21) What is the current status of the report.
- (22) When was the report received by the Minister.
- (23) (a) When was the report sent to the department; (b) for what reason; and (c) if the reason was to 'correct factual errors', why has it taken so long to do so.
- (24) Will the report be sent to the Attorney General or his department; if so, when and for what purpose.

1643 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the Australian Grand Prix Corporation's application for exemption from the *Tobacco Advertising Prohibition Act 1992*, provided in response to an order of the Senate of 14 May 2003:

- (1) What evidence was provided by the application in support of the claim in part 2(a) of the application that 'the 2000 championship was viewed by at least 54 billion people'.
- (2) How is this claim of 54 billion viewers reconciled with the fact that the total world population in 2000 was estimated to be just over 6 billion.
- (3) Given that the applicant indicates in part 3(b) of the application that, 'there is no guarantee that a Grand Prix will be staged at a circuit in one year simply because it was held at that circuit in the previous year': Does the Government understand this to indicate that the Australian Grand Prix Corporation (AGPC) did not have a firm contract to run the event in Melbourne for: (a) 2003 at the time of the 2002 race; and (b) 2004 at the time of the 2003 race.
- (4) What evidence did the applicant provide in support of its claim that 'China, Russia, Bahrain, Lebanon, Turkey, Egypt, Dubai and several other countries are all currently bidding for the rights to host a round of the championship in 2003'.
- (5) Did such evidence indicate that each of these countries could have, in time for the 2003 season: (a) negotiated a contract; and (b) built a race track.
- (6) If no such evidence was provided, how did the Minister satisfy herself as to the veracity of the claim.
- (7) Has an AGPC application been made for an exemption from the Act for the 2003 season; is so, what, if any, were the variations in wording in this application from the previous application.
- (8) Has an exemption been granted for the 2004 Australian Grand Prix in Melbourne; if so, on what conditions.

*Notice given 22 July 2003*

1644 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) How many personnel recently deployed to Iraq were in payment of a Department of Veterans' Affairs disability pension, under the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986; and (b) at what level.
- (2) What physical and medical examinations were conducted prior to departure of each person deployed to Iraq.
- (3) In the event that there is conflict between the medical assessment and the compensation assessment, what action has been or will be taken.

1645 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) How many: (a) dentists; (b) dental specialists; and (c) other dental health providers, are currently registered with the department for the provision of dental health to veterans and war widows.
- (2) (a) Have negotiations commenced with the Australian Dental Association on a new schedule of fees; and (b) when is the schedule expected to be finalised.
- (3) (a) How many representations have been received from dentists and others seeking an increase in fees; and (b) in how many representations have there been threats to refuse to treat veterans with the Gold Card.
- (4) How many dentists and other dental health providers have already withdrawn from the scheme.
- (5) For the 2003-03 financial year; what was the cost of dental care to: (a) Gold Card holders; and (b) White Card holders.
- (6) Will any increase in dental fees and any agreement to that effect require Cabinet approval.
- (7) Is there any linkage between this issue and other dental fee issues as managed by the Department of Health and Aged Care.
- (8) What advice has been provided to veterans and war widows concerning the fee negotiations and options for treatment in the event that dental care is denied.

1646 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to press reports of 19 July 2003 concerning the assertions made by the Friends of the 15th Brigade that a mass grave of as many as 250 Australians killed in action at Fromelles, France, exists on private land at Pheasant Farm.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that almost 2 000 Australians were killed in the battle of Fromelles in July 1916.
- (3) On how many occasions has the Friends of the 15th Brigade communicated with the Minister's office and the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG) on this matter in the past 5 years.
- (4) What specific attempts and inquiries have been undertaken to verify the assertion that a mass grave of Australians prepared by German troops exists at this location.
- (5) What basis does the Director of OAWG have, as reported on 19 July 2003, for saying that 'there is absolutely no evidence that there are 250 war dead at this site'.
- (6) What investigations have been conducted already by the Department of Defence.
- (7) What is the current intention of OAWG with respect to the placement of a commemorative plaque at this location, should the belief of the Friends of the 15th Brigade be proven to have substance.
- (8) Will the Government as a matter of urgency seek the assistance of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to investigate the claim of the Friends of the 15th Brigade, with a view to its validation, and with a view to erecting a commemorative plaque on the site, with the land owner's consent.

- (9) (a) What is the current procedure relating to the search for those lost in action and whose bodies are never recovered; and (b) does this rest with the Department of Defence, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, or the OAWG.
- (10) On the provision of similar information on the possible location of Australian remains abroad, whether it be in Papua New Guinea, Germany, the Middle East or France, what is the procedure for verification, recovery and burial.
- (11) What is the current procedure for commemoration of the burial of those located, with respect to repatriation, travel of relatives and payment of costs.
- (12) (a) What was the total cost of the recent commemorative burial of the former World War II Lancaster crew in Germany; and (b) who attended from Australia.

*Notice given 23 July 2003*

- 1647 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—Can a copy be provided of the department's Organisational Effectiveness Branch report, *The Defence Reform Program Internal Review and Lessons Learned—March 2001*, which is quoted extensively by the Australian National Audit Office in its audit report, *Defence Reform Program management and outcomes* (No. 16 of 2001-02).
- 1648 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to table 4.4, Defence Reform Program Reinvestment, on page 120 of the *Defence Portfolio Budget Statements 2000-01* which projects how savings achieved under the Defence Reform Program would be reinvested between the 2000-01 and 2003-04 financial years:
- (1) Can a table, in the same format as the table referred to above, be provided which indicates the extent to which this reinvestment has occurred between the 2000-01 and 2002-03 financial years.
  - (2) Have similar projections been made for the 2004-05 to 2006-07 financial years; if so, can these projections be provided.
- 1649 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the two tables on page 121 of the *Defence Portfolio Budget Statements 2000-01* that project cumulative civilian and military personnel reductions across Defence between the 2000-01 and 2003-04 financial years as a result of the Defence Reform Program:
- (1) Can a table, in the same format as the tables referred to above, be provided which indicates the extent to which these projected personnel reductions occurred between the 2000-01 and 2002-03 financial years.
  - (2) Have similar projections been made for the 2004-05 to 2006-07 financial years; if so, can these projections be provided.
- 1650 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to table 4.3, Defence Reform Program Cumulative Resources Available for Reinvestment by Major Initiative Category, on page 118 of the *Defence Portfolio Budget Statements 2000-01* which projects the cumulative savings available for reinvestment as a result of the Defence Reform Program between the 2000-01 and 2003-04 financial years.

- (1) Can a table, in the same format as the table referred to above, be provided which indicates the extent to which these savings were achieved between the 2000-01 and 2002-03 financial years.
- (2) Have similar projections been made for the 2004-05 to 2006-07 financial years; if so, can these projections be provided.

1654 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the proposed sale of the Gan Gan Army Camp at Port Stephens:

- (1) How much land is proposed for sale.
- (2) What was this land previously used for.
- (3) How is the sale process to be managed.
- (4) (a) Who is managing the sale on behalf of Defence; and (b) how much are they being paid.
- (5) What are the key dates in the sale process.
- (6) Have any organisations expressed an interest in the site; if so, can a list of the organisations be provided.
- (7) Has the land been valued by either the New South Wales Valuer General or the Australian Valuation Office; if so: (a) on what dates did the valuations occur; and (b) what was the estimated value of the site.
- (8) Is Defence aware of any heritage and/or environmental significance attached to the site.
- (9) Is Defence aware that this land is home to many rare and threatened species, including koalas, bats, frogs and birds.
- (10) Were these issues taken into account prior to the decision being taken to sell the land; if not, why not; if so: (a) on what basis was it decided to sell the land; (b) who took this decision; and (c) when was the decision taken.
- (11) Are there any restrictions on the future use of the land in the sale documentation; if not, why not; if so, can a description of the nature of these restrictions be provided.
- (12) Could the land be used for residential and/or commercial development.
- (13) Does Defence consider that residential and/or commercial development would be an appropriate use of this site.
- (14) Did Defence have any discussions with either the local council or the State Government prior to the decision being taken to sell the land; if not, why not; if so, what was the nature of these discussions.
- (15) Given the environmental and heritage significance of the site, did Defence raise the possibility of gifting the land to the local council or the State Government for preservation as part of the Tomaree National Park; if not, why not.

1656 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Can a list be provided of all Professional Service Providers (PSPs) engaged by the department during the 2001-02 financial year; and (b) what amount was paid to each of these PSPs.
- (2) Can a list be provided of all PSPs engaged by the department during the 2002-03 financial year; and (b) what amount was paid for each of these PSPs.

1657 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Can a list be provided of all external consultants engaged by the department during the 2001-02 financial year; and (b) what amount was paid to each of these external consultants.
- (2) Can a list be provided of all external consultants engaged by the department during the 2002-03 financial year; and (b) what amount was paid to each of these external consultants.

*Notice given 24 July 2003*

1658 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to Project AIR 5375:

- (1) When were tenders called for this project.
- (2) When was a decision made on the preferred supplier.
- (3) When was the contract for the supply of the tactical air defence radar systems signed.
- (4) What was the original approved budget for this project.
- (5) What is the current budget for this project.
- (6) What were the original dates for: (a) the initial delivery of the system; and (b) the system's acceptance into service.
- (7) What are the latest estimates for the dates of: (a) initial delivery of the system; and (b) the system's acceptance into service.
- (8) Is Tenix contracted to provide communications, cabins and other infrastructure for this project, as indicated on the Defence Materiel Organisation website.
- (9) What were the original delivery dates for the communications, cabins and other infrastructure for this project.
- (10) What is the latest estimate for the delivery dates for the communications, cabins and other infrastructure for this project.
- (11) Have delays with the delivery of the communications, cabins and other infrastructure for this project delayed the project overall, as indicated in the annual report; if so, what is the extent of this delay.
- (12) What explanation has been provided for these delays.
- (13) What action has been taken against the suppliers in relation to these delays.
- (14) Has the Commonwealth accrued any additional costs due to these delays, for example, in maintaining existing equipment; if so: (a) what is the estimated extent of these costs; and (b) will the Commonwealth be responsible for them.
- (15) (a) What is the current capability in tactical air defence radars; (b) when was this existing capability introduced; and (c) what are the limitations of the current capability that warranted its replacement.

1659 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to Project AIR 5333, Phase 1:

- (1) Can a detailed description of this project be provided.
- (2) (a) When were tenders called for this project; and (b) when did tenders close.
- (3) When was a decision made on the preferred supplier.
- (4) (a) Who is the preferred supplier; and (b) who was the second preferred supplier.

- (5) When was the contract for Project AIR 5333 signed; if the contract has not been signed, why not.
- (6) (a) What was the length of the delay between the closing of the tender and the signing of the contract; and (b) what was the cause of the delay.
- (7) What is the latest estimate on when a contract for the project will be signed.
- (8) What was the original approved budget for this project.
- (9) What is the current approved budget for this project.
- (10) What were the original dates for: (a) the initial delivery of the system; and (b) the system's acceptance into service.
- (11) What are the latest estimates for the dates of: (a) initial delivery of the system; and (b) the system's acceptance into service.
- (12) Has the preferred supplier put forward proposed changes to the project; if so, what changes are being proposed.
- (13) Are there any proposals to change the budget of this project; if so, what change is being proposed.
- (14) Has the Commonwealth accrued any additional costs due to the delay in the delivery of this project, for example, in maintaining existing equipment; if so: (a) what is the estimated extent of these costs; and (b) will the Commonwealth be responsible for them.
- (15) (a) What is the current capability in air defence command and control systems; (b) when was this existing capability introduced; and (c) what are the limitations of the current capability that warranted its replacement.

1660 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to Operation Anode, the Australian Defence Force contribution to the Solomon Islands Assistance Mission, can a table (as shown below) be provided indicating: (a) the exact number of personnel attached to each element of the deployment; (b) the home base of the personnel; (c) the monthly cost of the deployment of each element; and (d) the role of each element in the deployment:

<b>Element of deployment</b>	<b>Number of personnel</b>	<b>Home base</b>	<b>Monthly cost of deployment</b>	<b>Role in deployment</b>
Special Military Adviser				
Joint Task Force Headquarters				
Australian Battalion Group				
Battalion Headquarters				
Iroquois Helicopters				
Engineering Group				
Combat Service Support Team				
Caribou Aircraft				

Element of deployment	Number of personnel	Home base	Monthly cost of deployment	Role in deployment
HMAS <i>Manoora</i>				
Medium Landing Craft				
Minor War Vessels				
Landing Craft Heavy				
C130 Hercules				

1661 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) How much money has been allocated to the nanotechnology (nanoscience) industry per year over the past 5 years.
- (2) By what amount does the Minister estimate this expenditure will increase over the next 5 years.
- (3) What is the nanotechnology industry currently worth to the Australian economy.
- (4) What regulations are in place to govern the research and use of nanotechnology in Australia.
- (5) Are there currently labelling regulations for products developed through the use of nanotechnology; if not, will the Minister be introducing such regulations in the near future.
- (6) Is there a register of products, covering all industries including medical and information technology, which were developed using nanotechnology.
- (7) Will the Minister establish a body to ensure nanotechnology is used in an ethical manner.

*Notice given 25 July 2003*

1662 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the actions of Australian-owned mining companies operating in Indonesia:

- (1) Does the Australian Government support overturning Indonesian Forestry Law 41 of 1999 to give access to protected forest areas in Indonesia to mining companies.
- (2) What support of any kind has the Australian Embassy in Jakarta given to mining companies, in particular BHP Billiton or its subsidiaries, in their efforts to overturn Indonesian Forestry Law 41 of 1999.
- (3) Has the Australian Embassy made any space or resources available to those employed by, or associated with, mining companies lobbying for the overturn of Indonesian Forestry Law 41 of 1999; if so, can details be provided.
- (4) Has any person representing the Australian Government in Indonesia or elsewhere had any meetings with Indonesian Government officials regarding Forestry Law 41 of 1999; if so: (a) who was the Australian representative; (b) with whom did they meet; and (c) what was discussed.



- (5) Have any protests been held outside the Australian Embassy in Jakarta regarding this issue; if so: (a) when were these protests held; and (b) were there any arrests.

*Notice given 28 July 2003*

1663 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the sale of the former Gan Gan Army Camp at Port Stephens:

- (1) When was the Gan Gan Army Camp sold.
- (2) Which organisation purchased the property.
- (3) What was the sale price for the property.
- (4) (a) What was the closing date for expressions of interest; and (b) how many expressions of interest for the property were submitted.
- (5) (a) When was a preferred buyer selected; and (b) what process was used to select the preferred buyer.
- (6) What was the date of settlement for the sale.
- (7) (a) Is it normal for Defence property sales to be settled so quickly; and (b) why did the settlement process for this sale occur so quickly.
- (8) (a) What is the total value of all Commonwealth-funded building works at the Gan Gan Army Camp site over the past 5 financial years; and (b) can a breakdown of these works be provided.
- (9) Did the New South Wales Government (either through a New South Wales Minister or a government agency) express any interest in acquiring the Gan Gan Army Camp at any time during the past 5 years; if so, can the details of each expression of interest made be provided.
- (10) Did Defence respond to any of these expressions of interest; if so, what was Defence's response to each expression of interest.
- (11) Has there been an environmental evaluation of the Gan Gan Army Camp site at any time in the past 5 financial years; if so, can a copy be provided of each environmental evaluation report written in this period.

1665 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the F/A-18 Hornet Upgrade project (Project AIR 5376) in the Defence Capability Plan:

- (1) Can a description of all of the phases of this project be provided.
- (2) (a) What was the original timeline for the completion of the project, including the dates for each of the phases in the project; and (b) when was the project due to be completed.
- (3) (a) What was the original budget for this project; and (b) what were the individual budgets for each of the phases in the project.
- (4) (a) What is the current schedule for the completion of this project; (b) what are the completion dates for each of the phases in the project; and (c) when is the project due to be completed.
- (5) Has the schedule for this project changed; if so, why.
- (6) How would any schedule change with this project impact on future capability.
- (7) (a) What is the current budget for the project; and (b) what are the budgets for each of the phases in the project.
- (8) What has been the cost of this project to date.
- (9) Has the projected budget for this project increased; if so, why.

- 1668 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Defence and Industry Advisory Council
- (1) When was the council established.
  - (2) Who established the council.
  - (3) For what purpose was the council established.
  - (4) Can a copy of the council's terms of reference be provided.
  - (5) What is the membership of the council.
  - (6) What are the reporting arrangements for the council, for example: (a) to whom does it report; (b) how regularly are such reports made; and (c) what do the reports contain.
  - (7) Can a list be provided of meeting dates for the council since its establishment.
- 1669 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Has anyone from the Australian Defence Force (ADF), or on behalf of the ADF, been to the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) Ohakea Airbase in Wellington, New Zealand, at any time since 1 January 2002 with the express purpose of recruiting pilots from the RNZAF; if so, on what dates did this active recruitment take place.
  - (2) Why did the ADF seek to actively recruit pilots from the RNZAF.
  - (3) How many pilots have been recruited to the ADF from the RNZAF since 1 January 2002.
  - (4) Has the ADF undertaken similar active recruitment exercises for pilots in any other countries; if so: (a) what were these countries; and (b) how many pilots were actively recruited from each of these other countries since 1 January 2002.
  - (5) What is the immigration status of the pilots that have been recruited from the RNZAF since 1 January 2002.
  - (6) Given that the RNZAF pilots were not Australian citizens, or permanent residents of Australia at the time of their enlistment in the ADF, on what basis were they permitted to become members of the ADF.
  - (7) How many of the overseas recruits are now: (a) permanent residents of Australia; or (b) Australian citizens.
  - (8) Are the RNZAF recruits eligible for veterans' entitlements and military compensation before they become Australian citizens, for instance: (a) while they are on a special category visa; or (b) if they are only permanent residents.
- 1670 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—Can a list be provided of all the Defence property sold during the 2002-03 financial year, indicating for each property: (a) the date of sale; (b) the property name and/or address; (c) the type of property (vacant/buildings); (d) the size of the property; (e) the type of sale (auction, request for proposal, advertised price); and (f) the sale price.
- 1671 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the sale and leaseback of the Australian Defence College (ADC) at Weston Creek in Canberra:
- (1) When was the property sold.
  - (2) What was the sale price.
  - (3) When was this sale advertised.
  - (4) (a) Who managed the sale process; and (b) how much were they paid.

- (5) How was the sale for this property conducted.
- (6) Was there a valuation done on the property prior to sale; if so, what was the result of that valuation.
- (7) Has there been any valuation of the 5.2 hectares of land on which the College is situated; if so, what was the result of this valuation.
- (8) How many bids were received.
- (9) Which organisations submitted bids.
- (10) What was the range of bids for the property.
- (11) Why did Defence choose to accept the winning bid.
- (12) Who took the decision to accept the winning bid; for example, was the decision taken within Defence or by the Minister.
- (13) When was this decision taken.
- (14) What rent for the Australian Defence College will Defence pay in the first year of the lease.
- (15) What rent will be paid in the second and subsequent years of the lease.

1674 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Can a breakdown be provided of all expenditure (such as advertising costs, administrative costs, staff costs, agents fees, consultants fees, design fees etc) incurred by the Government in preparing for the sale and leaseback of Russell Offices in Canberra.
- (2) Given that the proposed sale of Russell Offices has been abandoned, has any compensation been paid to the property sales consultant that won a \$264 000 contract to manage the sale process.
- (3) Has any money out of the \$264 000 been paid to the contractor.
- (4) Has the contractor made any claim against the Commonwealth for damages and/or compensation as a result of the abandonment of the proposed sale.

*Notice given 29 July 2003*

1676 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the data speed of 19.2 kbps the reasonable minimum speed for dial up connections that is guaranteed under the Internet Assistance Program; if not, what is the minimum speed for dial up connections that is guaranteed under the program; if so: (a) is Telstra required under the program to provide this dial up Internet service, equivalent to 19.2 kbps, over its fixed line network to users regardless of their location in Australia; and (b) is Telstra in breach of its obligations under the program if it only guarantees a telephone service which can achieve a minimum data speed of 2.4 kbps.
- (2) What action will the Minister take to enforce Telstra's compliance with the program.

**Senator Collins:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1677-1678)—With reference to checks etc made by the department on vacancies listed on the Australian JobSearch website (and the media release of the Minister for Employment Services, dated 15 July 2003), and more generally, on the activities of employment agencies and employers offering employment:

- (1) How many random checks has the department made on positions listed on the Australian JobSearch website in each of the following financial years: (a) 2000-01; (b) 2001-02; and (c) 2002-03.

- (2) How many complaints has the department received about positions listed on the website in each of the following financial years: (a) 2000-01; (b) 2001-02; and (c) 2002-03.
- (3) How many complaints has the department investigated about positions listed on the website in each of the following financial years: (a) 2000-01; (b) 2001-02; and (c) 2002-03.
- (4) Can details be provided of the nature of the complaints; for example, the employer failing to confer lawful conditions, agencies exaggerating emoluments, requirements to pay for training before employment can commence, job offers as prostitutes etc.
- (5) Can details be provided of the nature of the inappropriate practices uncovered by random checks; for example, the employer failing to confer lawful conditions, agencies exaggerating emoluments, requirements to pay for training before employment can commence, job offers as prostitutes etc.
- (6) In relation to the matters referred to in (1) to (5) above, has the department come across any activity that may constitute a breach of section 338 of the Workplace Relations Act 1996; if so: (a) can details of the breaches be provided; and (b) did the department inform the relevant prosecutorial authority or authorities of the breaches and if not, why not.
- (7) In relation to the matters referred to in (1) to (5) above, has the department come across any activity that may constitute a breach of section 75AZE of the Trade Practices Act 1974; if so: (a) can details of the breaches be provided; and (b) did the department inform the relevant investigative and/or prosecutorial authority or authorities of the breaches and if not, why not.
- (8) How many complaints has the department received in respect of employment agencies and employers offering employment about alleged unlawful or inappropriate activities in each of the following financial years: (a) 2000-01; (b) 2001-02; and (c) 2002-03.
- (9) How many investigations into alleged unlawful or inappropriate activities has the department carried out in respect of employment agencies and employers offering employment in each of the following financial years: (a) 2000-01; (b) 2001-02; and (c) 2002-03.
- (10) Can details be provided of the nature of the complaints and investigations; for example, the employer failing to confer lawful conditions, agencies exaggerating emoluments, requirements to pay for training before employment can commence, job offers as prostitutes etc.
- (12) In relation to the matters referred to in (8) to (10) above: (a) has the department come across any activity that may constitute a breach of section 338 of the Workplace Relations Act 1996; if so: (i) can details of the breaches be provided, and (ii) did the department inform the relevant prosecutorial authority or authorities of the breaches and if not, why not; and (b) does the department actively police breaches of section 338 of the Workplace Relations Act 1996.
- (13) In relation to the matters referred to in (8) to (10) above: (a) has the department come across any activity that may constitute a breach of section 75AZE of the Trade Practices Act 1974; if so: (a) can details of the breaches be provided; and (b) did the department inform the relevant investigative and/or prosecutorial authority or authorities of the breaches and if not, why not; and (b) does the department actively police breaches of section 75AZE of the Trade Practices Act 1974.

- 1677 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations  
1678 Minister representing the Minister for Employment Services

*Notice given 1 August 2003*

- 1680 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1479 (Senate *Hansard*, 23 June 2003, p.12279):
- (1) (a) How much of the \$11.6 million is included in the \$21.8 million funding for the Cooperative Research Centre for Greenhouse Gas Technologies previously announced; and (b) what is the balance of the \$11.6 million to be used for and where did it come from.
  - (2) (a) What is the value of the in-kind support from Geoscience Australia to the centre in the 2003-04 financial year and for each subsequent year; and (b) how much of this is included in the \$11.6 million.
  - (3) What is the value of any other in-kind support being provided to the centre by the Government or its agencies, including the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, in the 2003-04 financial year and for each subsequent year.
- 1681 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What are the common principles and criteria underpinning the Government's decisions to intervene in East Timor, Iraq and the Solomon Islands.
  - (2) How does the situation in Zimbabwe compare with East Timor, Iraq and the Solomon Islands, against these principles and criteria.
  - (3) Is intervention in Zimbabwe by Australia, similar to that undertaken East Timor, Iraq and the Solomon Islands, an option.
- 1683 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What is the Government's current assessment of the situation in Zimbabwe compared with its assessment at the time of the last Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).
  - (2) What action will the Government be requesting at the next CHOGM, scheduled for December 2003, in relation to Zimbabwe's possible re-admission to the Commonwealth.
  - (3) Does the Government support Zimbabwe's expulsion from the Commonwealth.
  - (4) What other options are open if the Commonwealth fails to take appropriate action to improve the situation in Zimbabwe; could options include action by the United Nations and coalitions of countries.
  - (5) Would Australia be willing to send a delegation of election supervisors to Zimbabwe if the electoral challenge by opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai in November 2003 is successful.
- 1684 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1370 concerning the northern peninsula of Research Bay, Tasmania, in which it was stated that 'sites are currently being assessed by the Tasmanian Heritage Council':

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Tasmanian Heritage Council has resolved that 'the onus of providing information which would be considered in establishing significance was a matter for the nominator(s) and accordingly it [the Heritage Council] would not be carrying out any further research'.
- (2) Given the potential and international significance of the area, does the Minister consider it adequate for an assessment by the Tasmanian Heritage Council to rely on the efforts of volunteer members of the community.
- (3) In relation to the assessment and protection of the northern peninsula of Research Bay: (a) what communication has the Commonwealth had with the Tasmanian Government, Gunns Pty Ltd and the owners of relevant land; and (b) can details be provided of correspondence and meetings, including the parties involved, dates and the matters discussed.

1685 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—Further to the answer to question on notice no. 1370 concerning the northern peninsula of Research Bay, Tasmania

- (1) What steps is the Commonwealth taking to establish the significance of the cultural landscape of the northern peninsula of Research Bay, including all the areas occupied and traversed by the D'Entrecasteaux expedition.
- (2) Has the Commonwealth commissioned research to establish the significance of the area; if so: (a) who is undertaking the research; (b) how much will it cost; (c) when will it be completed; and (d) will the report be made public.
- (3) When will the Commonwealth be in a position to consider the issue of acquisition.

1687 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) What is the policy of Australasian Correctional Management (ACM) regarding the care of children who are left unattended when their parent is, or parents are, placed in isolation units for lengthy periods.
- (2) Are any ACM staff trained professional child care workers.
- (3) Can the Minister clarify why one detainee was locked into an isolation cell that had to be drilled open, as shown on the ABC Four Corners program during May 2003.
- (4) Why have all the Woomera DC 2000 and most of the Villawood DC 2001 medical files of the detainee Mohammad Hassan Sabbagh, who suffered a mental breakdown and has been held in detention since December 1999, disappeared.
- (5) (a) What is the ratio of staff to detainees in all centres; and (b) is this ratio uniform.
- (6) What does the Minister propose to do with the long-term detainees who cannot be returned to their country of birth, for example, stateless Kuwaitis.
- (7) Given that the Government has been unable to deport the detainee Hassan Sabbagh, who has been held for more than three and a half years, to Iraq, why can he not be released into the care of willing community support groups, such as the Jesuit Refugee Services or the Uniting Church, rather than burdening the taxpayer unnecessarily.

1688 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Area Consultative Committee Work Principles related to the Ministerial Statement of Priorities:

- (1) What instructions and/or training has the Minister and/or his department provided to Area Consultative Committees in relation to ethical practices.
- (2) Can a copy be provided of any written advice provided to the committees in relation to standards of ethical behaviour; if not, why not.
- (3) What constitutes a 'conflict of interest' in relation to the activities of chairpersons, members and staff of the committees.
- (4) Are chairpersons, members and staff of the committees required to declare any conflict of interest, perceived or actual, in relation to any discussion or decision of their committee; if so, in what form must those declarations be made.
- (5) Does the Minister and/or his department maintain a register of such declarations; if so, in what form is that register maintained.
- (6) Are chairpersons, members and staff of the committees required to excuse themselves from discussions and decisions of their committee when any conflict of interest, perceived or actual, arises.
- (7) What action is the Minister and/or the department empowered to take against chairpersons, members and staff of the committees who fail to uphold required standards of ethical conduct.
- (8) Has the Minister and/or the department had cause to counsel or take other action against chairpersons, members and staff of any of the committees for failing to uphold required standards of ethical conduct, including failures to declare conflicts of interest; if so, can details be provided of these events, including dates, circumstances, action taken and the committee concerned.

1689 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the grant of \$32 617 to the South East Packing Operation in Moruya, New South Wales in round five of the Dairy Regional Assistance Program (DRAP):

- (1) What are the names of the principals of the project proponent, Advocate Support Pty Ltd.
- (2) On what date did the South East New South Wales Area Consultative Committee first engage in discussions with representatives of Advocate Support Pty Ltd and/or other parties in relation to the project proposal.
- (3) (a) On what date was the project application endorsed by the committee; and (b) which members of the committee were present at the meeting that endorsed the application.
- (4) On what date was the project application forwarded to the department by the committee; and (b) on what date was the application received by the department.
- (5) Did the chair of the committee, Mr Greg Malavey, engage in any discussions, or participate in any deliberations, by the committee in relation to the project proposal; if so, can the Minister describe Mr Malavey's participation.
- (6) Did Mr Malavey's signature endorse the proponent's written application on behalf the committee; if so, can a copy of Mr Malavey's written endorsement be provided.
- (7) If Mr Malavey did not sign the written application: (a) why not; (b) can the Minister advise which member of the committee provided the endorsement; and (c) can a copy of the member's written endorsement be provided.

1690 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 860 (Senate *Hansard*, 9 December 2003, p. 7524) concerning the grant of \$32 617 to the South East Packing Operation in Moruya, New South Wales, in round five of the Dairy Regional Assistance Program:

- (1) On what date did the department obtain details of the development application associated with the project.
- (2) Is the person identified as Mr G Malavey in the Eurobodalla Shire Council Minute PM224 as having formed a deputation to council on behalf of the owner of the property in relation to the development application also the chairperson of the South East New South Wales Area Consultative Committee; if so: (a) on what date and in what form did the chairperson of the committee, Mr Greg Malavey, declare his interest in the South East Packing Operation to the committee and/or the department; (b) when was the Minister informed; and (c) what action did the committee or the department or the Minister take in response to the declaration of Mr Malavey's interest.
- (3) Has the chairperson of the committee declared any conflict of interest in relation to the project; if so: (a) on what date was that declaration made; (b) what form did that declaration take; (c) what was the basis of the conflict of interest; and (d) what were the consequences of that declaration.
- (4) On what date was the department advised that the Eurobodalla Shire Council approved the development application lodged by the grant recipient, Advocate Support Group Pty Ltd, subject to a special condition that confectionery packing is limited to 2 days per week and packing and deliveries shall not occur before 7 am and after 6 pm on Sundays or public holidays.
- (5) What impact has the special condition had on the capacity of the project to generate employment outcomes of six full-time and twelve part-time jobs nominated in the project application.

1691 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 861 (Senate *Hansard*, 9 December 2003, p. 7524) concerning the grant of \$32 617 to the South East Packing Operation in Moruya, New South Wales, in round five of the Dairy Regional Assistance Program:

- (1) (a) How many full-time positions has the project generated; and (b) when were the jobs generated.
- (2) (a) How many part-time jobs has the project generated; and (b) when were the jobs generated.

1692 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 863 (Senate *Hansard*, 9 December 2003, p. 7525) concerning the grant of \$32 617 to the South East Packing Operation in Moruya, New South Wales, in round five of the Dairy Regional Assistance Program:

- (1) How has the project been monitored by the South East New South Wales Area Consultative Committee.
- (2) (a) On what dates has the proponent reported to the committee's Moruya-based officer; and (b) what form did these project reports take.



1693 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—With reference to the announcement on 22 July 2003 of short-term assistance to the ethanol industry:

- (1) (a) What companies and/or industry bodies made representations to the Minister or his department seeking the payment of the current fuel ethanol subsidy in advance of the payment of excise; (b) which companies will benefit from this new arrangement; and (c) what is the estimated cost to revenue of this arrangement by financial year.
- (2) How will the measure ensure the ethanol industry is able to appropriately manage the transition to the E10 blend.
- (3) On what date did the Government commence negotiations with the Manildra group of companies on the proposal to appoint a facilitator to assist these companies in its commercial negotiations with potential purchasers of ethanol.
- (4) Did the Manildra group of companies seek the appointment of a Government facilitator; if so: (a) what reasons did these companies provide in their request; (b) on what date did the Government receive the request; and (c) in what form was that request made.
- (5) Who is the facilitator.
- (6) (a) What is the new role of the facilitator; and (b) what is the term of his or her appointment.
- (7) What is the total expected cost of the facilitator's position by financial year.
- (8) What financial contribution is the Manildra group of companies making to the cost of engaging the facilitator.
- (9) What is the facilitator's work address.
- (10) What deficiencies in Manildra's management has the Government identified that necessitates the appointment of a facilitator to assist its commercial negotiations.
- (11) Why is the facilitator's role in assisting commercial negotiations on ethanol fuel sales limited to negotiations involving the Manildra group of companies.
- (12) How will the measure assist companies other than the Manildra group of companies to appropriately manage the transition to the E10 blend.
- (13) For each financial year since 1996-97, can a list be provided of previous and current Commonwealth appointments of facilitators to assist individual companies to undertake commercial negotiations.

1694 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—With reference to the announcement on 25 July 2003 of the assistance package for the biofuels industry:

- (1) What evidence will applicants for capital subsidies be required to produce to: (a) demonstrate viability beyond 2013; and (b) demonstrate the existence of firm contracts for the supply of biofuels.
- (2) In relation to the media release by the Minister for Small Business and Tourism, dated 25 July 2003, can details be provided of the 15 ethanol and 16 biodiesel plants or expansions across regional Australia representing possible investment in excess of \$1.1 billion, including for each new plant or expansion: (a) the name of the proponent; (b) whether the project is a new plant or an expansion of an existing production capacity; (c) the nature of the proposed production, for example, ethanol or biodiesel, including

proposed feedstock; (d) the volume of the proposed production in million litres (ML); (e) the location of the proposed plant; (f) the potential investment level; (g) the potential job creation; and (h) the nature of the boost to the relevant regional economy.

- (3) Since the announcement, has the Government received advice from proponents connected with any of the 31 projects identified in the Minister's media release advising that expanded production will not be sufficiently supported by the Government's package to allow new plants to be built; if so, can details be provided of the advice received.
- (4) In relation to the report commissioned from the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation, jointly with the Bureau of Transport and Regional Economics and the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics, on the Government's 350ML biofuels target: (a) what are the terms of reference; (b) what is its completion date; and (c) what is its budget.

1695 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) What is the current total capacity of Australia's domestic excisable fuel ethanol production.
- (2) What is the current total domestic demand for excisable fuel ethanol.

1696 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—What is the audit process in place whereby imports from Singapore under the Free Trade Agreement can be assured to comply with the requirement that a minimum of 50 per cent of the value of the product exported to Australia is added in Singapore.

1697 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) With reference to the discussion and recommendations of the March 1999 Review of Military Compensation by Mr N Tanzer AO, what progress has been made on the development of a premium-based model for the Australian Defence Force (ADF).
- (2) What is the current estimated liability of the Military Compensation Scheme.
- (3) For each of the past 3 years, what total sum has been paid by way of: (a) lump sums for permanent impairment; and (b) incapacity payments to current and discharged personnel.
- (4) For each of the past 3 years: (a) what total sum has been paid under Defence Act Determinations; and (b) to how many recipients.
- (5) How many ADF personnel have died as a result of service-related injuries in each of the past 3 years.
- (6) What claims, by injury group, for compensation by ADF personnel deployed to the Iraq operations during 2003 have been: (a) made; and (b) accepted; under the Military Compensation Scheme.
- (6) What claims, by injury group, for compensation by ADF personnel deployed to the Iraq operations during 2003 have been: (a) made; and (b) accepted; under the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986.

1698 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What is the current annual cost of maintaining the 2 Field Hospital (MORT) program of rehabilitation.

- (2) In the 2002-03 financial year: (a) how many Australia Defence Force (ADF) personnel treated at the MORT were successfully returned to service in the ADF; and (b) how many were discharged as medically unfit within classifications A, B and C.
- (3) What plans exist for the replication of the MORT in other states.

1699 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Did the Chief of the Defence Force (CDF) in a letter to the review of military compensation in 1999 express 'a strong view that the ADF must take a more integrated and holistic approach to occupational health and safety, compensation and rehabilitation that best meets its needs. The current arrangements are less than satisfactory because the shared functions across a number of organisations limit the visibility, sense of ownership and commitment to the whole function within Defence'; if so, what has changed in the attitude of the CDF whereby in the proposed new military compensation scheme, policy responsibility for compensation is further divorced from Defence by transfer to what is effectively the existing Repatriation Commission.
- (2) Under the proposed new military compensation scheme, what responsibility does Defence assume for occupational health and safety (OH&S) policy within the Australian Defence Force, as opposed to the current arrangements where that authority is vested in the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission.
- (3) Did the CDF also express a preference to the Tanzer Review that the creation of a separate OH&S regulatory authority within Defence had the potential to give a more direct and substantial impetus to that function than was currently possible; if so, is this still the view held.
- (4) Under the proposed new scheme, will funding be allocated to the Department of Defence, or to the new commission based on the Repatriation Commission, or to the Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- (5) Under the proposed new model, how will medical costs be attributed between the Defence Health Services and the scheme with respect to compensable injuries.

1700 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) What consultations has the department and the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission had with the Department of Defence in the past 12 months with respect to removing the Australian Defence Force from the coverage of the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988.
- (2) Will the new military compensation scheme remove the current arrangements; if so, to what extent.

1701 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Has an estimate of the liability under the Veterans' Entitlement Act 1986 for compensation claims been done since that done for the Tanzer Review in 1998; if not, why not.
- (2) For the purposes of fiscal planning, has the Department of Finance and Administration ever consulted with the Department of Veterans' Affairs on more accurately identifying the nature of its future liability for all costs including health care and compensation.

- (3) What role does the Repatriation Commission have in monitoring the liability incurred under the Act.
- (4) What is the current estimated full life cost of a totally and permanently incapacitated pension including service pension and allowances to a person aged 55.

1702 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) What consideration has been given since the 1999 report into military compensation, to shifting the funding for military compensation from below the line to above the line, together with a premium-based system.
- (2) For fiscal planning purposes, what consideration has the department given to the proper calculation of future liabilities under the Military Compensation Scheme and the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986.
- (3) What was the last available estimate of each liability.
- (4) Will funding for the proposed new military compensation scheme be below the line or above the line, and will it be a premium-based model.

1703 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) For each of the past 7 years, on how many occasions, and to which commemorative events overseas, has there been official attendance by invitation by: (a) Government ministers (can a list of names be provided), (b) Opposition spokesmen, (c) other members of Parliament; and (d) representatives from the veteran community by: (i) number, and (ii) organisation.
- (2) What was the cost of each commemorative ceremony referred to in paragraph (1) above for: (a) ministerial travel and allowances; (b) ministerial spouse travel; (c) ministerial staff travel and allowances; (d) departmental and other officials' travel and allowances; (e) ex-service community travel and allowances; (f) official entertainment; (g) gifts and memorabilia; (h) Australian Defence Force personnel travel and allowances; (i) monument construction; (j) public relations; (k) venue hire; (l) security; and (m) insurance.
- (3) What is the current program of commemorative activity overseas for which funds have been estimated in the budget process over the next 3 years.
- (4) What is the current proposed list of invitees for the opening of the war memorial in London on 11 November 2003, and of those: (a) how many are veterans and war widows; and (b) how were they selected.

1704 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Special Minister of State—

- (1) For the past 7 years, on how many occasions has the Minister for Veterans' Affairs travelled overseas.
- (2) What was the cost of each journey in relation to: (a) travel; and (b) allowances.
- (3) For each journey: (a) how many staff accompanied the Minister; and (b) what was the cost of staff travel.
- (4) (a) On how many occasions was the Minister accompanied by a spouse or partner; and (b) what was the added cost.
- (5) What was the purpose of each journey.
- (6) Has a full acquittal been completed for each journey by ministers and staff.

- (7) What was the total cost of that travel.

*Notice given 4 August 2003*

**Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1705-1722)—With reference to each separate agency within the Minister's responsibility:

- (1) How was the agency advised of the Government's revised requirements regarding corporate branding, logos, stationery design etc.
- (2) When was that advice provided.
- (3) Does the agency propose to adopt the revised requirements, or will the agency be seeking an exemption from these requirements; if the latter, from whom will the agency seek the exemption.
- (4) Will the agency be seeking the advice of the Government Communications Unit in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in relation to these requirements.
- (5) What is the expected time frame for the implementation of these revised requirements, if appropriate.
- (6) What does this implementation entail.
- (7) What is the expected cost of the implementation of these revised requirements, in terms of: (a) expendables, such as stationery; (b) consultancies; (c) software redesign; (d) capital items, such as signage; and (e) any other expected costs.

1705 Minister representing the Prime Minister

1706 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

1707 Minister representing the Treasurer

1708 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

1709 Minister for Defence

1710 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

1711 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

1712 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

1713 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

1714 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

1715 Minister representing the Attorney-General

1716 Minister for Finance and Administration

1717 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

1718 Minister for Family and Community Services

1719 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

1720 Minister for Health and Ageing

1721 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

1722 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

1723 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the President of the Senate—With reference to each separate department within the President's responsibility:

- (1) How was the department advised of the Government's revised requirements regarding corporate branding, logos, stationery design etc.
- (2) When was that advice provided.

- (3) Does the department propose to adopt the revised requirements, or will the department be seeking an exemption from these requirements; if the latter, from whom will the department seek the exemption.
- (4) Will the department be seeking the advice of the Government Communications Unit in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet in relation to these requirements.
- (5) What is the expected time frame for the implementation of these revised requirements, if appropriate.
- (6) What does this implementation entail.
- (7) What is the expected cost of the implementation of these revised requirements, in terms of: (a) expendables, such as stationery; (b) consultancies; (c) software redesign; (d) capital items, such as signage; and (e) any other expected costs.

**Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1724-1741)—  
In relation to each separate agency within the Minister's responsibility:

- (1) On how many occasions since March 1996 has the agency entered into a consultancy contract in relation to the provision of services related to: (a) corporate branding; (b) logo design; (c) stationery design; and/or (d) related or associated services.
- (2) (a) What was the date of each contract entered into; (b) who was the consultant thereby engaged; and (c) when was each of the contracts completed.
- (3) (a) What was the outcome of each of those consultancies; and (b) can a copy be provided of the design or designs, logo, brand etc provided to the agency as a result of each consultancy referred to in paragraph (2) above, together with advice as to whether these designs etc were adopted and implemented by the agency.
- (4) What was the cost of each of the separate contracts specified in paragraph (2) above.
- (5) What was the cost of implementing the designs, logos etc specified in paragraph (3) above as being adopted by the agency.
- (6) How are these designs, logos etc implemented by the agency.
- (7) In relation to each design, logo etc adopted by the agency, what advice was provided by the consultant and accepted by the agency as to the reason why that design, logo etc was appropriate and recommended.
- (8) If, during the period March 1996 to the present, the agency developed its own: (a) corporate branding; (b) logo design; (c) stationery design; and/or (d) related or associated services; how many staff were employed to develop (a) to (d).
- (9) If, during the period March 1996 to the present, the agency developed its own: (a) corporate branding; (b) logo design; (c) stationery design; and/or (d) related or associated services; what was the cost to the agency to develop (a) to (d).
- (10) If, during the period March 1996 to the present, the agency developed its own: (a) corporate branding; (b) logo design; (c) stationery design; and/or (d) related or associated services; what was the cost of implementing (a) to (d).

- (11) If, during the period March 1996 to the present, the agency developed its own: (a) corporate branding; (b) logo design; (c) stationery design; and/or (d) related or associated services; how did the agency implement (a) to (d).
- (12) (a) What arrangements has the agency made, or will the agency make, to protect the intellectual copyright of the logos, designs etc adopted by the agency; and (b) what is the cost, or the expected cost, of undertaking these arrangements.

- 1724 Minister representing the Prime Minister
- 1725 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services
- 1726 Minister representing the Treasurer
- 1727 Minister representing the Minister for Trade
- 1728 Minister for Defence
- 1729 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
- 1730 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 1731 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
- 1732 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
- 1733 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage
- 1734 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 1735 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 1736 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 1737 Minister for Family and Community Services
- 1738 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
- 1739 Minister for Health and Ageing
- 1740 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
- 1741 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
- 1742 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the President of the Senate—  
In relation to each separate department within the President's responsibility:
- (1) On how many occasions since March 1996 has the department entered into a consultancy contract in relation to the provision of services related to: (a) corporate branding; (b) logo design; (c) stationery design; and/or (d) related or associated services.
  - (2) (a) What was the date of each contract entered into; (b) who was the consultant thereby engaged; and (c) when was each of the contracts completed.
  - (3) (a) What was the outcome of each of those consultancies; and (b) can a copy be provided of the design or designs, logo, brand etc provided to the department as a result of each consultancy referred to in paragraph (2) above, together with advice as to whether these designs etc were adopted and implemented by the department.
  - (4) What was the cost of each of the separate contracts specified in paragraph (2) above.
  - (5) What was the cost of implementing the designs, logos etc specified in paragraph (3) above as being adopted by the department.
  - (6) How were these designs, logos etc implemented by the agency.

- (7) In relation to each design, logo etc adopted by the department, what advice was provided by the consultant and accepted by the department as to the reason why that design, logo etc was appropriate and recommended.
- (8) If, during the period March 1996 to the present, the department developed its own: (a) corporate branding; (b) logo design; (c) stationery design; and/or (d) related or associated services: how many staff were employed to develop (a) to (d).
- (9) If, during the period March 1996 to the present, the department developed its own: (a) corporate branding; (b) logo design; (c) stationery design; and/or (d) related or associated services: what was the cost to the department to develop (a) to (d).
- (10) If, during the period March 1996 to the present, the department developed its own: (a) corporate branding; (b) logo design; (c) stationery design; and/or (d) related or associated services: what was the cost of implementing (a) to (d).
- (11) If, during the period March 1996 to the present, the department developed its own: (a) corporate branding; (b) logo design; (c) stationery design; and/or (d) related or associated services: how did the department implement (a) to (d).
- (12) (a) What arrangements has the department made, or will the department make, to protect the intellectual copyright of the logos, designs etc adopted by the department; and (b) what is the cost, or the expected cost, of undertaking these arrangements.

*Notice given 5 August 2003*

1743 **Senator Lees:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How much money was raised by the Government's \$10 Ansett levy on domestic air travel.
- (2) How much of that money has been allocated to former Ansett employees.
- (3) How many former Ansett employees still await access to their full entitlements.
- (4) How much money is required to pay these employees their full entitlements.
- (5) How much of the money raised by the levy remains unspent.
- (6) Why does the money remain in the bank rather than being awarded to former Ansett employees.

*Notice given 6 August 2003*

1744 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Has the department conducted any market research on Australia's level of knowledge about the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) in the past 2 years, or paid for it to be conducted by external bodies; if so: (a) when (list each occasion since January 2001); (b) how many Australians were asked about their level of knowledge, and on what basis were these Australians selected (for example, x number from y electorate or z postcode); (c) what companies and individuals conducted the research (list for each instance of market research); (d) what were each of the companies and individuals referred to in (c) paid for their market research;



- (e) can a copy of the questions asked be provided; and (f) can a copy of the Department's report on the market research findings be provided.
- (2) Has the department at any stage in the past 2 years recommended to the Minister that a public advertising campaign about the PBS be conducted; if so: (a) when did it make this recommendation; and (b) what data did it use to support it.
  - (3) Did the Minister or the Minister's office in any way initiate: (a) the proposal for market research; and (b) the proposal for advertising about the costs of the PBS.
  - (4) Has the department done any market research on Australia's knowledge of the PBS by way of: (a) focus groups; and (b) surveys; if so, can a copy be provided of the persons or organisations involved in any focus groups and/or surveyed, with an explanation as to why they were selected.
  - (5) In relation to all forms of market research conducted by or for the department into Australia's knowledge of the PBS since January 2001, can a list be provided of: (a) the total cost of the research; and (b) the cost of all segments, including consultant's charges, travel cost of persons conducting the research, report production costs etc. (please list separately).
  - (6) In relation to the advertising campaign about the PBS: (a) how much was budgeted for total costs of the campaign (for example, production and screening costs); (b) which advertising agencies and consultants have worked on the campaign at any stage; (c) how much has been paid to date to each of those agencies and consultants; (d) how much more is expected to be paid to each of these agencies and consultants in the 2002-03 and 2003-04 financial years; and (e) can a list be provided of any agencies or consultants that have rendered services in relation to the advertisement campaign, and have not charged for them.

*Notice given 7 August 2003*

1745 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Can details of all those government departments and agencies affected by the recent decision to standardise stationery be provided.
- (2) Can details be provided of the costs and timeframe for this to occur and the budgets from which these costs will be drawn.

1746 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Did Australia receive intelligence in which Indonesian military officials discussed an operation against Freeport-McMoRan in West Papua prior to an ambush that killed three people on 31 August 2002; if so, what did the Government do with this intelligence to protect the many Australians working at the company.
- (2) Did this intelligence implicate Indonesian military officials in the operation.

*Notice given 8 August 2003*

1747 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Sustainable Regions Programme's funding to the Atherton Tablelands region.

- (1) What funds were allocated to the program.

- (2) What are the outcomes sought by the Commonwealth Government for this funding program.
- (3) How does the level of funding for the Atherton Tablelands compare with that allocated for other regions.
- (4) When was the funding for the Atherton Tablelands allocated.
- (5) Over what timeframe have the funds been allocated.
- (6) What processes have been put in place to determine that strategic holistic regional objectives are identified and met.
- (7) Will all of the \$18 million allocated which is reported to be allocated to the Atherton Tablelands, be provided; if not: (a) how much will be allocated; and (b) what amounts have been allocated over what years.
- (8) If less than \$18 million is provided, how will this be communicated to the people of the Atherton Tablelands.
- (9) Who determined the management and administrative arrangements for the Atherton Tablelands Sustainable Regions Programme
- (10) What arrangements are in place to determine the allocation of funds to particular projects.
- (11) What proportion of the funds expended by the Commonwealth have been used for administration.
- (12) Who determined the management and administrative arrangements for the Atherton Tablelands' Sustainable Regions Advisory Committee.
- (13) How was the membership of this committee determined and by whom.
- (14) (a) Who are the members of the committee; and (b) on what basis were they appointed.
- (15) (a) To whom does the committee report; (b) how frequently; and (c) in what format.
- (16) Can copies be provided of any committee reports that have been received detailing the funding allocation process or project approvals.
- (17) Can copies be provided of minutes of all committee meetings held to date.
- (18) Are committee members required to declare any interests they may have in any applications being considered; if so: (a) how many occasions has this occurred; (b) for which projects; and (c) by whom.
- (19) In relation to funding issues: (a) what funding criteria were determined; (b) by whom; and (c) how were these criteria applied in determining projects to be funded.
- (20) Can a list be provided of applications for funding received by the committee, including: (a) identification of the purpose for which funding was sought; (b) for what amount; (c) which were successful; (d) which have been rejected and why; and (e) which are still awaiting a decision.
- (21) How many full-time permanent, full-time casual, part-time permanent, part-time casual, and construction jobs will be created by each project approved for funding.
- (22) Is a contribution from the applicant required for the application to be approved.
- (23) What due diligence processes were in place to assess the financial viability of applicants.

- (24) What proportion of successful applicants to date have been private businesses or individuals.
- (25) How many cooperative funding applications from a number of associations or authorities have been received.
- (26) What accountability mechanisms are in place to ensure project objectives are achieved.
- (27) Are successful applicants required to meet key performance indicators; if so: (a) what are these; and (b) how are projects benchmarked against them.
- (28) What impact or evaluation processes have been put in place to measure the success or failure of funded projects.
- (29) What evaluation processes have been put in place to measure the success or failure of the Sustainable Regions Programme in the Atherton Tablelands region.

*Notice given 11 August 2003*

1748 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) With regard to the Government's decision to provide domestic ethanol manufacturers with a production subsidy to offset the excise of 38.143 cents per litre applying to ethanol: (a) can the Minister advise: (i) what work was undertaken by Treasury, the Government's Energy Task Force or any other Commonwealth agency to model the effects on livestock feed grains (in terms of price and availability) within Australia as a result of this decision prior to the introduction of this measure in September 2002; and (ii) what work was undertaken by Treasury, the Government's Energy Task Force or any other Commonwealth agency to model the effects on livestock feed grains (in terms of price and availability) within Australia as a result of the decision to extend this measure to 2008; and (b) can a copy be provided of reports by Treasury, the Government's Energy Task Force or any other Commonwealth agency on the effects of these measures on livestock feed grains within Australia; if not, why not.
- (2) What work was or is currently being undertaken Treasury, the Government's Energy Task Force or any other Commonwealth agency to model the effects on livestock feed grains (in terms of price and availability) within Australia as a result of the following promises contained in the Coalition's 2001 Election Statement entitled 'Our Future Action Plan Growing Stronger': (a) setting a target that biofuels contribute 350 million litres to the total annual transport fuel supply by 2010; and (b) introducing a capital subsidy of \$0.16 for each litre of new or expanded biofuel production capacity until the additional 310 million litres target is reached or by the end of 2006-07.

1749 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) With regard to the Government's decision to provide domestic ethanol manufacturers with a production subsidy to offset the excise of 38.143 cents per litre applying to ethanol: (a) can the Minister advise: (i) what work was undertaken by Environment Australia, the Government's Energy Task Force or any other Commonwealth agency to model the effects on livestock feed grains (in terms of price and availability) within Australia as a result of this decision prior to the introduction of this measure in September 2002; and (ii) what work was undertaken by Environment

Australia, the Government's Energy Task Force or any other Commonwealth agency to model the effects on livestock feed grains (in terms of price and availability) within Australia as a result of the decision to extend this measure to 2008; and (b) can a copy be provided of reports by Environment Australia, the Government's Energy Task Force or any other Commonwealth agency on the effects of these measures on livestock feed grains within Australia; if not, why not.

- (2) What work was or is currently being undertaken by Environment Australia, the Government's Energy Task Force or any other Commonwealth agency to model the effects on livestock feed grains (in terms of price and availability) within Australia as a result of the following promises contained in the Coalition's 2001 Election Statement entitled 'Our Future Action Plan Growing Stronger': (a) setting a target that biofuels contribute 350 million litres to the total annual transport fuel supply by 2010; and (b) introducing a capital subsidy of \$0.16 for each litre of new or expanded biofuel production capacity until the additional 310 million litres target is reached or by the end of 2006-07.

1750 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—In relation to the Australian Standard Vaccination Schedule:

- (1) Which immunisation schedule will be used to determine whether parents are eligible to access immunisation-dependent family payments – the government-funded schedule or the schedule recommended by the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI).
- (2) Given that the Australian Medical Association has decided (GP Network News 13 June) that it will encourage general practitioners to recommend to parents that the pneumococcal vaccine be administered in line with ATAGI recommendations and that the retail cost to parents is \$450 per child; what policy response has the Government determined for parents who are unable to pay this.
- (3) Had the Minister received any advice from the department, ATAGI, National Health and Medical Research Council or pharmaceutical companies prior to the May 2003 Budget to the effect that a cost-effective regime of childhood immunisation would be a publicly-funded universal pneumococcal vaccine and a geographically and/or age-targeted Meningococcal C vaccine; if so, why was this advice ignored.
- (4) Has the Minister received any advice from pharmaceutical companies suggesting that the cost of a universal scheme of childhood vaccines would cost around \$60 million a year or less than a third of the retail price to parents; if so, what has been the response to the companies involved.
- (5) Given that the funding for Meningococcal C vaccine of some \$300 million over 4 years was not identified in the 2002-03 Budget nor prior to the announcement on 24 November 2002: (a) what process was undertaken to identify where the funding came from; and (b) did the funding become available through identified savings in the Health portfolio, cuts to anticipated health programs or at the expense of the vaccines subsequently recommended by ATAGI, (namely adult formulation diphtheria, tetanus and Pertussis vaccine 15-17 years, pneumococcal vaccine and varicella) for public funding; if so, which programs and by what amount of money.
- (6) With reference to the answer provided to question no. E03-111 asked during the 2003-04 Budget estimates hearings of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee, why have the submissions provided as part of the

public consultation process on ATAGI recommendations in the Childhood Immunisation Handbook been judged 'confidential' and therefore have not been released.

- (7) Which parties are on the list of contributors of submissions received during the public consultation for the draft 8th Edition of the Australian Immunisation Handbook.

*Notice given 12 August 2003*

- 1751 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—
- (1) What is the total amount budgeted for the Protective Security Coordination Centre.
  - (2) How much of this budget is allocated for staff wages.
  - (3) What is the wage scale for staff.
  - (4) How many calls does the Protective Security Coordination Centre receive each day.
  - (5) How is information received on the hotline forwarded to respective agencies.
  - (6) Is there a criteria to determine which agency should receive incoming information; if so, can this criteria be provided.
  - (7) Are there any reporting processes in place to determine the feasibility of the program; if so, can these details be provided; if not, why not.
  - (8) Is there a counselling service for staff who are showing signs or symptoms of distress relating to calls they receive during working hours; if not, why not.
- 1752 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 23 asked during the 2003-04 Budget estimates hearings of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee:
- (1) Is there an option for an alternate contact person in the event the programmer contracted is unavailable.
  - (2) What are the hours of operation.
- 1753 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—In relation to the Community Legal Services Information System design and development of a new data collection and reporting system:
- (1) What data is collected.
  - (2) What is the data used for.
  - (3) Who has access to the database.
  - (4) Can examples be provided of the records kept or information gathered as a result of information gained by this database.
  - (5) Will the report be reviewed; if not, why not; if so: (a) when will the review be held; and (b) when will a report be released.
- 1754 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—In relation to the department's submission to the Attorney-General on Community Legal Centres and the Regional Law Hotline: Can a copy be provided of the department's submission be provided.
- 1755 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—With reference to the ship *Southern Surveyor*:

- (1) (a) How much did its refit cost; (b) who did the refit; and (c) when.
- (2) (a) Who tendered for the refit; and (b) how many tenderers were there.
- (3) What would a new ship cost.
- (4) What problems have been encountered since the refit.

1756 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) (a) What assistance with nuclear technology has Australia provided in the past decade to North Korea; (b) how much was provided in each year; and (c) for what purpose.
- (2) (a) What criteria determine the countries which receive nuclear technology assistance; and (b) what prevents the assistance from contributing to military use.
- (3) Is the nuclear technology provided to North Korea by Australia being used to develop nuclear weapons.

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1757-1759)—

- (1) Have any analyses been conducted in relation to a national carbon tax or greenhouse gas emissions trading system; if so, can the following information be provided: (a) the dates the analyses were conducted; (b) who did the work; and (c) where copies of these analyses can be obtained.
- (2) (a) What meetings have been held between government and industry to discuss carbon taxes or emissions trading this year; (b) who attended the meetings; (b) when were the meetings held; and (c) what was discussed.

1757 Minister representing the Treasurer

1758 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

1759 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1760-1761)—With reference to the review of the Mandatory Renewable Energy Target Scheme:

- (1) What input, if any, have the following agencies had to the preparation of the panel's report: Environment Australia, Australian Greenhouse Office, Department of Industry, Tourism and resources, Treasury, any other government agencies.
- (2) What advice, analysis or information have the agencies listed in paragraph (1) provided to the review, and can a copy be provided.
- (3) Can a list be provided of groups and individuals with whom the review panel has met, including the dates of the meetings, locations and length.
- (4) Can a list be provided of confidential submissions including reasons as to why they have been made confidential.
- (5) (a) Has the Government of New South Wales made a submission; (b) did the panel request a submission from New South Wales or have any meetings with representatives of the New South Wales Government; if so, can details be provided.

1760 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

1761 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1762-1764)—In relation to the Mandatory Renewable Energy Target (MRET) scheme:

- (1) What analyses of MRET have been conducted by the department or its agencies; please include in the answer: (a) a description of each analysis; (b) when it was carried out; (c) by whom; and (d) its conclusions.
- (2) Has any assessment been undertaken of the economic, environmental and social benefits of different MRET targets in 2010; if so, what were the conclusions.
- (3) What information or analysis has been obtained on levels of renewable energy targets internationally and the benefits derived from them.

1762 Minister representing the Treasurer

1763 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

1764 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1765-1766)—

- (1) Why has Australia slipped from providing 5 per cent of the world's photovoltaic (PV) power to less than 1 per cent.
- (2) Is the Minister concerned that Australia's advantage in PV power has declined so precipitately; if so, what are the consequences, environmentally and economically, of the decline.
- (3) Why is PV power going ahead so fast in Japan and Germany.
- (4) What action is being taken to bring Australia's PV power back up to 5 per cent of world production.

1765 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

1766 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1767-1768)—What planning or risk assessment is the Commonwealth undertaking to address Australia's vulnerability to potential near-term declines in petroleum supplies.

1767 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

1768 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1769-1770)—

- (1) (a) How many cameras watch over the Aboriginal Tent Embassy and surrounding area; and (b) how long have these cameras been in place.
- (2) (a) Were any persons identified as responsible for the fire bombing of the Aboriginal Tent Embassy on 14 June 2003; (b) did the camera footage show people in the vicinity who may have been responsible.
- (3) Can the original unedited video of 14 June 2003 (24 hours) be available for viewing by Senator Brown's office.

1769 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

1770 Minister representing the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Reconciliation

*Notice given 13 August 2003*

1771 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) How much money has been spent on the Light Metals Action Agenda since its inception, including a breakdown by: (a) year; and (b) initiative.
- (2) How much money has been spent on the Renewable Energy Action Agenda since its inception, including a breakdown by: (a) year; and (b) initiative.

- (3) What funding has been committed to each of these action agendas in each of the coming years.

- 1772 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the order of the Senate of 16 October 2002, which requested the Minister to grant a request from the Wadi Wadi Coomaditchie Aboriginal Corporation for an emergency declaration under section 9 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage (Interim Protection) Act 1984* in relation to the development at Sandon Point:
- (1) Was such an emergency declaration made: if so, what was the outcome of the assessment referred to in the order; if not, why not.
  - (2) What other actions, if any, has the Minister taken in relation to Sandon Point.
  - (3) What other actions, if any, has the Minister taken that may have an indirect effect on development or Aboriginal Heritage at Sandon Point.
  - (4) Does the Minister intend to take any action with respect to Sandon Point; if so, what actions or activities is the Minister intending to take; if not, why not.
- 1773 **Senator Lightfoot:** To ask the Chair of the Legal and Constitutional References Committee—With reference to the committee's inquiry into an Australian republic:
- (1) How long is the inquiry expected to take.
  - (2) What is the proposed budget for the inquiry.
  - (3) Will costs be audited.
  - (4) Will all submissions be made public other than those taken in-camera.
- 1774 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—How many Australian Broadcasting Corporation staff and executives accepted redundancy packages between 1 January 2000 and 1 January 2002.
- 1775 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—What was the total amount paid in redundancy payments to employees leaving the Australian Broadcasting Corporation between 1 January 2000 and 1 January 2002.
- 1776 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—How many staff and executives from each division of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation accepted redundancy packages during the period 1 January 2000 to 1 January 2002.
- 1777 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—How many individuals who accepted redundancy packages from the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) during the period 1 January 2000 to 1 January 2002 have subsequently returned to the ABC to perform paid work for the broadcaster, on a full-time, part-time, casual, fee-for-service or consultancy basis.
- 1778 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—What is the total amount in salary, entitlements, consultancy fees or any other form of remuneration the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) has paid since January 2000 to individuals who had accepted a redundancy package from the ABC between 1 January 2000 and 1 January 2002



for work performed by the individuals following their acceptance of redundancy packages.

- 1779 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—What divisions originally employed the individuals who have returned to perform work at the Australian Broadcasting Corporation in any paid capacity subsequent to those individuals accepting a redundancy package during the period 1 January 2000 to 1 January 2002.
- 1780 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—What is the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's policy on the re-employment of staff who have accepted redundancy packages.

*Notice given 14 August 2003*

- 1781 **Senator Hutchins:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1352 (*Senate Hansard*, 15 May 2003, p. 11332), concerning the number of Australians directly notified of the risk of Hepatitis C exposure from contaminated blood, the Minister advised that the department did not have the requested information but had sought this information from the Australian Red Cross Blood Service: What were the figures which the Australian Red Cross provided to the department with regard to the number of Australians who have been notified of the risk to Hepatitis C exposure from contaminated blood.
  - (2) Can the Minister assure Australians that all those exposed to the deadly virus Hepatitis C from contaminated blood transfusions and blood products are now traced and that they have been directly notified.
  - (3) Is the Minister aware that the Queensland branch of the Australian Red Cross Blood Service was recently contacted by a blood donor with Hepatitis C.
  - (4) Given that the individual in paragraph (3) above was infected with Hepatitis C in 1978 and that, in 1995, unaware of their infected status, they made numerous blood donations to the Australian Red Cross: Will the Minister order an immediate investigation into: (a) why this person was not informed by the Red Cross of their infected status; (b) how many hospital patients received their blood; and (c) whether any of these patients were infected as a result.
  - (5) Are there any reports of Hepatitis C infections as a result of blood transfusion during or after 1995.
  - (6) (a) Does the Minister agree that Australia is self-sufficient in the supply of blood and blood products; (b) at what periods in the past has Australia not been self-sufficient in the supply of blood and blood products; (c) what blood products have been imported into Australia since 1975; (d) what quantity of each blood product has been imported; and (e) what are the names and countries of business registration of the companies that manufactured the imported products.
  - (7) (a) Is the Minister aware that the Australian plasma fractionator CSL Ltd. has, in the past, imported foreign-sourced plasma into Australia which was used to make medical products for therapeutic use in Australia; and (b) can a list be provided of the countries from which the formerly government-controlled CSL, and the currently privatized CSL Ltd., bought plasma.

- (8) (a) Is the Minister aware that the practice of accepting blood from prison inmates has occurred in Australia; and (b) on what date was this practice stopped; and (c) what are the names of the prisons where this practice occurred and the time periods in which this practice occurred at each prison.

1782 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—In relation to the working group to examine tenancy database privacy issues:

- (1) How many people will the working group comprise.
- (2) How will working group members be selected.
- (3) From what area or state will working group members be selected.
- (4) When will the selection process for the working group commence.
- (5) Will the working group advertise its objectives and call for contributions; if so, through in what medium of advertising will the working group call for contributions; if not, why not.
- (6) Will housing groups or tenancy advocates be able to contribute to the discussion.
- (7) Will the working group investigate claims against tenancy database operators made to respective state and territory residential tenancy tribunals; if not, why not.
- (8) Will the working group hold public forums for contributions; if so, will these forums be held in each state and territory; if not, why not.

1783 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—In relation to departmental employees who decide to do further study and receive financial assistance:

- (1) What guidelines, if any, are in place to ascertain what percentage of fees are paid.
- (2) Is the percentage adjusted according to the type of study undertaken.
- (3) Are employees aware of the financial assistance or encouraged to undertake tertiary studies.
- (4) What processes are in place to inform employees of assistance available should they choose to undertake tertiary studies.
- (5) Are employees encouraged to undertake further studies by supervisors, irrespective of work loads; if so, can examples be provided; if not, why not.

1784 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—In relation to the provision of security assessments for Aviation Security Identity cards:

- (1) To what will the staff level be reduced once the initial reissue has been completed.
- (2) From which areas were the staff seconded.
- (3) Were additional staff employed to cover shortfalls in these areas.
- (4) What was the total cost involved in the reissuing of the cards for the 2003-04 financial year.
- (5) Have any cardholders not been reissued with their cards; if so, can reasons be provided.

1785 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 59 taken during the 2003-04

Budget estimates hearings of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee regarding to the agreement with Telstra for the provision of a hotline service:

- (1) How many calls were received for each of the billing dates listed in the answer to this question on notice.
- (2) How many staff were originally employed to work in the centre.
- (3) Have these staff members been relocated to other call centres or retrenched.
- (4) Were these staff members employed under a certified agreement; if so, can details of the agreement be provided.
- (5) Were there any payout costs associated with the downsizing of the workforce; if so, can details of any payout costs be provided.
- (6) Can a comparison of calls to the 1800 service and the general 13 2400 number be provided in the form of a table.

1786 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 60 concerning calls received following the establishment of the hotline to the National Security Information Campaign Taskforce, taken during the 2003-04 Budget estimates hearings of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee:

- (1) Can a breakdown be provided of the feedback that was received by: (a) number of calls; (b) categories; and (c) the exact nature of the calls.
- (2) Can a copy of the feedback received be provided.

1787 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) What specific Australian place names are to be engraved on the new war memorial currently being erected at Hyde Park corner in London.
- (2) Is the list available to the public on the departmental website; if not, why not.
- (3) Can a copy of the list be provided in electronic format.

1788 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) What is the total budget for the Protective Security Coordination Centre.
- (2) Where is the centre located.
- (3) Is the centre open 24 hours; if not, (a) what hours is it open; and (b) to where are calls diverted when it is not open.
- (4) How many calls does the centre receive each day.
- (5) Can a breakdown be provided of calls received each month since the inception of the centre.
- (6) Are salaries for staff at the centre paid according to qualifications.
- (7) Of the 43 people currently employed within the centre, how many are employed on a full-time, part-time or casual basis.

1789 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 36 taken during the 2003-04 Budget estimates hearings of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee:

- (1) What, if any, communications have been received either formally or informally.
- (2) Can all communications relating to this response be provided.
- (3) How much has the department spent on responding to these cases.

- (4) Can details of expenditures from 2001-02 to the present be provided.

1790 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) Can copies be provided of letters received from the Office of the Status of Women between 22 November 2002 and 19 June 2003, which refer to the statistics of the number of appointments of females and males for each portfolio body.
- (2) Is any proactive work being undertaken to address any inequities.
- (3) What is the department's process for dealing with inequities which have been addressed.

**Senator Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1791-1792)—

- (1) Has the Minister or have his officers discussed the Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry with Dr Robin Batterham at any time; if so, can the dates on which the discussions took place and a summary of the issues discussed be provided.
- (2) On what date and in what form was the proposal to establish the Rio Tinto Foundation first communicated to the Government or to its Strategic Investment Coordinator.
- (3) (a) On what date was the Advisory Board of the Rio Tinto Foundation established; and (b) when did the Government appoint its representatives.

1791 Minister representing the Prime Minister

1792 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

1793 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—With reference to a media release of 27 June 2003, in which the Minister stated that Australia will invest \$120 million to develop affordable solutions to deal with greenhouse gas emissions from domestic power generation:

- (1) Can a list be provided of projects that make up the \$120 million, including aims, timelines and agencies undertaking these projects.
- (2) Has the Australian Government committed funding or in-kind support to Futuregen or any other United States carbon sequestration research or demonstration projects; if so, how much has been committed.

*Notice given 15 August 2003*

1794 **Senator Greig:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—In relation to the 2003-04 Budget measure to abolish the financial supplement loan:

- (1) What is the age and family profile of those individuals who have taken up the option of the financial supplement loan.
- (2) What proportion of those who take up the loan do not repay in full.
- (3) What is the average total loan repayment amount that is not repaid.
- (4) What are the main reasons given for taking up the loan.
- (5) What are the main reasons for the lack of repayment for the loan.
- (6) What other measures has Centrelink or the department considered to recover the loans that are not repaid.
- (7) Has any evaluation been undertaken to assess whether the financial supplement loan has led to more students remaining in study.
- (8) What other options will students have to pay for large sum items, such as text books, should the financial supplement loan be abolished.

- (9) Which groups were consulted prior to the decision to abolish the loan.

1795 **Senator Greig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Did the Australian Federal Police (AFP) ever receive a complaint about the investigation of theft from the Managing Director of Wylkian Pty Ltd, Mr Harold Upton; if so: (a) what was the period of time that elapsed between the complaint being lodged and the complaint being investigated; (b) what was the nature and outcome of the complaint; (c) what was the amount that Mr Upton alleged was stolen from his business; and (d) who conducted the investigation on behalf of the AFP.
- (2) Is that investigation considered to be open or closed and for what reasons is it considered as such.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that part of the complaint from Mr Upton included an allegation that certain cheques were stolen from his business; if so: (a) can the Minister confirm whether the investigating officer ascertained whether the cheques were banked and if so by whom; and (b) can the Minister confirm whether the identity of the person who banked the cheques and or the account holder, were ever ascertained; if not, why not.
- (4) Is the Minister satisfied with the conduct of the AFP in this matter.

1796 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the department is preparing to sell a parcel of 130 hectares of land at Maribyrnong in Victoria.
- (2) Has the land been assessed for rare and endangered species; if so, what were the findings of that assessment.
- (3) Is there any contamination on the site; if so: (a) what is the extent of the contamination; and (b) what is the recommended method of addressing the contamination issues.
- (4) Has the land been offered to the local shire council for purchase; if so, at what price; if not, why not.
- (5) (a) What is the assessed value of the land; (b) who conducted the valuation; and (c) when.

*Notice given 18 August 2003*

**Senator Nettle:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1797-1798)—With reference to the Regional Solutions Programme:

- (1) Can a breakdown be provided of funding in Western Australia for the years 2001 to 2003, including: (a) local government areas receiving funding; (b) the amount received by each local government area; and (c) brief project descriptions.
- (2) Can a breakdown be provided of funding in Western Australia for the years 2001 to 2003, including: (a) electorates receiving funding; (b) the amount received by each electorate; and (c) brief project descriptions,

1797 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

1798 Minister representing the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government

1799 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the 2nd Tier Default Benefit:

- (1) (a) Has the Government had discussions with private health insurance companies about a potential rise in premiums following the removal of the benefit; if so, what was the nature of these discussions; and (b) has the Government had any guarantee from the insurance companies that health insurance premiums will not rise.
- (2) Given that a consequence of the removal of the benefit will be that most private hospitals and private day surgery facilities must negotiate with the private health insurance companies over rebates: What assurances can the Government provide that the large insurance companies will not use their greater negotiating power to force the small private hospitals and private day surgery facilities to accept rebates that are less than satisfactory.
- (3) Does the Government expect that, as contracts run out for many facilities already under contract with private health insurers, many more facilities will be looking to 2nd tier default benefits instead of unsatisfactory arrangements with insurers.
- (4) (a) What does the Government forecast the effect of the removal of the benefit will be on private health facilities that cannot negotiate suitable rebates with health insurance companies; and (b) given that the Australian Medical Association and the Australian Private Hospitals Association have grave fears that hundreds of facilities throughout Australia will have to close: what policies are in place to protect these small businesses.
- (5) (a) How many private hospitals and day surgery facilities does the Government predict will be eligible for the new 'rural and regional default benefit'; (b) what is the level the Government has assumed for its modelling of costs; and (c) if few facilities are eligible for the benefit, what does the Government believe will be the effect on rural and regional health.
- (6) If there is a reduction for customers of private health insurance of choice of private health facilities that are available to them due to a breakdown in negotiations between companies and facilities, will the public health system be prepared and able to cope with the influx from clients who are no longer prepared to buy private health insurance.
- (7) If the number of those holding private health insurance is reduced as a consequence of the removal of the benefit, is the Government prepared to put the 30 per cent rebate that would normally be paid to the health insurance companies into the public health system.

1800 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the proposed naval munitions storage facility that is part of the 'Twofold Bay Navy Ammunitioning Facility':

- (1) Will nuclear weapons be stored at the facility.
- (2) Will United States navy vessels visit the area as a consequence of the facility.
- (3) Will the munition storage facility be available to all allies as a storage facility, including for the storage of nuclear weapons.
- (4) Does the status of munitions storage facilities vary depending on what is stored.

1801 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the death in 1989 of Seaman Jason Solomon who was found to have 'died by misadventure':

- (1) Has there ever been a Royal Australian Navy board-of-inquiry held into the death of Seaman Jason Solomon.

- (2) Has there ever been a judicial inquiry into the death of Seaman Jason Solomon.
- (3) (a) What evidence exists to substantiate that Seaman Jason Solomon's death was accidental; and (b) can this evidence be corroborated and verified.

1802 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Australian Navy's involvement in coastal surveillance:

- (1) How much has it cost the Australian people to have the Navy patrol our coastline for the detection and apprehension of refugees and illegal immigrants from July 2001 to date.
- (2) How many people has the Navy caught entering our waters illegally during the period 2001 to date.

1803 **Senator Hutchins:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) (a) Were official Australia Post uniforms provided to non-Australia Post employees in the course of the recent 2003 Communications Electrical Plumbing Union New South Wales (Postal and Telecommunications Branch) election for the purposes of election photographs for the 'Build a Better Union Team'; (b) were any inquiries conducted into the inappropriate provision of those uniforms; (c) what was the outcome of those inquiries; (d) what disciplinary action was taken with respect to any employees who provided the uniforms to non-Australia Post employees; (e) what access to the Australian postal system is afforded to the wearer of an official Australia Post uniform; (f) is the provision of official Australia Post uniforms to individuals who are not employees of Australia Post a threat to the security of our postal systems and, ultimately, the Australian community; and (g) have official Australia Post uniforms been provided to individuals who are not employees of Australia Post on any other occasions.
- (2) (a) Did Australia Post sponsor a three-day Retail Managers' conference at the Menzies Hotel, Sydney on 16 to 18 June 2003; (b) were members of the Australia Post management, who were candidates in the 2003 Communications Electrical Plumbing Union New South Wales (Postal and Telecommunications Branch) election, permitted to canvass retail members of the union at the conference; (c) was any disciplinary action taken by Australia Post with respect to the candidates who canvassed participants at the conference; (d) what was the nature of the disciplinary action taken; (e) did a senior Australia Post retail manager who attended the conference threaten the future employment of a retail member if that member did not vote or campaign for the 'Build a Better Union Team'; (f) was any disciplinary action taken by Australia Post with respect to the senior retail manager; (g) what was the nature of the disciplinary action taken; and (h) is it the practice for Australia Post managers to use their position to threaten the ongoing employment of employees for exercising their democratic right to vote in their union election free from external influence.
- (3) Was an officer at the Sydney West Letters Facility threatened in relation to his future tenure as a liaison officer and his ongoing employment with Australia Post if he failed to campaign on behalf of the 'Build a Better Union Team'; if so: (a) were these threats referred to the Security and Investigation Division of Australia Post; (b) did the Security and

Investigation Division of Australia Post investigate the threats; if not, why not; and (c) will the Minister direct the Security and Investigation Division to fully investigate the threats.

- (4) (a) Were Australia Post vehicles and associated resources used by any staff at the Regents Park Australia Post Business Centre for the distribution of election material for the 'Build a Better Union Team' during the 2003 Communications Electrical Plumbing Union New South Wales (Postal and Telecommunications Branch) election; (b) did any such material distributed using Australia Post vehicles and associated resources contain defamatory material; (c) was any disciplinary action taken with respect to Australia Post employees who provided access to Australia Post vehicles; (d) what was the nature of the action taken; and (e) could details be provided of any regulations directed at preventing the misuse of Australia Post vehicles and associated resources.
- (5) (a) Did any members of the Communications Electrical Plumbing Union New South Wales (Postal and Telecommunications Branch) receive telephone calls on behalf of the 'Build a Better Union Team' during the 2003 Communications Electrical Plumbing Union New South Wales (Postal and Telecommunications Branch) election in the period 5 June to 22 June 2003; (b) did any members of the Communications Electrical Plumbing Union New South Wales (Postal and Telecommunications Branch) receive text messages on behalf of the 'Build a Better Union Team' during the 2003 Communications Electrical Plumbing Union New South Wales (Postal and Telecommunications Branch) election in the period 5 June to 11 June 2003; (c) did any such text messages originate from the numbers 61429687062 or 61427135121; (d) do any of the members who received these telephone calls and messages have 'private' or 'silent' telephone numbers with Telstra; (e) is it the practice of Telstra to provide privately listed numbers to any persons, organisations or businesses; if so, on what basis; and (f) what organisations or businesses have access to 'private' or 'silent' telephone numbers.

*Notice given 19 August 2003*

1805 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) What was the total amount of funding provided by the department to Victorian councils in the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03, and budgeted for in the 2003-04 financial year, for the provision of aged care to veterans for the following services: (a) personal care; (b) domestic assistance; (c) home and garden maintenance; and (d) respite care.
- (2) What was the breakdown of departmental funding provided, by council in Victoria, in the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03 and budgeted for in the 2003-04 financial year, for the provision of aged care to veterans for the following services: (a) personal care; (b) domestic assistance; (c) home and garden maintenance; and (d) respite care.

*Notice given 20 August 2003*

\*1806 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—In regard to the Port Hedland Detention Centre:



- (1) Given that a large proportion of inmates has attempted suicide at least once, do guards carry knives at all times to cut down detainees who attempt to hang themselves.
- (2) How many attempted suicides have there been in Refugee/Asylum seeker detention centres in the past 2 years.
- (3) How does this figure compare to the Australian average per head of population.

\*1807 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) In relation to the Minister's press release on 12 February 2003 announcing that private health funds had agreed to phase out gym shoes, tents and golf clubs from the ancillary benefits offered: (a) has the agreement with the Australian Health Insurance Association (AHIA) been secured in writing; if so, can a copy of the agreement be provided; (b) when did the Minister ask the health fund industry to review its products to ensure they funded only items which had a 'direct health benefit'; (c) when did the industry first report back to the Minister on the review; and (d) when did industry first notify the Minister that it intended to exclude some items from ancillary tables.
- (2) Can a copy be provided of: (a) the letter from the private health industry to the Minister referred to on page 133 of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee *Hansard* of 13 February 2003; and (b) the code that industry was stated to be developing on ancillary benefits.
- (3) Has the code referred to in paragraph (2) received relevant adoption or approval and commenced operation; if so, when.
- (4) Has the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission objected to the withdrawal of any benefits for so-called 'lifestyles' ancillaries; if so, how is the industry resolving this objection.
- (5) Can a copy be provided of the schedule for phasing out each ancillary item that was agreed with the AHIA, showing each item that must cease being offered by all health funds and on what dates these cessations must occur.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that since the agreement with the AHIA was made, all private health insurance funds that offered lifestyle ancillaries have withdrawn them; if not, why not.
- (7) In relation to the Minister's estimate that the cost of so-called 'lifestyle' ancillary benefits is about \$70 million a year, what percentage of this does the Government estimate has been paid for gym shoes, compact discs, tents and golf clubs.
- (8) Why has the Government not prohibited funds by law from offering lifestyle ancillary benefits.
- (9) In relation to the Minister's request to the health funds to examine all ancillaries to make sure they have a 'direct health benefit', what definition or guidance does the Minister give to health funds to comply with this request.
- (10) Are there any products currently offered to Australians by private health insurance funds that the Minister believes do not have a direct health benefit; if so, can a list of these products be provided.
- (11) In relation to the benefits listed in paragraph (10): (a) has the Minister requested each of the funds offering them to review them; and (b) when did the Minister make such requests.

\*1808 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Are there any plans to shift the Commonwealth's current funding and administrative responsibility for Aged Care Assessment Teams; if so; (a) what are these plans; and (b) what is the timeframe for any proposed changes.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm whether there are any plans to outsource or contract out the function of Aged Care Assessment Teams on a national or regional basis.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm whether there are any plans for the Commonwealth to take full responsibility for funding and administering Aged Care Assessment Teams.

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## ORDERS OF THE SENATE

### Amendments to standing orders and orders of continuing effect

#### 1 Senators breastfeeding infants

That standing order 175 be amended to read as follows:

##### 175 Conduct of visitors

- (1) Visitors may attend, in the galleries provided, a sitting of the Senate.
- (2) A person other than a senator, a clerk at the table or an officer attending on the Senate may not:
  - (a) attend a meeting of the Senate in private session; or
  - (b) enter any part of the Senate chamber reserved for senators while the Senate is sitting.
- (3) **Paragraph (2) does not apply in respect of a senator breastfeeding an infant.**
- (4) The Usher of the Black Rod shall, subject to any direction by the Senate or the President, take into custody any person who enters any part of the chamber reserved for senators while the Senate is sitting, or causes a disturbance in or near the chamber, and a person so taken into custody shall be discharged out of custody in accordance with an order of the Senate.

*(Agreed to 13 May 2003.)*

#### 2 Committee meetings during adjournment debate

That standing order 33 be amended to read as follows:

##### 33 Meetings during sitting

- (1) A committee of the Senate and a joint committee of both Houses of the Parliament may meet during sittings of the Senate for the purpose of deliberating in private session, but shall not make a decision at such a meeting unless:
  - (a) all members of the committee are present; or
  - (b) a member appointed to the committee on the nomination of the Leader of the Government in the Senate and a member appointed to the committee on the nomination of the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate are present, and the decision is agreed to unanimously by the members present.

- (2) **The restrictions on meetings of committees contained in paragraph (1) do not apply after the question for the adjournment of the Senate has been proposed by the President at the time provided on any day.**
- (3) A committee shall not otherwise meet during sittings of the Senate except by order of the Senate.
- (4) Proceedings of a committee at a meeting contrary to this standing order shall be void.

*(Agreed to 14 May 2003.)*

### 3 **Deadline for receipt of bills**

That standing order 111 be amended to read as follows:

#### **111 Initiation**

- (5) Where a bill:
  - (a) is first introduced in the Senate by a minister in a period of sittings; or
  - (b) is received from the House of Representatives and was introduced in that House in the same period of sittings; or
  - (c) is received from the House of Representatives after the expiration of two-thirds of the total number of days of sitting of the Senate scheduled for that period of sittings, and a motion is moved for the second reading of the bill, debate on that motion shall be adjourned at the conclusion of the speech of the senator moving the motion and resumption of the debate shall be made an order of the day for the first day of sitting in the next period of sittings without any question being put.
- (6) Paragraph (5) does not apply to a bill introduced in the Senate or received from the House of Representatives within the first two-thirds of the total number of days of sitting of the Senate scheduled for the first period of sittings after a general election of the House of Representatives, but consideration of such a bill shall not be resumed after the second reading is moved in the Senate unless 14 days have elapsed after the first introduction of the bill in either House.
- (7) **Paragraph (5) does not apply to a bill received by the Senate again in the circumstances described in the first paragraph of section 57 of the Constitution.**
- (8) In paragraphs (5) and (6) “period of sittings” means a period during which the Senate adjourns for not more than 20 days.

*(Agreed to 14 May 2003.)*

### 4 **Times of meeting and routine of business on Tuesday**

That standing orders 55 and 57 be amended to read as follows:

#### **55 Times of meetings**

- (1) The days and times of meeting of the Senate in each sitting week shall be:
 

Monday	12.30 pm – 6.30 pm, 7.30 pm – 10.30 pm
Tuesday	<b>12.30 pm</b> – adjournment
Wednesday	9.30 am – 8 pm
Thursday	9.30 am – 8.40 pm.

**57 Routine of business**

- (1) The routine of business shall be:
  - (b) On Tuesday:
    - (i) **Government business only**
    - (ii) **At 2 pm**, questions
    - (iii) Motions to take note of answers
    - (iv) Petitions
    - (v) Notices of motion
    - (vi) Postponement and rearrangement of business
    - (vii) Formal motions – discovery of formal business
    - (viii) Any proposal to debate a matter of public importance or urgency
    - (ix) Government business
    - (x) At 6.50 pm, consideration of government documents for up to 30 minutes under standing order 61
    - (xi) At 7.20 pm, adjournment proposed
    - (xii) Adjournment.

*(Agreed to 14 May 2003.)*

**5 Departmental and agency contracts—Order for production of documents**

That the order be amended to read as follows:

- (1) There be laid on the table, by each minister in the Senate, in respect of each agency administered by that minister, or by a minister in the House of Representatives represented by that minister, by not later than **2 calendar months after the last day of the financial and calendar year**, a letter of advice that a list of contracts in accordance with paragraph (2) has been placed on the Internet, with access to the list through the department's or agency's home page.
- (2) The list of contracts referred to in paragraph (1) indicate:
  - (a) each contract entered into by the agency which has not been fully performed or which has been entered into during the previous 12 months, and which provides for a consideration to the value of \$100 000 or more;
  - (b) the contractor, the amount of the consideration and the subject matter of each such contract, **the commencement date of the contract, the duration of the contract, the relevant reporting period and the twelve-month period relating to the contract listings;**
  - (c) whether each such contract contains provisions requiring the parties to maintain confidentiality of any of its provisions, or whether there are any other requirements of confidentiality, and a statement of the reasons for the confidentiality; and
  - (d) an estimate of the cost of complying with this order and a statement of the method used to make the estimate.
- (3) If a list under paragraph (1) does not fully comply with the requirements of paragraph (2), the letter under paragraph (1) indicate the extent of, and reasons for, non-compliance, and when full compliance is expected to be achieved. Examples of non-compliance may include:
  - (a) the list is not up to date;
  - (b) not all relevant agencies are included; and

- (c) contracts all of which are confidential are not included.
- (4) Where no contracts have been entered into by a department or agency, the letter under paragraph (1) is to advise accordingly.
- (5) In respect of contracts identified as containing provisions of the kind referred to in paragraph (2)(c), the Auditor-General be requested to provide to the Senate, within 6 months after each day mentioned in paragraph (1), a report indicating that the Auditor-General has examined a number of such contracts selected by the Auditor-General, and indicating whether any inappropriate use of such provisions was detected in that examination.
- (6) In respect of letters including matter under paragraph (3), the Auditor-General be requested to indicate in a report under paragraph (5) that the Auditor-General has examined a number of contracts, selected by the Auditor-General, which have not been included in a list, and to indicate whether the contracts should be listed.
- (7) The Finance and Public Administration References Committee consider and report on the first **and second** year of operation of this order.
- (8) This order has effect on and after 1 July 2001.
- (9) In this order:  
 “**agency**” means an agency within the meaning of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*; **and**  
 “**previous 12 months**” means the period of 12 months ending on **either 31 December or 30 June in any year**, as the case may be.

(Agreed to 20 June 2001; amended 27 September 2001, 18 June and 26 June 2003.)

## Committees

### 6 Allocation of departments

Departments and agencies are allocated to the legislative and general purpose standing committees as follows:

#### *Community Affairs*

Family and Community Services  
 Health and Ageing

#### *Economics*

Treasury  
 Industry, Tourism and Resources

#### *Employment, Workplace Relations and Education*

Employment and Workplace Relations  
 Education, Science and Training

#### *Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*

Environment and Heritage  
 Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

#### *Finance and Public Administration*

Parliament  
 Prime Minister and Cabinet  
 Finance and Administration

#### *Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade*

Foreign Affairs and Trade  
 Defence (including Veterans' Affairs)  
*Legal and Constitutional*  
 Attorney-General  
 Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs  
*Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport*  
 Transport and Regional Services  
 Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

(1 May 1996, amended 2 September 1997, 21 October 1997, 11 November 1998, 8 February 2001 and 13 February 2002.)

**7 Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee—  
 Authorisation to meet**

That the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services be authorised to hold public meetings during the sittings of the Senate on 19 August and 20 August 2003 from 4.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into Australia's insolvency laws.

(Agreed to 19 August 2003.)

**8 Estimates hearings**

- (1) That estimates hearings by legislation committees for the year 2003 be scheduled as follows:

**2002-03 additional estimates:**

Monday, 10 February and Tuesday, 11 February and, if required, Friday, 14 February (*Group A*)

Wednesday, 12 February and Thursday, 13 February and, if required, Friday, 14 February (*Group B*).

**2003-04 Budget estimates:**

Monday, 26 May to Thursday, 29 May and, if required, Friday, 30 May (*Group A*)

Monday, 2 June to Thursday, 5 June and, if required, Friday, 6 June (*Group B*).

- (2) That the 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

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

**Group B:**

Community Affairs

Economics

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.

- (4) That the committees report to the Senate on the following dates:

Wednesday, 19 March 2003 in respect of the 2002-03 additional estimates, and

Thursday, 19 June 2003 in respect of the 2003-04 Budget estimates.

(Agreed to 11 December 2002.)

**9 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Authorisation to meet**

That the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade be authorised to hold private meetings otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) during sittings of the Senate.

(Agreed to 12 November 2002.)

**10 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Authorisation to meet**

That the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 21 August 2003, from 7 pm to 10 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into an examination of the Government's foreign and trade policy strategy.

(Agreed to 12 August 2003.)

**11 Privileges—Standing Committee—Adoption of 94th report recommendation**

That the Senate authorise the President, if required, to engage counsel as *amicus curiae* if either the action for defamation against Mr David Armstrong or a similar action against Mr William O'Chee is set down for trial.

(Agreed to 4 September 2000.)

## Legislation

**12 Customs Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003—Excise Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2003—Further consideration of the bills**

That:

- (1) For the reasons set out in paragraph (3), further consideration of the bills be postponed and be made an order of the day for the next day of sitting after the Government fully complies with the order for the production of documents relating to a proposed excise and production subsidy made on 16 October 2002.
- (2) Senators who have spoken to the motion 'That these bills be now read a second time' may speak again to that motion for up to 20 minutes each when the bill is again called on.
- (3) The reasons referred to in paragraph (1) are as follows:
  - (a) the bills remove the excise exemption for fuel ethanol and impose an excise duty rate equivalent to that applying to petroleum and impose an excise duty on imports of fuel ethanol;
  - (b) on 16 October 2002, the Senate ordered the production of documents related to the imposition of fuel ethanol excise and a production subsidy to be tabled on or before 21 October 2002;
  - (c) the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell) advised the Senate on 21 October 2002 that the documents, subject to the order, would be provided as soon as possible;
  - (d) Senator Ian Campbell advised the Senate on 13 December 2002 that the documents would be tabled out of session on 17 December 2002

and further advised the Senate on 5 February 2003 that the documents would be provided as soon as possible;

- (e) the Senate called on the Government to comply with the order on 11 December 2002, 4 March 2003 and 26 March 2003;
- (f) it has been revealed that documents relating to the order concern, among other matters, a meeting between the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) and Mr Dick Honan, Chairman of Manildra, on 1 August 2002; and
- (g) passage of the bills now would be ill-advised in the absence of full information about the Government's consideration of ethanol policy.

*(Agreed to 12 August 2003.)*

### 13 Senate consideration—Variation

- (1) That a bill shall not be considered in committee of the whole, unless, prior to the resolution of the question for the second reading, any senator has:
  - (a) circulated in the Senate a proposed amendment or request for amendment of the bill; or
  - (b) required in debate or by notification to the chair that the bill be considered in committee of the whole.
- (2) That this order operate as a sessional order.

*(Agreed to 20 June 2002.)*

## Meeting of Senate

### 14 Meeting of Senate

That the days of meeting of the Senate for 2003 shall be as follows:

#### **Summer sittings:**

Tuesday, 4 February to Thursday, 6 February

#### **Autumn sittings:**

Monday, 3 March to Thursday, 6 March

Tuesday, 18 March to Thursday, 20 March

Monday, 24 March to Thursday, 27 March

#### **Budget sittings:**

Tuesday, 13 May to Thursday, 15 May

#### **Winter sittings:**

Monday, 16 June to Thursday, 19 June

Monday, 23 June to Thursday, 26 June

#### **Spring sittings:**

Monday, 11 August to Thursday, 14 August

Monday, 18 August to Thursday, 21 August

Monday, 8 September to Thursday, 11 September

Monday, 15 September to Thursday, 18 September

Tuesday, 7 October to Thursday, 9 October

Monday, 13 October to Thursday, 16 October

Monday, 27 October to Thursday, 30 October

Monday, 3 November and Tuesday, 4 November

Monday, 24 November to Thursday, 27 November



Monday, 1 December to Thursday, 4 December.

(Agreed to 12 November 2002.)

**15 Adjournment debate on Tuesdays—Temporary order**

- (1) On the question for the adjournment of the Senate on Tuesday, a senator who has spoken once subject to the time limit of 10 minutes may speak again for not more than 10 minutes if no other senator who has not already spoken once wishes to speak, provided that a senator may by leave speak for not more than 20 minutes on one occasion.
- (2) This order shall cease to have effect at the conclusion of the last sitting day in 2003.

(Agreed to 19 November 2002 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee's second report of 2002.)

**Orders for production of documents**

**16 Mining—Christmas Island—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Tuesday, 25 June 2002, the following documents:

- (a) the current mine lease or leases on Christmas Island held by Phosphate Resource Ltd (PRL), including all conditions;
- (b) the Environment Management Plan for the lease or leases;
- (c) any Environment Australia (EA) documents relating to compliance, oversight and enforcement of the lease or leases and conditions;
- (d) all materials relating to breaches of conditions, including claims, investigations and actions;
- (e) any audits of PRL's rehabilitation program;
- (f) any new mining proposals for Christmas Island;
- (g) a current tenure map of all blocks that have been mined;
- (h) any documents relating to the transfer of any lots to or from PRL;
- (i) any documents relating to the current mine rehabilitation budget for EA on Christmas Island;
- (j) any documents relating to the current status of rehabilitation on lease block 138;
- (k) any documents relating to the payment or non-payment of power bills by PRL;
- (l) any documents relating to alternative locations for the proposed detention centre on Christmas Island;
- (m) any documents containing responses of EA to the detention centre proposal; and
- (n) current funds held for purposes of mine rehabilitation on Christmas Island.

(Agreed to 19 June 2002.)

**17 Superannuation system—Order for production of document**

That there be laid on the table, on the last sitting day of the winter sittings 2002, the revised costings document, including the correct phasing-in arrangements, of the Australian Labor Party's plan for a fairer superannuation system, prepared by Phil Gallagher (Manager, Retirement and Income Modelling Unit, Treasury)

which was sent to the Treasurer's office in the week beginning 20 May 2002 and identified in Mr Gallagher's evidence before the Economics Legislation Committee on 4 June 2002.

(Agreed to 24 June 2002.)

**18 Finance—Retirement and Income Modelling—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, on the last sitting day of the 2002 winter sittings, the modelling, including information on projected spending for payments to individuals, education, health and aged care spending, prepared for the draft Intergenerational Report in early 2002 before budget changes were factored in, prepared by the Retirement and Income Modelling Unit, Treasury and identified in Treasury's evidence before the Economics Legislation Committee on 6 June 2002.

(Agreed to 25 June 2002.)

**19 Health—Tobacco—Order for production of document**

That the Senate—

- (a) notes the report tabled in the Senate on 6 May 2002 from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) on the performance of its functions under the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (the Act) with regard to tobacco and related matters, as required by the order of the Senate of 24 September 2001;
- (b) notes that the Senate may require the ACCC to provide it with information in accordance with section 29 of the Act;
- (c) requires the ACCC to report, as soon as possible, on the following issues:
  - (i) whether Australian tobacco companies have engaged in misleading or deceptive conduct in their use of the terms 'mild' and 'light', and
  - (ii) whether there has been any misleading, deceptive or unconscionable conduct in breach of the Act by British American Tobacco and/or Clayton Utz with regard to document destruction for the purpose of withholding information relevant to possible litigation;
- (d) requests the ACCC to engage in consultation with interested parties and stakeholders over the perceived inadequacies in its response to the order of the Senate of 24 September 2001 and requires the ACCC to report on those consultations as soon as possible;
- (e) notes that once the Senate has had the opportunity to consider the ACCC's further reports on the use of the terms 'mild' and 'light', whether there has been misleading, deceptive or unconscionable conduct in relation to document destruction, and the ACCC's consultations, it will consider whether a further report should be sought from the ACCC in response to the order of the Senate of 24 September 2001;
- (f) calls on the Commonwealth Government to pursue the possibility of a Commonwealth/state public liability action against tobacco companies to recover healthcare costs to the Commonwealth and the states caused by the use of tobacco; and
- (g) calls on the Commonwealth to address the issue of who should have access to the more than \$200 million collected in respect of tobacco tax and licence fees by tobacco wholesalers but not passed on to Government (see *Roxborough v. Rothmans*) by introducing legislation to retrospectively recover that amount for the Commonwealth and/or to establish a fund on behalf of Australian consumers and taxpayers, and in either case for the

moneys to be used for the purpose of anti-smoking and other public health issues.

*(Agreed to 27 June 2002.)*

**20 Animal Welfare—Cattle—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Wednesday, 21 August 2002, the following documents:

- (a) the Livestock Officer's report on the voyage of the *Maysora*, a Jordanian flagged vessel, travelling from Australia on 28 February 2001 carrying live cattle; and
- (b) the Master's reports from the same voyage.

*(Agreed to 20 August 2002.)*

**21 Superannuation Working Group—Order for production of document**

That there be laid on the table, on the next day of sitting, the report presented to the Government by the Superannuation Working Group on 28 March 2002.

*(Agreed to 28 August 2002.)*

**22 Health—Assessment reports by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission—Order for production of documents—Variation**

That the order of the Senate of 25 March 1999, relating to an order for the production of periodic reports by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on private health insurance, be amended as follows:

Omit "6 months, commencing with the 6 months ending on 31 December 1999", substitute "12 months ending on or after 30 June 2003".

*(Agreed to 18 September 2002.)*

**23 Transport—Ethanol—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on Monday, 21 October 2002:

- (a) all documents relating to the meeting between the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Mr Truss) and the Executive Director of the Australian Institute of Petroleum on 21 August 2002, including but not limited to:
  - (i) papers prepared for the meeting by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources, and/or Mr Truss' office,
  - (ii) any agenda or attendance papers,
  - (iii) any notes made by departmental officers and/or ministerial advisers at the meeting, including but not limited to hand-written notes, and
  - (iv) any papers that document the outcome of the meeting, including but not limited to file notes prepared by departmental officers and/or ministerial advisers;
- (b) all records of communications between:
  - Mr JT Honan, Chairman of Manildra and/or other Manildra managers and staff, and
  - the Prime Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Trade, Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Assistant Treasurer, and/or departmental officers and ministerial advisers,

concerning the Government's consideration of an ethanol excise and production subsidy, including but not limited to correspondence, telephone records and file notes;

- (c) all records of any meetings between:
- Mr JT Honan, Chairman of Manildra and/or other Manildra managers and staff, and
  - the Prime Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Trade, Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Assistant Treasurer, and/or departmental officers and ministerial advisers,

concerning the Government's consideration of an ethanol excise and production subsidy, including but not limited to hand-written file notes;

- (d) all records of communications between:
- Mr Bob Gordon, Executive Director of the Australian Biofuels Association and/or other Australian Biofuels Association staff, and
  - the Prime Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Trade, Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Assistant Treasurer, and/or departmental officers and ministerial advisers,

concerning the Government's consideration of an ethanol excise and production subsidy, including but not limited to correspondence, telephone records and file notes;

- (e) all records of any meetings between:
- Mr Bob Gordon, Executive Director of the Australian Biofuels Association and/or other Australian Biofuels Association staff, and
  - the Prime Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Trade, Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Assistant Treasurer, and/or departmental officers and ministerial advisers,

concerning the Government's consideration of an ethanol excise and production subsidy, including but not limited to hand-written file notes; and

- (f) all analysis by the Treasury, the Department of Finance, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry concerning the projected budgetary impact of the decision to impose excise on ethanol and grant a 12-month ethanol production subsidy.

*(Agreed to 16 October 2002.)*

**24 Environment—Queensland—Nathan Dam—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, no later than 2 pm on 19 November 2002:

- (a) all documents from 2002 relating to any approaches made by Sudaw Developments Ltd (or its agents) to the Government seeking funding or other support for the Nathan Dam on the Fitzroy River in Queensland;
- (b) any documents or comments provided to Environment Australia in response to the referral, Ref. No. 2002/770—Sudaw Developments Ltd—Water management and use—Dawson River—QLD—Nathan Dam, central Queensland;
- (c) any report or document prepared by Environment Australia in response to referral 2002/770; and

- (d) the report, *Literature review and scoping study of the potential downstream impacts of the proposed Nathan Dam on the Dawson River, Fitzroy River and offshore environments*, prepared by the Australian Centre for Tropical Freshwater Research.

(Agreed to 11 November 2002.)

**25 Trade—General Agreement on Trade in Service—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Trade, no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on Monday, 18 November 2002:

- (a) all requests received by the Australian Government for increased access to Australian services markets by other nations, lodged under negotiations, under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS);
- (b) any documents analysing the likely impact of any requests made of Australia in negotiations under GATS; and
- (c) any requests lodged by Australia of other countries under negotiations on GATS.

(Agreed to 14 November 2002.)

**26 Environment—Oceans policy—Order for production of document**

That there be laid on the table at the end of taking note of answers to questions without notice on Tuesday, 19 November 2002, the 'Review of the Implementation of Oceans Policy: Final report' by TFG International, dated 25 October 2002.

(Agreed to 18 November 2002.)

**27 Superannuation—Insurance and Superannuation Commission—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, in accordance with their respective ministerial responsibilities, by the Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Minchin) and the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan), by 2 December 2002, the following documents:

- (a) the Treasury files, as described in paragraph 10.1.4 of the report to Messrs Corrs Chambers Westgarth from John Palmer, FCA, entitled 'Review of the role played by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority and the Insurance and Superannuation Commission in the collapse of the HIH Group of Companies' and provided as a witness statement to the HIH Royal Commission;
- (b) the files of the Insurance and Superannuation Commission in relation to the application of FAI Insurance Limited for an authority to carry on insurance business following the proclamation of the *Insurance Act 1973* containing the application and all correspondence and documentation relating to the consideration of the application and leading to and including the company's eventual authorisation;
- (c) the files of the Insurance and Superannuation Commission in relation to the application of Fire and All Risks Insurance Company Limited for an authority to carry on insurance business following the proclamation of the *Insurance Act 1973* containing the application and all correspondence and documentation relating to the consideration of the application and leading to and including the company's eventual authorisation;

- (d) the files of the Insurance and Superannuation Commission in relation to the application of Car Owners' Mutual Insurance Company Limited for an authority to carry on insurance business following the proclamation of the *Insurance Act 1973* containing the application and all correspondence and documentation relating to the consideration of the application and leading to and including the company's eventual authorisation; and
- (e) the files of the Insurance and Superannuation Commission in relation to the application of Australian and International Insurance Limited for an authority to carry on insurance business following the proclamation of the *Insurance Act 1973* containing the application and all correspondence and documentation relating to the consideration of the application and leading to and including the company's eventual authorisation.

(Agreed to 19 November 2002.)

**28 Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—Ministerial responsibility—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on Thursday, 12 December 2002, all documents relating to the inquiries undertaken by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet into the possible conflict of interest between the ministerial responsibilities of the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan) and the commercial activities of Endispute Pty Ltd (including, but not limited to, a copy of the report of those inquiries furnished to the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) and referred to by him during question time in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, 3 December 2002).

(Agreed to 10 December 2002.)

**29 Environment—Tasmania—Logging—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, no later than noon on Thursday, 12 December 2002, all documents relating to the answers to question on notice no. 404 (Senate *Hansard*, 14 October 2002, p. 5089).

(Agreed to 11 December 2002.)

**30 Science and Technology—Genetically-modified food—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs and representing the Prime Minister (Senator Hill), no later than 4 pm on 4 February 2003:

All communications in the period June 2001 to the present between:

- (a) the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the Prime Minister's office and Food Standards Australia New Zealand;
- (b) the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the Prime Minister's office and the National Farmers Federation;
- (c) the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the Prime Minister's office and the Department of Health and Ageing; and
- (d) the Prime Minister's office and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade,

relating to genetically-modified food in the context of the current free trade agreement negotiations with the United States and of the labelling of genetically modified and genetically engineered food, including communications to or from

organisations formed or created under the auspices of any of the above agencies, officers of departments.

*(Agreed to 12 December 2002.)*

**31 Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Thursday, 6 February 2003, the submission or submissions made by the Department of Defence to the Environment Impact Assessment for a National Radioactive Waste Repository in South Australia.

*(Agreed to 5 February 2003.)*

**32 Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Monday, 3 March 2003, all documents relating to the records and communications between the Department of Defence and the Department of Education, Science and Training concerning the Government's consideration of a National Radioactive Waste Repository in South Australia.

*(Agreed to 5 February 2003.)*

**33 Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Thursday, 6 March 2003, the written advice provided by the Department of Defence to the Department of Education, Science and Training concerning the defence-related issues in connection with the National Radioactive Waste Repository in South Australia

*(Agreed to 5 March 2003.)*

**34 Immigration—Illegal migration—Order for production of document**

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Wednesday, 26 March 2003, the Memorandum of Understanding signed on or around 12 March 2003 between the Australian Government and the Islamic Republic of Iran, which includes measures to combat illegal migration.

*(Agreed to 25 March 2003.)*

**35 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Review of Test and Evaluation in Defence—Report by the Director of Trials—Order for production of document**

That the Senate adopt the following recommendations of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee in its report on materiel acquisition and management in Defence:

- (a) that the Senate request the Auditor-General to direct that the proposed 2003-04 audit of the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) by the Australian National Audit Office include a cultural audit that will assess:
  - (i) DMO's espoused corporate values and standards and staff compliance with these,
  - (ii) management and staff values, behaviours and competencies measured against the capability requirement,
  - (iii) employee attitudes, morale, beliefs, motivation,

- (iv) employee understanding of, for example, the DMO's customers, industry partners, strategies, business plans, roles and contributions to the overall mission of Defence,
  - (v) communication processes,
  - (vi) the effectiveness of change management programs, employee commitment to them and the extent of the benefits materialising, and
  - (vii) compliance with health and safety regulations;
- (b) that the Senate request the Auditor-General:
- (i) to produce, on an annual basis, a report on progress in major defence projects, detailing cost, time and technical performance data for each project,
  - (ii) to model the report on that ordered by the British House of Commons and produced by the United Kingdom Comptroller and Auditor General, and
  - (iii) to include in the report such analysis of performance and emerging trends as will enable the Parliament to have high visibility of all current and pending major projects; and
- (c) that the Senate under standing order 164, order the production, upon its completion, of the report by the Director of Trials of the Review of Test and Evaluation in Defence, and refer the document to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for examination and report.

*(Agreed to 14 May 2003.)*

**36 Environment—Radioactive waste—National store—Order for production of document**

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Science, no later than 1 pm on 15 May 2003, the document containing the list of potential sites for the location of a national store for intermediate level radioactive waste that has been prepared by the National Store Advisory Committee, referred to in the media release prepared by the Minister for Science, 'SA Ruled Out', dated 9 May 2003.

*(Agreed to 14 May 2003.)*

**37 Industry—Basslink—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Thursday, 15 May 2003, the letters exchanged between the Victorian and Federal Governments since 1 July 2001 concerning the Basslink project, other than those letters relating to the planning process.

*(Agreed to 14 May 2003.)*

**38 Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme—Draft regulations—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table, no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on Thursday, 19 June 2003:

- (a) draft regulations to be made under the Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme Bill 2003;
- (b) draft regulations to be made under the Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003; and



- (c) records of any meetings at which members of industry or other groups with a potential to be affected by the passage of these bills were permitted to examine the draft regulations referred to above.

(Agreed to 19 June 2003.)

**\*39 Environment—Fishing—Threatened species—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Hill) by no later than 3 pm on 21 August 2003, the following documents:

A copy of any correspondence from the Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Dr Kemp) to the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Ian Macdonald) in which the Minister for the Environment and Heritage indicated a willingness not to prosecute fishers under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* for the incidental capture of members of listed threatened species, listed migratory species and listed marine species in Commonwealth areas if the fishers were operating in accordance with fishing concessions granted under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*.

(Agreed to 20 August 2003.)

**Orders for production of documents still current from previous parliaments**

<b>Date of order</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Addressed to</b>
25.10.1995	Administrative decision-making—Effect of international instruments	Minister representing the Attorney-General
13.05.1998	Waterfront reform	Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Development (Senator Alston); Minister representing the Minister for Workplace Relations and Small Business (Senator Alston); and Minister representing the Prime Minister (Senator Hill)
07.03.2000	Environment—Queensland—Tree clearing	Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Hill)
03.04.2000	Aged care—Riverside Nursing Home	Minister representing the Minister for Aged Care
27.06.2000	Tax reform—Petrol pricing	Assistant Treasurer (Senator Kemp)
09.11.2000	Environment—Tasmania	Minister representing the Minister for Sport and Tourism (Senator Minchin)
04.12.2000	Taxation—Opinion polls	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
05.03.2001	Taxation	Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Kemp)

<b>Date of order</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Addressed to</b>
23.05.2001	HIH Insurance	Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Kemp)
24.05.2001	Workplace relations	Minister representing the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business
09.08.2001	Foreign Affairs—Japanese fishing boats	Minister representing the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Trade
21.08.2001	Transport—Black Spot Project	Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services
23.08.2001	Environment—Great Barrier Reef—Water quality control	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
19.09.2001	Transport—Ansett Australia	Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services
20.09.2001	Transport—Ansett Australia	Minister representing the Prime Minister

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## CONTINGENT NOTICES OF MOTION

### Auditor-General's reports—Consideration

- 1 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**  
**Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)**  
**Senator Brown**  
**Senator Harradine**  
**Senator Harris**  
**Senator Lees**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on the President presenting a report of the Auditor-General on any day or notifying the Senate that such a report had been presented under standing order 166)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion to take note of the report and any senator speaking to it for not more than 10 minutes, with the total time for the debate not to exceed 60 minutes.

### Conduct of business

- 2 **Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill):** To move (contingent on the Senate on any day concluding its consideration of any item of business and prior to the Senate proceeding to the consideration of another item of business)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent a minister moving a motion to provide for the consideration of any matter.
- 3 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**  
**Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)**  
**Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)**

**Senator Brown**  
**Senator Harradine**  
**Senator Harris**  
**Senator Lees**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on the Senate on any day concluding its consideration of any item of business and prior to the Senate proceeding to the consideration of another item of business)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the conduct of the business of the Senate or to provide for the consideration of any other matter.

### **Government documents**

- 4 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**  
**Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)**  
**Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)**  
**Senator Brown**  
**Senator Harradine**  
**Senator Harris**  
**Senator Lees**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on the Senate proceeding to the consideration of government documents)—That so much of the standing orders relating to the consideration of government documents be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the order in which the documents are called on by the President.

### **Limitation of time**

- Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**  
**Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)**  
**Senator Brown**  
**Senator Harradine**  
**Senator Harris**  
**Senator Lees**  
**Senator Nettle**
- 5 To move (contingent on a minister moving a motion that a bill be considered an urgent bill)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent debate taking place on the motion.
- 6 To move (contingent on a minister moving a motion to specify time to be allotted to the consideration of a bill, or any stage of a bill)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent the motion being debated without limitation of time and each senator speaking for the time allotted by standing orders.
- 7 To move (contingent on the chair declaring that the time allotted for the consideration of a bill, or any stage of a bill, has expired)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent further consideration of the bill, or the stage of the bill, without limitation of time or for a specified period.

### Matters of urgency

8 **Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill):** To move (contingent on the moving of a motion to debate a matter of urgency under standing order 75)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent a minister moving an amendment to the motion.

9 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**  
**Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)**  
**Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)**  
**Senator Brown**  
**Senator Harradine**  
**Senator Harris**  
**Senator Lees**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on the moving of a motion to debate a matter of urgency under standing order 75)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving an amendment to the motion.

### Order of business

10 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**  
**Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)**  
**Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)**  
**Senator Brown**  
**Senator Harradine**  
**Senator Harris**  
**Senator Lees**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on the President proceeding to the placing of business on any day)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the order of business on the *Notice Paper*.

### Statements

11 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**  
**Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)**  
**Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)**  
**Senator Brown**  
**Senator Harradine**  
**Senator Harris**  
**Senator Lees**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on any senator being refused leave to make a statement to the Senate)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent that senator making that statement.

### Questions without notice

12 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**

**Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)**

**Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)**

**Senator Brown**

**Senator Harradine**

**Senator Harris**

**Senator Lees**

**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on a minister at question time on any day asking that further questions be placed on notice)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion that, at question time on any day, questions may be put to ministers until 28 questions, including supplementary questions, have been asked and answered.

### **Tabling of documents**

13 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**

**Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)**

**Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)**

**Senator Brown**

**Senator Harradine**

**Senator Harris**

**Senator Lees**

**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on any senator being refused leave to table a document in the Senate)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving that the document be tabled.

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## **TEMPORARY CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES**

Senators Bolkus, Brandis, Chapman, Cherry, Cook, Ferguson, Hutchins, Kirk, Knowles, Lightfoot, Sandy Macdonald, Marshall, McLucas and Watson

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## **CATEGORIES OF COMMITTEES**

### **Standing Committees**

Appropriations and Staffing

House

Library

Privileges

Procedure

Publications

Selection of Bills

Senators' Interests

### **Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committees**

Regulations and Ordinances  
Scrutiny of Bills

**Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees**

Community Affairs Legislation  
Community Affairs References  
Economics Legislation  
Economics References  
Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation  
Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References  
Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation  
Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References  
Finance and Public Administration Legislation  
Finance and Public Administration References  
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation  
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References  
Legal and Constitutional Legislation  
Legal and Constitutional References  
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation  
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References

**Select Committees**

A Certain Maritime Incident  
Medicare  
Ministerial Discretion in Migration Matters  
Superannuation  
Superannuation and Financial Services

**Joint Statutory Committees**

ASIO, ASIS and DSD  
Australian Crime Commission (*replaced the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the National Crime Authority with effect from 1 January 2003*)  
Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings  
Corporations and Financial Services  
National Crime Authority  
Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund  
Public Accounts and Audit  
Public Works

**Joint Committees**

Electoral Matters  
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade  
Migration  
National Capital and External Territories  
Treaties

*N.B.* Details appear in the following section, with committees listed in alphabetical order.



## COMMITTEES

### **A Certain Maritime Incident—Select Committee**

*(appointed 13 February 2002; terms of appointment varied 13 March 2002; final report tabled 23 October 2002)*

#### *Members*

Senator Cook (*Chair*), Senator Brandis (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Collins, Faulkner, Ferguson, Mason and Murphy

#### *Report presented*

Report (*tabled 23 October 2002*)

Erratum (*presented to the Deputy President on 25 October 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 November 2002*)

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### **Appropriations and Staffing—Standing Committee**

#### *Members*

The President (*Chairman*), the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Senators Allison, Bolkus, Boswell, Ferris, Heffernan and Ray

#### *Reports presented*

36th report—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2002-03 (*certified by the President on 22 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 166(2); tabled 18 June 2002*)

Annual report for 2001-02 (*tabled 29 August 2002*)

37th report—Administration of parliamentary security (*tabled 18 November 2002*)

38th report—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2003-04 (*tabled 23 June 2003*)

39th report—Review of aspects of parliamentary administration (*tabled 23 June 2003*)

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### **ASIO, ASIS and DSD—Joint Statutory Committee**

#### *Members*

Mr Jull (*Chair*), Senators Ferguson, Sandy Macdonald and Ray and Mr Beazley, Mr McArthur and Mr McLeay

#### *Current inquiry*

Intelligence information received by Australia's intelligence services in relation to weapons of mass destruction (*referred 17 June 2003; reporting date: 2 December 2003*)

#### *Reports presented*

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 3 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002—Advisory report (*tabled 18 June 2002*)

Annual report for 2001-02 (*tabled 2 December 2002*)

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**Australian Crime Commission—Joint Statutory Committee**

(replaced the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the National Crime Authority with effect from 1 January 2003)

*Members*

Mr Baird (*Chair*), Mr Sercombe (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Denman, Ferris, Greig, Hutchins and McGauran and Mr Dutton, Mr Kerr and Mr CP Thompson

*Current inquiries*

Recent trends in practices and methods of cybercrime (*adopted 6 March 2003*)

The Australian Crime Commission's response to the emerging trend of trafficking in women for sexual servitude (*adopted 26 June 2003*)

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**Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings—Joint Statutory Committee***Members*

The President (*Vice Chairman*), the Speaker (*Chairman*), Senators Ferris and Stephens and Mr Forrest, Mrs Gash, Mr Lindsay, Ms JS McFarlane and Mr Price

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**Community Affairs Legislation Committee***Portfolios*

Family and Community Services; Health and Ageing

*Members*

Senator Knowles (*Chair*), Senator Greig (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Denman, Heffernan, Humphries and Hutchins

*Substitute member*

Senator Tchen to replace Senator Knowles from 22 August to 19 December 2003, inclusive

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Boswell, Buckland, Carr, Chapman, Collins, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Hogg, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, McGauran, McLucas, Moore, Murphy, Nettle, Payne, Tierney, Watson and Webber

Senator Allison for matters relating to the Health and Ageing portfolio

*Reports presented*

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 14 February 2002*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2002) (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

Provisions of the Research Involving Embryos and Prohibition of Human Cloning Bill 2002 (*presented to the President on 24 October 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 November 2002*)

Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Special Benefit Activity Test) Bill 2002 (*tabled 2 December 2002*)

Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)

Health Legislation Amendment (Private Health Insurance Reform) Bill 2003 (*tabled 16 June 2003*)

Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)



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### **Community Affairs References Committee**

*Members*

Senator Hutchins (*Chair*), Senator Knowles (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Humphries, Lees, McLucas and Moore

*Substitute members*

Senator Murray to replace Senator Lees for the committee's inquiry into children in institutional care

Senator Tchen to replace Senator Knowles from 22 August to 19 December 2003, inclusive

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Crossin, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Payne, Tierney, Watson and Webber

Senator Greig for matters relating to the Family and Community Services portfolio

Senator Allison for matters relating to the Health and Ageing portfolio

Senator Knowles from 22 August to 19 December 2003, inclusive

*Current inquiries*

Operation of the social security breaches and penalties system (*referred 16 October 2002*)

Poverty and financial hardship (*referred 21 October 2002; reporting date: 27 November 2003*)

Children in institutional care (*referred 4 March 2003; reporting date: 3 December 2003*)

Hepatitis C in Australia (*referred 19 August 2003; reporting date: the first sitting day of the 2004 winter session*)

*Reports presented*

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 14 February 2002*)

The patient profession: Time for action—Report on the inquiry into nursing (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Participation requirements and penalties in the social security system [Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Australians Working Together and other 2001 Budget Measures) Bill 2002 and related issues] (*tabled 25 September 2002*)

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### **Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee**

(formerly the *Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Securities; name amended 11 March 2002 pursuant to Schedule 1, item 5 of the Financial Services Reform Act 2001*)

*Members*

Senator Chapman (*Chair*), Senator Wong (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Brandis, Conroy and Murray and Mr Byrne, Mr Ciobo, Mr Griffin, Mr Hunt and Mr McArthur

*Current inquiries*

Banking and financial services in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia (*adopted 26 June 2002*)

Australia's insolvency laws (*adopted 14 November 2002*)

*Reports presented*

Regulations and ASIC policy statements made under the *Financial Services Reform Act 2001* (tabled 23 October 2003)

Review of the *Managed Investments Act 1998* (tabled 12 December 2002)

Review of the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (tabled 26 March 2003)

Corporations Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 1), Statutory Rules 2003 No. 31 (tabled 24 June 2003)

Regulation 7.1.29 in Corporations Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 3), Statutory Rules 2003 No. 85 (tabled 26 June 2003)

Inquiry into the disclosure of commissions on risk products (tabled 12 August 2003)

**Economics Legislation Committee***Portfolios*

Treasury; Industry, Tourism and Resources

*Members*

Senator Brandis (*Chair*), Senator Stephens (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Chapman, Murray, Watson and Webber

*Substitute members*

Senator Allison to replace Senator Murray for matters relating to the Resources portfolio

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Murray for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the ACIS Administration Amendment Bill 2003 and the Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Bill 2003

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Cherry, Conroy, Cook, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Kirk, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Payne, Ridgeway, Sherry, Stott Despoja, Tchen and Tierney

*Current inquiries*

Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003 (*referred 19 March 2003; reporting date: 15 September 2003*)

Provisions of the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 5) 2003 (*referred 18 June 2003; reporting date: 21 August 2003*)

Provisions of the Financial Services Reform Amendment Bill 2003 (*referred upon the introduction of the bill in the House of Representatives pursuant to the Selection of Bills Committee report no. 7, 25 June 2003; bill introduced 26 June 2003; reporting date: 21 August 2003*)

Provisions of the ACIS Administration Amendment Bill 2003 and the Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Bill 2003 (*referred 13 August 2003; reporting date: 15 September 2003*)

Provisions of the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 7) 2003 (*referred 13 August 2003; reporting date: 8 September 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Commonwealth Inscribed Stock Amendment Bill 2001 (*presented to the Deputy President on 6 December 2001, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 19 March 2002*)

- Taxation Laws Amendment (Superannuation) Bill (No. 1) 2002 and Income Tax (Superannuation Payments Withholding Tax) Bill 2002 (*tabled 20 March 2002*)
- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2002) (*tabled 21 March 2002*)
- Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)
- New Business Tax System (Consolidation) Bill (No. 1) 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)
- Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 4) 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)
- Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)
- Space Activities Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 27 August 2002*)
- Annual reports (No. 2 of 2002) (*tabled 18 September 2002*)
- New Business Tax System (Consolidation, Value Shifting, Demergers and Other Measures) Bill 2002 (*presented to the Deputy President on 18 October 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 21 October 2002*)
- Excise Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002 and Customs Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002 (*tabled 22 October 2002*)
- New Business Tax System (Consolidation and Other Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2002 (*tabled 18 November 2002*)
- Inspector-General of Taxation Bill 2002 (*tabled 3 December 2002*)
- Trade Practices Amendment (Liability for Recreational Services) Bill 2002 (*tabled 10 December 2002*)
- Financial Sector Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002 (*tabled 11 December 2002*)
- Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)
- Corporations Amendment (Repayment of Directors' Bonuses) Bill 2002 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)
- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)
- Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)
- Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme Bill 2003 and Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003 (*tabled 24 March 2003*)
- Corporations (Fees) Amendment Bill 2002, Corporations Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 and Corporations (Review Fees) Bill 2002 (*tabled 26 March 2003*)
- Terrorism Insurance Bill 2003 (*tabled 14 May 2003*)
- Designs Bill 2002 and Designs (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2002 (*presented to the President on 28 May 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2003*)
- Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 4) 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)
- Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 8) 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)
- Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 23 June 2003*)
- New Business Tax System (Taxation of Financial Arrangements) Bill (No. 1) 2003 (*tabled 13 August 2003*)
- \* Provisions of the Trade Practices Amendment (Personal Injuries and Death) Bill 2003 (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

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### **Economics References Committee**

#### *Members*

Senator Stephens (*Chair*), Senator Brandis (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Chapman, Hogg, Ridgeway and Webber

#### *Substitute member*

Senator Allison to replace Senator Ridgeway for matters relating to the Resources portfolio

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Cherry, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Kirk, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Murray, Payne, Sherry, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

*Current inquiries*

The structure and distributive effects of the Australian taxation system (*referred 12 December 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2004*)

Whether the *Trade Practices Act 1974* adequately protects small business (*referred 25 June 2003; reporting date: 4 December 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Inquiry into mass marketed tax effective schemes and investor protection (*presented to the President on 11 February 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Inquiry into the framework for the market supervision of Australia's stock exchanges (*presented to the President on 11 February 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

A review of public liability and professional indemnity insurance (*tabled 22 October 2002*)

**Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee**

(*appointed 14 February 2002*)

*Members*

Mr Georgiou (*Chair*), Mr Danby (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Brandis, Mason, Murray and Ray and Mr Forrest, Mr Melham and Ms Panopoulos

*Current inquiry*

Increasing the minimum representation for the Territories in the House of Representatives (*referred 8 July 2003*)

*Reports presented*

The integrity of the electoral roll: Review of ANAO report no. 42 of 2001-02 (*tabled 11 November 2002*)

The 2001 Federal Election: Report of the inquiry into the conduct of the 2001 Federal Election, and matters related thereto (*tabled 23 June 2003*)

**Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee**

(*formerly the Employment, Workplace Relations, Small Business and Education Legislation Committee; name amended 11 March 2002—see standing order 25*)

*Portfolios*

Employment and Workplace Relations; Education, Science and Training

*Members*

Senator Tierney (*Chair*), Senator George Campbell (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, Carr, Johnston and Stott Despoja

*Substitute members*

Senator Murray to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Workplace Relations portfolio

Senator Allison to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Training portfolio and the Schools portfolio

Senator Cherry to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Employment portfolio

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Boswell, Buckland, Chapman, Cherry, Collins, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Humphries, Hutchins, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Payne, Santoro, Sherry, Stephens, Watson and Webber

*Current inquiry*

- \* Workplace Relations Amendment (Compliance with Court and Tribunal Orders) Bill 2003 and the provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Codifying Contempt Offences) Bill 2003 (*referred 20 August 2003; reporting date: 13 October 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2002) (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Dismissal) Bill 2002, Workplace Relations Amendment (Prohibition of Compulsory Union Fees) Bill 2002, Workplace Relations Amendment (Secret Ballots for Protected Action) Bill 2002, Workplace Relations Amendment (Genuine Bargaining) Bill 2002 and Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Termination) Bill 2002 (*tabled 15 May 2002*)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 27 June 2002*)

Higher Education Funding Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 22 August 2002*)

Research Agencies Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 29 August 2002*)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Paid Maternity Leave) Bill 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2002) (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Improved Protection for Victorian Workers) Bill 2002 (*presented to the President on 15 November 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 November 2002*)

Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Termination of Employment) Bill 2002 (*tabled 26 March 2003*)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting the Low Paid) Bill 2003—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2003*)

Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting the Low Paid) Bill 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

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**Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee**

(formerly the *Employment, Workplace Relations, Small Business and Education References Committee*; name amended 11 March 2002—see standing order 25)

*Members*

Senator George Campbell (*Chair*), Senator Tierney (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, Carr, Crossin and Stott Despoja

*Substitute members*

Senator Murray to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Workplace Relations portfolio

Senator Allison to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Training portfolio and the Schools portfolio

Senator Cherry to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Employment portfolio

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Boswell, Buckland, Chapman, Cherry, Collins, Coonan, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Humphries, Hutchins, Johnston, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Moore, Murphy, Nettle, Payne, Santoro, Sherry, Stephens, Watson and Webber

*Current inquiries*

The refusal of the Government to respond to the order of the Senate of 21 August 2002 for the production of documents relating to financial information concerning higher education institutions (*referred 18 September 2002; reporting date: 15 October 2003*)

Labour market skills requirements (*referred 23 October 2002; reporting date: 28 October 2003*)

Proposed budget changes to higher education (*referred 26 June 2003; reporting date: 30 October 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Education of gifted and talented children (*presented to the President on 2 October 2001, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Universities in crisis: Report into the capacity of public university to meet Australia's higher education needs—Addendum (*presented to the President on 8 November 2001, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Education of students with disabilities (*tabled 10 December 2002*)

Small business employment (*tabled 6 February 2003*)

Education of students with disabilities—Corrigendum (*tabled 5 March 2003*)

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## **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee**

*Portfolios*

Environment and Heritage; Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

*Members*

Senator Eggleston (*Chair*), Senator Mackay (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Lundy, Santoro and Tchen

*Substitute members*

Senator Greig to replace Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Information Technology portfolio

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Arts portfolio

Senator Wong to replace Senator Mackay for the committee's inquiry into the Plastic Bag Levy (Assessment and Collection) Bill 2002 [No. 2] and the Plastic Bag (Minimisation of Usage) Education Fund Bill 2002 [No. 2]

Senator Cherry to replace Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Communications portfolio

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Bolkus, Boswell, Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Humphries, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, McLucas, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Ray, Watson and Wong

*Current inquiries*

Plastic Bag Levy (Assessment and Collection) Bill 2002 [No. 2] and the Plastic Bag (Minimisation of Usage) Education Fund Bill 2002 [No. 2] (*referred 5 March 2003; reporting date: 7 October 2003*)

Provisions of the Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2003 (*referred 13 August 2003; reporting date: 30 October 2003*)

\* Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003 (*referred 20 August 2003; reporting date: 9 September 2003*)

\* Provisions of the Fuel Quality Standards Amendment Bill 2003 (*referred 20 August 2003; reporting date: 28 October 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2002) (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002 (*presented to the President on 18 June 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 19 June 2002*)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

New Zealand/Australia committee exchange program: Report of visit to New Zealand, 15 to 17 April 2002 (*tabled 27 August 2002*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2002) (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Telecommunications Competition Bill 2002 (*presented to the Deputy President on 22 November 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 2 December 2002*)

Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2002—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 28 November 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 2 December 2002*)

Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 2 December 2002*)

Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)

Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

Provisions of the Postal Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 19 August 2003*)

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**Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**

*Members*

Senator Cherry (*Chair*), Senator Tierney (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Lundy, Mackay, Tchen and Wong

*Substitute members*

Senator Crossin to replace Senator Mackay for the committee's inquiry into environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations

Senator Buckland to replace Senator Lundy for the committee's inquiry into environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations

Senator Scullion to replace Senator Tierney for the committee's inquiry into environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations

Senator Moore to replace Senator Wong for the committee's inquiries into the Australian telecommunications network and the role of libraries as providers of public information in the online environment

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Allison, Bolkus, Boswell, Brown, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Humphries, Knowles, Lees, Mason, McGauran, Moore, Murphy, Nettle, Payne and Watson

Senator Greig for matters relating to the Information Technology portfolio

Senator Ridgeway for matters relating to the Arts portfolio

Senator Nettle for the committee's inquiry into environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations

Senator Wong for the committee's inquiry into the Australian telecommunications network

*Current inquiries*

Environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations (*referred 20 June 2002; reporting date: 16 September 2003*)

The role of libraries as providers of public information in the online environment (*referred 25 June 2002; reporting date: 16 September 2003*)

Australian telecommunications network (*referred 25 June 2002; reporting date: 2 December 2003*)

Competition in broadband services (*referred 26 June 2003; reporting date: last sitting day in March 2004*)

Regulation, control and management of invasive species (*referred 26 June 2003; reporting date: last sitting day in March 2004*)

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002 (*referred 26 March 2003; order varied 26 June 2003; reporting date: 25 November 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 14 February 2002*)

New Zealand/Australia committee exchange program: Report of visit to New Zealand, 15 to 17 April 2002 (*tabled 27 August 2002*)

The value of water: Inquiry into Australia's urban water management (*tabled 5 December 2002*)

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**Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**

*Portfolios*

Parliament; Prime Minister and Cabinet; Finance and Administration

*Members*

Senator Mason (*Chair*), Senator Murray (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Brandis, Faulkner, Forshaw and Heffernan

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Knowles, Lees, McGauran, Mackay, Marshall, Murphy, Payne, Ray, Ridgeway, Sherry, Tchen, Tierney and Watson



*Current inquiry*

Portfolio Budget Statements (*referred 21 November 1996; readopted 2 December 1998 and 21 March 2002*)

*Reports presented*

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2002) (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

Charter of Political Honesty Bill 2000 [2002], Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2000 [2002], Government Advertising (Objectivity, Fairness and Accountability) Bill 2000 and Auditor of Parliamentary Allowances and Entitlements Bill 2000 [No. 2] (*tabled 29 August 2002*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2002) (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Members of Parliament (Life Gold Pass) Bill 2002 (*tabled 19 September 2002*)

Public Interest Disclosure Bill 2001 [2002] (*tabled 26 September 2002*)

Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)

Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

**Finance and Public Administration References Committee***Members*

Senator Forshaw (*Chair*), Senator Watson (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Heffernan, Moore, Ridgeway and Wong

*Substitute members*

Senator Murray to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into recruitment and training in the Australian Public Service

Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into administrative review within the area of veteran and military compensation and income support

Senator Bishop to replace Senator Wong for the committee's inquiry into administrative review within the area of veteran and military compensation and income support

Senator Murray to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*

Senator Webber to replace Senator Wong for the committee's inquiry into staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Brandis, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Knowles, Lees, Lundy, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Murray, Payne, Sherry, Tchen and Tierney

Senator Marshall for the committee's inquiry into funding under the Dairy Regional Assistance Program

*Current inquiries*

Tabling of indexed lists of files of departments and agencies (*referred 21 August 1996 pursuant to the order of 30 May 1996; readopted 1 December 1998 and 21 March 2002*)

Recruitment and training in the Australian Public Service (*referred 21 March 2002; reporting date: 18 September 2003*)

Staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (referred 19 March 2003; reporting date: 8 October 2003)

Second year of operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (ordered 18 June 2003)

Administrative review within the area of veteran and military compensation and income support (referred 19 June 2003)

*Reports presented*

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (tabled 21 March 2002)

Departmental and agency contracts: Report on the first year of operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (tabled 12 December 2002)

A funding matter under the Dairy Regional Assistance Program (tabled 26 June 2003)

**Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee**

(appointed 14 February 2002)

*Members*

Senator Ferguson (*Chair*), Mr Brereton (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bolkus, Cook, Eggleston, Evans, Harradine, Hutchins, Johnston, Sandy Macdonald, O'Brien, Payne and Stott Despoja and Mr Baird, Mr Baldwin, Mr Beazley, Mr Bevis, Mr Byrne, Mr Edwards, Mr LDT Ferguson, Mrs Gash, Mr Hawker, Mr Jull, Mr Lindsay, Mrs Moylan, Mr Nairn, Mr Price, Mr Prosser, Mr Scott, Mr Snowdon, Mr Somlyay and Mr CP Thompson

*Current inquiries*

Watching brief on the war on terrorism (adopted 15 May 2002)

United Nations – Australia's role in the UN (adopted 15 May 2002)

World Trade Organisation – Australia's role in the WTO (adopted 15 May 2002)

Trade and investment relations with the countries of Central Europe (adopted 12 August 2002)

Relations with Indonesia (adopted 22 August 2002)

Australia's maritime strategy (adopted 27 August 2002)

Review of those aspects of the 2000-01 annual report of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission relating to conditions at immigration detention centres and the treatment of detainees (adopted 27 June 2002)

Human rights and good governance education in the Asia-Pacific region (referred 3 September 2002)

Review of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) annual report for 2001-02 (adopted 16 October 2002)

Review of the Australian Trade Commission (Austrade) annual report for 2001-02 (adopted 16 October 2002)

Review of the Department of Defence annual report for 2001-02 (adopted 16 October 2002)

Review of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade annual report for 2001-02 (adopted 16 October 2002)

Review of Australia-Indonesia Institute annual report for 2001-02 (adopted 2 December 2002)

*Reports presented*

Review of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Defence annual reports 2000-01 (tabled 23 September 2002)

Enterprising Australia: Planning, preparing and profiting from trade and investment—A short report on the proceedings of the inquiry (*tabled 16 October 2002*)  
 Parliament's watching brief on the war on terrorism—Visit to Australian forces deployed to the international coalition against terrorism (*tabled 21 October 2002*)  
 Parliament's watching brief on the war on terrorism—Review of Australia's preparedness to manage the consequences of a terrorist attack (*statement made, by way of a report, 2 December 2002*)  
 Review of Australia's relations with the United Nations (*statement made, by way of a report, 9 December 2002*)  
 Scrutiny of the World Trade Organisation (*statement made, by way of a report, 9 December 2002*)  
 Report of the 2003 New Zealand Parliamentary Committee Exchange, 6-11 April 2003 (*tabled 23 June 2003*)

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### **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee**

#### *Portfolios*

Foreign Affairs and Trade; Defence (including Veterans' Affairs)

#### *Members*

Senator Sandy Macdonald (*Chair*), Senator Cook (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Evans, Ferguson, Payne and Ridgeway

#### *Substitute member*

Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into off-setting arrangements between the Veterans' Entitlements Act and the Military Compensation Scheme

#### *Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Boswell, Brandis, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Eggleston, Faulkner, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Hogg, Hutchins, Johnston, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Mackay, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Santoro, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Defence and Veterans' Affairs portfolio

#### *Current inquiry*

\* Provisions of the Non-Proliferation Legislation Amendment Bill 2003 (*referred 20 August 2003; reporting date: 11 September 2003*)

#### *Reports presented*

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2002) (*tabled 21 March 2002*)  
 Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)  
 Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)  
 Annual reports (No. 2 of 2002) (*tabled 18 September 2002*)  
 Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)  
 Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)  
 Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)  
 Export Market Development Grants Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 24 June 2003*)

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### **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**

#### *Members*

Senator Cook (*Chair*), Senator Sandy Macdonald (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Hogg, Johnston, Marshall and Ridgeway

*Substitute member*

Senator Stott Despoja to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into the performance of government agencies in the assessment and dissemination of security threats in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002

Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into current health preparation arrangements for the deployment of Australian Defence Forces overseas

Senator Bishop to replace Senator Marshall for the committee's inquiry into current health preparation arrangements for the deployment of Australian Defence Forces overseas

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Brandis, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Collins, Coonan, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Hutchins, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Payne, Santoro, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Kirk for the committee's inquiry into the performance of government agencies in the assessment and dissemination of security threats in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002

Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Defence and Veterans' Affairs portfolio

*Current inquiries*

An examination of the Government's foreign and trade policy strategy (*referred 10 December 2002; reporting date: 16 September 2003*)

Issues involved in the negotiation of the General Agreement on Trade in Services in the Doha Development Round (*referred 12 December 2002; reporting date: 27 November 2003*)

The performance of government agencies in the assessment and dissemination of security threats in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002 (*referred 24 March 2003; reporting date: 4 November 2003*)

Report by the Director of Trials of the Review of Test and Evaluation in Defence (*referred 14 May 2003 contingent upon the presentation of the document in the Senate*)

Current health preparation arrangements for the deployment of Australian Defence Forces overseas (*referred 19 June 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Recruitment and retention of ADF personnel (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Chapman, on 4 October 2001, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Materiel acquisition and management in Defence (*tabled 27 March 2003*)

A Pacific engaged: Australia's relations with Papua New Guinea and the island states of the south-west Pacific (*tabled 12 August 2003*)

**House—Standing Committee**

*Members*

The President (*Chair*), the Deputy President, Senators Carr, Colbeck, Collins, Lightfoot and Stephens

**Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee***Portfolios*

Attorney-General; Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

*Members*

Senator Payne (*Chair*), Senator Bolkus (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Greig, Ludwig, Mason and Scullion

*Substitute member*

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Greig for matters relating to the Indigenous Affairs portfolio

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Brandis, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Humphries, Kirk, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, McGauran, McLucas, Murphy, Nettle, Ray, Sherry, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Immigration and Multicultural Affairs portfolio

*Current inquiries*

Provisions of the Age Discrimination Bill 2003 (*referred 13 August 2003; reporting date: 18 September 2003*)

- \* Provisions of the Migration Legislation Amendment (Identification and Authentication) Bill 2003 (*referred 20 August 2003; reporting date: 11 September 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Matter not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 11 March 2002*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2002) (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Proceeds of Crime Bill 2002 and the Proceeds of Crime (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Chapman, on 10 April 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)

Criminal Code Amendment (Espionage and Related Offences) Bill 2002—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 26 April 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)

Proceeds of Crime Bill 2002 and the Proceeds of Crime (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002 (*presented to the Deputy President on 26 April 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)

Security Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 [No. 2], Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism Bill 2002, Criminal Code Amendment (Suppression of Terrorist Bombings) Bill 2002, Border Security Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 and Telecommunications Interception Legislation Amendment Bill 2002—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 3 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 3 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)

Security Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 [No. 2], Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism Bill 2002, Criminal Code Amendment (Suppression of Terrorist Bombings) Bill 2002, Border Security Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 and Telecommunications Interception Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 (*presented to the*

- Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Knowles, on 8 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*
- Criminal Code Amendment (Espionage and Related Offences) Bill 2002 (*presented to the Deputy President on 10 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)
- Family Law Amendment (Child Protection Convention) Bill 2002 (*tabled 15 May 2002*)
- Proceeds of Crime Bill 2002 and the Proceeds of Crime (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002—Erratum (*tabled 16 May 2002*)
- Migration Legislation Amendment (Procedural Fairness) Bill 2002—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Cook, on 22 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 June 2002*)
- Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Cook, on 22 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 June 2002*)
- Migration Legislation Amendment (Procedural Fairness) Bill 2002 (*presented to the Deputy President on 5 June 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 June 2002*)
- Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002 (*presented to the Deputy President on 5 June 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 June 2002*)
- Australian Protective Service Amendment Bill 2002 (*presented to the Deputy President on 13 June 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 June 2002*)
- Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 (*tabled 18 June 2002*)
- Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 25 June 2002*)
- Government amendments to the Proceeds of Crime Bill 2002 and the Proceeds of Crime (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002 (*presented to the President on 28 June 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 19 August 2002*)
- Annual reports (No. 2 of 2002) (*tabled 18 September 2002*)
- Statutory powers and functions of the Australian Law Reform Commission—Interim report (*tabled 12 December 2002*)
- Statutory powers and functions of the Australian Law Reform Commission—Final report (*tabled 20 March 2003*)
- Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)
- Customs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002—Interim report (*tabled 25 March 2003*)
- Customs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 4 April 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2003*)
- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003) (*tabled 15 May 2003*)
- Human Rights Commission Legislation Bill 2003 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 29 May 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2003*)
- Human Rights Commission Legislation Bill 2003—Erratum (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Collins, on 2 June 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2003*)
- Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)
- Provisions of the Migration Legislation Amendment (Sponsorship Measures) Bill 2003 (*tabled 12 August 2003*)

Provisions of the Family Law Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 13 August 2003*)

Australian Protective Service Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 18 August 2003*)

*Document presented*

Security Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 [No. 2], Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism Bill 2002, Criminal Code Amendment (Suppression of Terrorist Bombings) Bill 2002, Border Security Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 and Telecommunications Interception Legislation Amendment Bill 2002—Additional information (*tabled 27 March 2003*)

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**Legal and Constitutional References Committee**

*Members*

Senator Bolkus (*Chair*), Senator Payne (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Greig, Kirk, Scullion and Stephens

*Substitute members*

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Greig for matters relating to the Indigenous Affairs portfolio

Senator Crossin to replace Senator Stephens for the committee's inquiry into progress towards national reconciliation

Senator Stott Despoja to replace Senator Greig for the committee's inquiry into the establishment of an Australian republic with an Australian Head of State

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Brandis, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Humphries, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Sherry, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Immigration and Multicultural Affairs portfolio

*Current inquiries*

Progress towards national reconciliation (*referred 27 August 2002; reporting date: 16 September 2003*)

The capacity of current legal aid and access to justice arrangements to meet the community need for legal assistance (*referred 17 June 2003; reporting date: 3 March 2004*)

Establishment of an Australian republic with an Australian Head of State (*referred 26 June 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 11 March 2002*)

Human Rights (Mandatory Sentencing for Property Offences) Bill 2000 (*tabled 12 March 2002*)

Inquiry into s. 46 and s. 50 of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (*tabled 14 May 2002*)

Outsourcing of the Australian Customs Service's Information Technology (*tabled 16 May 2002*)

Migration zone excision: An examination of the Migration Legislation Amendment (Further Border Protection Measures) Bill 2002 and related matters (*tabled 21 October 2002*)

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 and related matters (*tabled 3 December 2002*)

*Documents presented*

Sexuality discrimination—Additional information (*tabled 27 March 2003*)

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**Library—Standing Committee**

*Members*

The President (*Chair*), Senators Kirk, Ludwig, Scullion, Tchen, Tierney and Wong

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**Medicare—Select Committee**

(*appointed 15 May 2003; terms of appointment varied: 26 June 2003*)

*Members*

Senator McLucas (*Chair*), Senator Knowles (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Allison, Barnett, Forshaw, Humphries, Lees and Stephens

*Current inquiry*

Health Legislation Amendment (Medicare and Private Health Insurance) Bill 2003 (*referred 19 June 2003; reporting date: 9 September 2003*)

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**Migration—Joint Standing Committee**

(*appointed 14 February 2002*)

*Members*

Ms Gambaro (*Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Eggleston, Kirk and Tchen and Mr LDT Ferguson, Mrs Gash, Mrs Irwin, Mr Ripoll and Mr Randall

*Current inquiry*

Review of skilled migration (*referred 18 June 2002*)

*Report presented*

2003 Review of Migration Regulation 4.31B (*presented to the Deputy President on 29 April 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2003*)

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**Ministerial Discretion in Migration Matters—Select Committee**

(*appointed 19 June 2003*)

*Members*

Senator Ludwig (*Chair*), Senator Santoro (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Humphries, Johnston, Sherry and Wong

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**National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee**

(*appointed 14 February 2002*)

*Members*

Senator Lightfoot (*Chair*), Senator Crossin (*Deputy Chair*), The Deputy President and Chairman of Committees, the Deputy Speaker, Senators Lundy, Scullion and Stott Despoja and Ms Ellis, Mr Johnson, Mr Neville, Mr Snowdon and Mr CP Thompson

*Reports presented*

Norfolk Island electoral matters (*tabled 26 August 2002*)



Striking the right balance: Draft amendment 39, National Capital Plan (*tabled 21 October 2002*)

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**National Crime Authority—Joint Statutory Committee**

(*replaced by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission with effect from 1 January 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Australian Crime Commission Establishment Bill 2002 (*tabled 11 November 2002*)

Examination of the annual report for 2000-01 of the National Crime Authority (*tabled 11 December 2002*)

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**Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund—Joint Statutory Committee**

*Members*

Senator Johnston (*Chair*), Senator McLucas (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Crossin, Lees and Scullion and Mrs Hull, Mrs Ley, Mr McMullan, Mr Secker and Mr Snowdon

*Reports presented*

Examination of annual reports in fulfilment of the committee's duties pursuant to s.206(c) of the *Native Title Act 1993*—

2000-01 (*tabled 12 December 2002*)

2001-02 (*tabled 25 June 2003*)

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**Privileges—Standing Committee**

*Members*

Senator Ray (*Chair*), Senators Evans, Johnston, Humphries, McGauran<sup>†</sup>, Payne and Sherry

<sup>†</sup>Senator McGauran to be discharged from 22 December 2003 with Senator Knowles to be appointed in his place

*Reports presented*

102nd report—Counsel to the Senate (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

103rd report—Possible improper influence and penalty on a senator (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

104th report—Possible false or misleading evidence before the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

105th report—Execution of search warrants in senators' offices – Senator Harris (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

106th report—Possible improper interference with a witness before the Senate Select Committee on a Certain Maritime Incident (*tabled 27 August 2002*)

107th report—Parliamentary privilege precedents, procedures and practices in the Australian Senate 1996-2002 (*tabled 27 August 2002*)

108th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Mr John Hyde Page) (*tabled 15 October 2002*)

109th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Mr Tony Kevin) (*tabled 22 October 2002*)

110th report—Persons referred to in the Senate (Dr Geoffrey Vaughan, Dr Peter Jonson, Professor Brian Anderson) (*tabled 10 December 2002*)

111th report—Persons referred to in the Senate (Mr Bob Moses, on behalf of board and management of National Stem Cell Centre) (*tabled 5 February 2003*)

112th report—Possible unauthorised disclosure of report of Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee (*tabled 6 February 2003*)

113th report—Australian Press Council and Committee of Privileges: Exchange of correspondence (*tabled 25 June 2003*)

- \* 114th report—Execution of search warrants in senators' officers – Senator Harris: Matters arising from the 105th report of the Committee of Privileges (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

*Document presented*

Advices to the Senate Committee of Privileges from the Clerk of the Senate and Senior Counsel—March 1988 to April 2002 (*tabled 27 August 2002*)

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**Procedure—Standing Committee**

*Members*

The Deputy President (*Chair*), the President, the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Senators Allison, Ian Campbell, Eggleston, Ferguson, Ludwig and Ray

*Current inquiry*

Recommendations in the Procedure Committee's first report of 2002 relating to standing order 74(5) (*referred 28 August 2002*)

*Reports presented*

First report of 2002—Adjournment debate; Unanswered questions on notice (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

Second report of 2002—Chairs and quorums in committees; Adjournment debate on Tuesdays (*tabled 18 November 2002*)

First report of 2003—Times of meeting on Tuesday; Senators breastfeeding infants; Deadline for receipt of bills; Presentation of the budget; Committee meetings during adjournment debate; Formal motions (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Sandy Macdonald, on 17 April 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2003*)

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**Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Statutory Committee**

*Members*

Mr Charles (*Chairman*), Ms Plibersek (*Vice Chairman*), Senators Conroy, Lundy, Humphries, Murray, Scullion and Watson and Mr Ciobo, Mr Cobb, Mr Georgiou, Ms Grierson, Mr Griffin, Ms CF King, Mr PE King and Mr Somlyay

*Current inquiry*

Management and integrity of electronic information in the Commonwealth (*referred 23 October 2002*)

*Reports presented*

Report 388—Review of the accrual budget documentation (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

Report 389—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2000-01: Fourth quarter (*tabled 27 June 2002*)

Report 390—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2001-02: First, second and third quarters (*tabled 29 August 2002*)

Report 391—Review of independent auditing by registered company auditors (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Report 392—Annual report 2001-02 (*tabled 14 November 2002*)

Report 390—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2001-02: First, second and third quarters—Erratum (*tabled 14 November 2002*)

Report 393—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2001-02: Fourth quarter (*tabled 3 March 2003*)

Report 394—Review of Australia's quarantine function (*tabled 5 March 2003*)

\* Report 395—Inquiry into the draft Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Bill (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

#### *Documents presented*

Executive minute responses to reports nos 373, 382, 383 and 385 (*tabled 14 November 2002*)

Executive minute responses to reports nos 374, 385, 388 and 389 (*tabled 24 June 2003*)

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### **Public Works—Joint Statutory Committee**

#### *Members*

Mrs Moylan (*Chairman*), Mr BPJ O'Connor (*Deputy Chairman*), Senators Colbeck, Ferguson and Forshaw and Mr Jenkins, Mr Lindsay, Mr Lloyd and Mr Ripoll

#### *Reports presented*

Sixty-fifth annual report, March 2002 (*tabled 15 May 2002*)

Common use infrastructure on Christmas Island (First report of 2002) (*tabled 27 August 2002*)

RAAF Base Williamtown redevelopment stage 1 and facilities for the airborne early warning and control aircraft (Second report of 2002) (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Sixty-sixth annual report, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Proposed fit-out of new leased premises for the Bureau of Meteorology, 700 Collins Street, Docklands, Victoria (*tabled 26 March 2003*)

Development of off-base housing for Defence at Adamstown, Newcastle, NSW (*tabled 14 May 2003*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Australian Customs Service at Sydney International Terminal, Sydney, NSW (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

Provision of facilities for the Australian Capital Territory Multi User Depot, HMAS *Harman*, ACT (*tabled 25 June 2003*)

\* Redevelopment of the Australian Institute of Sport, Bruce, Australian Capital Territory (Fifth report of 2003) (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

\* Provision of facilities for the collocation and re-equipping of the 1st Aviation Regiment at Robertson Barracks, Darwin, NT (Sixth report of 2003) (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

\* RAAF Base Tindal perimeter security fence, Katherine, Northern Territory (Seventh report of 2003) (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

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### **Publications—Standing Committee**

#### *Members*

Senator Colbeck (*Chair*), Senators Hutchins, Johnston, Kirk, Marshall, Moore and Scullion

*Reports presented*

- 1st report (*tabled 21 March 2002*)
- 2nd report (*tabled 29 August 2002*)
- 3rd report (*tabled 26 September 2002*)
- 4th report (*tabled 23 October 2002*)
- 5th report (*tabled 14 November 2002*)
- 6th report (*tabled 12 December 2002*)
- 7th report (*tabled 27 March 2003*)
- 8th report (*tabled 15 May 2003*)
- 9th report (*tabled 26 June 2003*)

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**Regulations and Ordinances—Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committee**

*Members*

Senator Tchen (*Chairman*), Senators Bartlett, Marshall, Mason, Moore and Santoro

*Current inquiry*

Provisions of the Legislative Instruments Bill 2003 and the Legislative Instruments (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003 (*referred 13 August 2003; reporting date: 3 October 2003*)

*Report presented*

110th report—Annual report 2000-01 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

*Documents presented*

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, March – June 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Delegated legislation monitor—Regulations and disallowable instruments tabled in the Senate in 2002, dated February 2003 (*tabled 6 March 2003*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, June 2002 to February 2003 (*tabled 6 March 2003*)

- \* Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, March to June 2003 (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

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**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

*Portfolios*

Transport and Regional Services; Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

*Members*

Senator Heffernan (*Chair*), Senator Buckland (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Cherry, Colbeck, Ferris and O'Brien

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Harradine, Harris, Hutchins, Knowles, Lightfoot, Mason, Sandy Macdonald, McGauran, McLucas, Murphy, Payne, Ray, Santoro, Stephens, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Greig for matters relating to the Fisheries portfolio

Senator Lees for matters relating to air safety

Senator Allison for matters relating to the Transport portfolio

*Current inquiries*

Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (*adopted 22 October 1999; readopted 13 March 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in 2003*)

Import risk assessment on New Zealand apples (*referred 2 November 2000; readopted 13 March 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in 2003*)

Administration of AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Margaret J* (*referred 25 June 2001; readopted 13 March 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in 2003*)

Provisions of the Aviation Transport Security Bill 2003 and the Aviation Transport Security (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2003 (*referred upon the introduction of the bill in the House of Representatives pursuant to the Selection of Bills Committee report no. 4, 26 March 2003; bill introduced 27 March 2003; reporting date: 9 September 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2002) (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Airports Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 16 May 2002*)

Administration by the Department of Transport and Regional Services of Australian Motor Vehicle Standards under the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* and Regulations (*tabled 18 June 2002*)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

The introduction of quota management controls on Australian beef exports to the United States by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority—Interim report (*tabled 27 June 2002*)

Proposed importation of fresh apple fruit from New Zealand—Interim report (*tabled 27 June 2002*)

Administration of AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Margaret J*—Interim report (*tabled 27 June 2002*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2002) (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

The Australian meat industry consultative structure and quota allocation—Interim report: Allocation of the US beef quota (*tabled 24 September 2002*)

Egg Industry Service Provision Bill 2002 and Egg Industry Service Provision (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Bill 2002 (*tabled 23 October 2002*)

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002 (*tabled 12 November 2002*)

The Australian meat industry consultative structure and quota allocation—Second report: Existing government advisory structures in the Australian meat industry (*tabled 12 December 2002*)

Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002 (*tabled 5 February 2003*)

Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)

Dairy Industry Service Reform Bill 2003 and Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Amendment (Dairy) Bill 2003 (*tabled 27 March 2003*)

Wheat Marketing Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 18 June 2003*)

Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

Civil Aviation Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 24 June 2003*)

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**Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee***Members*

Senator Ridgeway (*Chair*), Senator Heffernan (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Buckland, McGauran, O'Brien and Stephens

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Hutchins, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Mason, Sandy Macdonald, Murphy, Payne, Santoro, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Greig for matters relating to the Fisheries portfolio

Senator Allison for matters relating to the Transport portfolio

*Current inquiries*

Forestry plantations (*referred 27 June 2002; reporting date: 8 October 2003*)

Rural water resource usage (*referred 21 October 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in 2003*)

**Scrutiny of Bills—Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committee***Members*

Senator Crossin (*Chairman*), Senator Mason (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, Johnston, McLucas and Murray

*Alert Digests presented*

No. 1 of 2002 (presented to the President on 21 February 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); *tabled 11 March 2002*)

No. 2 of 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

No. 3 of 2002 (*tabled 20 March 2002*)

No. 4 of 2002 (*tabled 15 May 2002*)

No. 5 of 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

No. 6 of 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

No. 7 of 2002 (*tabled 21 August 2002*)

No. 8 of 2002 (*tabled 28 August 2002*)

No. 9 of 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

No. 10 of 2002 (*tabled 25 September 2002*)

No. 11 of 2002 (*tabled 16 October 2002*)

No. 12 of 2002 (*tabled 23 October 2002*)

No. 13 of 2002 (*tabled 13 November 2002*)

No. 14 of 2002 (*tabled 19 November 2002*)

No. 15 of 2002 (*tabled 4 December 2002*)

No. 16 of 2002 (*tabled 11 December 2002*)

No. 1 of 2003 (*tabled 5 February 2003*)

No. 2 of 2003 (*tabled 5 March 2003*)

No. 3 of 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

No. 4 of 2003 (*tabled 26 March 2003*)

No. 5 of 2003 (*tabled 14 June 2003*)

No. 6 of 2003 (*tabled 18 June 2003*)

No. 7 of 2003 (*tabled 25 June 2003*)

No. 8 of 2003 (*tabled 13 August 2003*)

\* No. 9 of 2003 (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

*Reports presented*

- No. 1 of 2002 (*presented to the President on 21 February 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 March 2002*)  
 No. 2 of 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)  
 No. 3 of 2002 (*tabled 20 March 2002*)  
 Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 21 March 2002*)  
 No. 4 of 2002 (*tabled 15 May 2002*)  
 No. 5 of 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)  
 No. 6 of 2002: Application of absolute and strict liability offences in Commonwealth Legislation (*tabled 26 June 2002*)  
 No. 7 of 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)  
 Work of the committee during the 39th Parliament, November 1998-October 2001 (*tabled 27 June 2002*)  
 No. 8 of 2002 (*tabled 21 August 2002*)  
 No. 9 of 2002 (*tabled 28 August 2002*)  
 No. 10 of 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)  
 No. 11 of 2002 (*tabled 25 September 2002*)  
 No. 12 of 2002 (*tabled 16 October 2002*)  
 No. 13 of 2002 (*tabled 23 October 2002*)  
 No. 14 of 2002 (*tabled 13 November 2002*)  
 No. 15 of 2002 (*tabled 4 December 2002*)  
 No. 16 of 2002 (*tabled 11 December 2002*)  
 No. 1 of 2003 (*tabled 5 February 2003*)  
 No. 2 of 2003 (*tabled 5 March 2003*)  
 No. 3 of 2003 (*tabled 26 March 2003*)  
 No. 4 of 2003 (*tabled 14 May 2003*)  
 No. 5 of 2003 (*tabled 18 June 2003*)  
 No. 6 of 2003 (*tabled 25 June 2003*)  
 No. 7 of 2003 (*tabled 13 August 2003*)  
 \* No. 8 of 2003 (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

**Selection of Bills—Standing Committee***Members*

The Government Whip (*Chair*), the Opposition Whip, the Australian Democrats Whip, the National Party of Australia Whip and Senators Buckland, Ian Campbell, Eggleston and Ludwig

*Reports presented*

- Report no. 1 of 2002 (*presented 13 March 2002*)  
 Report no. 2 of 2002 (*presented 20 March 2002*)  
 Report no. 3 of 2002 (*presented 15 May 2002*)  
 Report no. 4 of 2002 (*presented 19 June 2002*)  
 Report no. 5 of 2002 (*presented 26 June 2002*)  
 Report no. 6 of 2002 (*presented 21 August 2002*)  
 Report no. 7 of 2002 (*presented 28 August 2002*)  
 Report no. 8 of 2002 (*presented 18 September 2002*)  
 Report no. 9 of 2002 (*presented 25 September 2002*)

- Report no. 10 of 2002 (*presented 16 October 2002*)  
 Report no. 11 of 2002 (*presented 23 October 2002*)  
 Report no. 12 of 2002 (*presented 13 November 2002*)  
 Report no. 13 of 2002 (*presented 4 December 2002*)  
 Report no. 14 of 2002 (*presented 11 December 2002*)  
 Report no. 1 of 2003 (*presented 5 February 2003*)  
 Report no. 2 of 2003 (*presented 5 March 2003*)  
 Report no. 3 of 2003 (*presented 19 March 2003*)  
 Report no. 4 of 2003 (*presented 26 March 2003*)  
 Report no. 5 of 2003 (*presented 14 May 2003*)  
 Report no. 6 of 2003 (*presented 18 June 2003*)  
 Report no. 7 of 2003 (*presented 25 June 2003*)  
 Report no. 8 of 2003 (*presented 13 August 2003*)  
 \* Report no. 9 of 2003 (*presented 20 August 2003*)
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### **Senators' Interests—Standing Committee**

#### *Members*

Senator Denman (*Chair*), Senator Lightfoot (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Allison, Forshaw, Humphries, McGauran, Webber and Wong

#### *Notifications of alterations of interests*

Register of senators' interests incorporating declarations of interests and notifications of alterations of interests lodged between 26 June 2001 and 6 December 2001 (*presented to the President on 21 December 2001, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Register of senators' interests incorporating declarations of interests and notifications of alterations of interests lodged between 7 December 2001 and 24 June 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Register of senators' interests incorporating current statements of interests, including new statements of interests, and notifications of alterations of interests lodged between 25 June 2002 and 5 December 2002 [2 vols] (*tabled 10 December 2002*)

Register of senators' interests incorporating statements of interests and notifications of alterations of interests lodged between 6 December 2002 and 19 June 2003 (*tabled 24 June 2003*)

#### *Reports presented*

Report 1/2002: Annual report 2001 (*presented to the President on 28 March 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)

Report 2/2002: Proposed changes to resolutions relating to declarations of senators' interests and gifts to the Senate and the Parliament (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Report 1/2003: Annual report 2002 (*tabled 27 March 2003*)

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### **Superannuation—Select Committee**

(*appointed 14 March 2002*)

#### *Members*

Senator Watson (*Chair*), Senator Sherry (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Buckland, Chapman, Cherry, Lightfoot and Wong

#### *Current inquiry*



Draft Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Regulations 2003 and draft Retirement Savings Accounts Amendment Regulations 2003 (*referred 17 June 2003; reporting date: 21 August 2003*)

*Reports presented*

Taxation Laws Amendment (Superannuation) Bill (No. 2) 2002 and Superannuation Guarantee Charge Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 25 June 2002*)

Taxation treatment of overseas superannuation transfers (*presented to the President on 25 July 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 19 August 2002*)

Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill 2002 and Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 26 September 2002*)

Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Choice of Superannuation Funds) Bill 2002 (*tabled 12 November 2002*)

Superannuation and standards of living in retirement: The adequacy of the tax arrangements for superannuation and related policy (*tabled 12 December 2002*)

Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Bill 2002 and Superannuation (Financial Assistance Funding) Levy Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Planning for retirement (*presented to the President on 29 July 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 August 2003*)

**Superannuation and Financial Services—Select Committee**

(*appointed 22 September 1999 with effect on and from 11 October 1999; re-appointed as the Superannuation—Select Committee, see above*)

*Report presented*

Early access to superannuation benefits (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Hogg, on 31 January 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

*Documents presented*

Early access to superannuation benefits—Discussion paper (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Hogg, on 31 January 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Investing superannuation funds in rural and regional Australia—Issues paper (*presented to the Deputy President on 7 February 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

**Treaties—Joint Standing Committee**

(*appointed 14 February 2002*)

*Members*

Ms JI Bishop (*Chair*), Mr Wilkie (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Kirk, Marshall, Mason, Santoro, Stephens and Tchen and Mr Adams, Mr Bartlett, Mr Ciobo, Mr Evans, Mr Hunt, Mr PE King and Mr Scott

*Current inquiry*

Proposed agreement relating to US nationals and the International Criminal Court (*referred 2 December 2002*)

*Reports presented*

Report 44—Four nuclear safeguards treaties tabled in August 2001 (*tabled 15 May 2002*)

Report 45—The Statute of the International Criminal Court (*tabled 15 May 2002*)

Report 46—Treaties tabled 12 March 2002 (*tabled 24 June 2002*)

Statement on the 46th report, dated 26 June 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Report 47—Treaties tabled on 18 and 25 June 2002 (*tabled 26 August 2002*)

Report 48—Treaties tabled in August and September 2002 (*tabled 21 October 2002*)

Report 49—The Timor Sea Treaty (*tabled 12 November 2002*)

Report 50—Treaties tabled 15 October 2002 (*tabled 10 December 2002*)

Report 51—Treaties tabled on 12 November and 3 December 2002 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Report 52—Treaties tabled in March 2003 (*tabled 26 June 2003*)

\* Report 53—Treaties tabled in May and June 2003 (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

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## SENATE APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

### **Advisory Council on Australian Archives**

Senator Faulkner—(*appointed 27 June 2002 for a period of 3 years*).

### **Council of the National Library of Australia**

Senator Tierney (*appointed 14 February 2002 for a period of 3 years*).

### **Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Trust**

Senators Cook and Watson (*appointed 13 May 1998 and 10 February 1994, respectively*).

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**HARRY EVANS**  
Clerk of the Senate

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## MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION

Minister	Representing
<b>Senator the Honourable Robert Hill</b> <i>Minister for Defence</i> <i>Leader of the Government in the Senate</i>	Prime Minister Minister for Trade Minister for Foreign Affairs Minister for the Environment and Heritage Minister for Veterans' Affairs
<b>Senator the Honourable Richard Alston</b> <i>Minister for Communications, Information            Technology and the Arts</i> <i>Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate</i>	Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations Minister for Education, Science and Training Minister for Science Minister for Employment Services
<b>Senator the Honourable Nicholas Minchin (<u>Nick</u>)</b> <i>Minister for Finance and Administration</i>	Treasurer Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
<b>Senator the Honourable Amanda Vanstone</b> <i>Minister for Family and Community Services</i> <i>Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the            Status of Women</i>	Minister for Children and Youth Affairs
<b>Senator the Honourable Kay Patterson</b> <i>Minister for Health and Ageing</i>	Minister for Ageing
<b>Senator the Honourable Christopher Ellison (<u>Chris</u>)</b> <i>Minister for Justice and Customs</i>	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs Attorney-General Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs
<b>Senator the Honourable Ian Macdonald</b> <i>Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation</i>	Minister for Transport and Regional Services Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government
<b>Senator the Honourable Charles Kemp (<u>Rod</u>)</b> <i>Minister for the Arts and Sport</i>	
<b>Senator the Honourable Eric Abetz</b> <i>Special Minister of State</i>	Minister for Small Business and Tourism
<b>Senator the Honourable Helen Coonan</b> <i>Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer</i>	
<b>Parliamentary Secretaries</b>	
<b>Senator the Honourable Ian Campbell</b> <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer</i> <i>Manager of Government Business in the Senate</i>	
<b>Senator the Honourable Judith Troeth</b> <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</i>	
<b>Senator the Honourable Ronald Boswell (<u>Ron</u>)</b> <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Regional Services</i>	

*In those instances where Senators prefer to be known by other than their first name, the preferred name is underlined.*

## A GUIDE TO THE DAILY NOTICE PAPER

The *Notice Paper* is issued each sitting day and contains details of current business before the Senate. Its structure is based on four main types of business, as follows:

**Matters of privilege** take precedence over all other business and are listed at the beginning of the *Notice Paper* when they arise. They consist of notices of motion which the President has determined warrant such precedence and any orders relating to uncompleted debates on such motions.

**Business of the Senate** has precedence over government and general business for the day on which it is listed. It includes disallowance motions, orders of the day for the presentation of committee reports, motions to refer matters to standing committees, motions for leave of absence for a senator and motions concerning the qualification of a senator.

**Government business** is business initiated by a minister. It takes precedence over general business except for a period of 2½ hours each week set aside on Thursdays for general business.

**General business** is all other business initiated by senators who are not ministers. It takes precedence over government business only as described above.

Within each of these categories, business consists of notices of motion and orders of the day:

**Notices of motion** are statements of intention that senators intend to move particular motions on the days indicated. They are entered on the *Notice Paper* in the order given and may be given jointly by two or more senators. Notices of motion are usually considered before orders of the day.

**Orders of the day** are items of business which the Senate has ordered to be considered on particular days, usually arising from adjourned debates on matters (including legislation) or requirements to present committee reports.

On days other than Thursdays, the *Notice Paper* records in full current items of business of the Senate and government business, but includes only new items of general business from the previous sitting day. On Thursdays, business relating to the consideration of government documents, committee reports and government responses to committee reports is also published.

Other sections in the *Notice Paper* are as follows:

**Orders of the day relating to committee reports and government responses** follows government business and lists orders of the day for adjourned debates on motions to consider or adopt committee reports and government responses which have been presented during the week. These orders may be considered for one hour on Thursdays at the conclusion of general business. New items appear in the following day's *Notice Paper*. The section is printed in full on Thursdays.

**Orders of the day relating to government documents** appears in general business and lists orders of the day for adjourned debates on motions to take note of government documents. Such orders arise from consideration of the government documents presented on a particular day and include consideration of any documents not reached on the day. They are also listed for consideration for one hour on Thursdays during the consideration of general business. New items appear in the following day's *Notice Paper*. The section is printed in full on Thursdays.

**Business for future consideration** lists any notice of motion or order of the day to be considered on a specific day in the future; for example, a committee report ordered to be presented on a specific date, or a notice of motion given for a day other than the next day of sitting.

**Bills referred to committees** lists all bills or provisions of bills currently being considered by committees.

**Questions on notice** includes the text of new questions on notice and lists the numbers of unanswered questions.

**Orders of the Senate** includes orders of short-term duration such as orders for production of documents and those relating to days of sitting for a period of sittings.

**Contingent notices of motion** are statements of intention by senators that, contingent on a specified occurrence, they may move a motion, usually to suspend standing orders. They are grouped by subject.

**Temporary chairs of committees:** is a daily list of all senators appointed to take the chair in the absence of the President or Deputy President.

**Categories of committees:** is a daily list, categorised by type, of Senate and joint committees. Details of each committee appear in the committee section.

**Committees:** a daily list of Senate and joint committees, including membership, current inquiries and reports presented on or since the previous sitting day.

**Senate appointments to statutory authorities** lists the statutory authorities on which the Senate is represented and details of representation.

**Ministerial representation** lists Senate ministers and the portfolios they represent.

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## A GUIDE TO THE FULL NOTICE PAPER

On the first day of each period of sittings a full *Notice Paper* is printed listing all outstanding business before the Senate, including the full text of all unresolved notices of motion and unanswered questions on notice. This edition is a complete reference to unresolved business from earlier in the session and is useful to keep. All business before the Senate is published daily in the full electronic version of the *Notice Paper*, available on ParlInfo and on the parliament's Internet site.

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Inquiries concerning the *Notice Paper* or business listed in it may be directed to the Senate Table Office on (02) 6277 3015.

