

2004-05

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

NOTICE PAPER

No. 18

MONDAY, 14 MARCH 2005

The Senate meets at 12.30 pm

Contents

Business of the Senate	
Notice of Motion	2
Orders of the Day	3
Government Business	
Notice of Motion	3
Orders of the Day	3
Orders of the Day relating to Committee Reports and Government Responses and Auditor-General's Reports	5
General Business	
Notices of Motion	6
Orders of the Day relating to Government Documents	7
Orders of the Day	8
Business for Future Consideration	11
Bills Referred to Committees	18
Questions on Notice	19
Orders of the Senate	89
Contingent Notices of Motion	98
Temporary Chairs of Committees	101
Categories of Committees	101
Committees	102
Senate Appointments to Statutory Authorities	118
Ministerial Representation	119
A Guide to the Notice Paper	120

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

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Notice of Motion

Notice given 10 March 2005

- *1 **Senator Conroy:** To move—That the matter of the performance of the Australian telecommunications regulatory regime be referred to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee for inquiry and report by 23 June 2005, with the following terms of reference:
- (1) Whether the current telecommunications regulatory regime promotes competition, encourages investment in the sector and protects consumers to the fullest extent practicable, with particular reference to:
 - (a) whether Part XIB of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* deals effectively with instances of the abuse of market power by participants in the Australian telecommunications sector, and, if not, the implications of any inadequacy for participants, consumers and the competitive process;
 - (b) whether Part XIC of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* allows access providers to receive a sufficient return on investment and access seekers to obtain commercially viable access to declared services in practice, and whether there are any flaws in the operation of this regime;
 - (c) whether there are any structural issues in the Australian telecommunications sector inhibiting the effectiveness of the current regulatory regime;
 - (d) whether consumer protection safeguards in the current regime provide effective and comprehensive protection for users of services;
 - (e) whether regulators of the Australian telecommunications sector are currently provided with the powers and resources required in order to perform their role in the regulatory regime;
 - (f) the impact that the potential privatisation of Telstra would have on the effectiveness of the current regulatory regime;
 - (g) whether the Universal Service Obligation (USO) is effectively ensuring that all Australians have access to reasonable telecommunications services and, in particular, whether the USO needs to be amended in order to ensure that all Australians receive access to adequate telecommunications services reflective of changes in technology requirements;
 - (h) whether the current regulatory environment provides participants with adequate certainty to promote investment, most particularly in infrastructure such as optical fibre cable networks;
 - (i) whether the current regulatory regime promotes the emergence of innovative technologies;
 - (j) whether it is possible to achieve the objectives of the current regulatory regime in a way that does not require the scale and scope of regulation currently present in the sector; and

- (k) whether there are any other changes that could be made to the current regulatory regime in order to better promote competition, encourage investment or protect consumers.
- (2) That the committee make recommendations for legislative amendments to rectify any weaknesses in the current regulatory regime identified by the committee's inquiry.

Orders of the Day

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

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Small Business Employment Protection) Bill 2004.

2 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Notice of Motion

Notice given 10 March 2005

- *1 **Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison):** To move—That the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (8) of standing order 111 not apply to the following bills, allowing them to be considered during this period of sittings:
 - Appropriation (Tsunami Financial Assistance) Bill 2004-2005
 - Appropriation (Tsunami Financial Assistance and Australia-Indonesia Partnership) Bill 2004-2005.

Orders of the Day

1 **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Amendment Bill 2004 [2005]—(Senate bill)**

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

And on the amendment moved by Senators Carr, Ridgeway and Nettle—At the end of the motion, add “but the Senate:

- (a) notes:
 - (i) that the Government's ‘practical reconciliation’ agenda has failed to improve outcomes for Indigenous Australians,
 - (ii) that there is no evidence that mainstreaming of service delivery will in any way help to address Indigenous disadvantage,
 - (iii) the Government's failure to advance the goal of reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians,

- (iv) the Government's failure to negotiate a treaty with Indigenous Australians or to guarantee self-determination for Australia's Indigenous people, and
 - (v) that the abolition of Indigenous representative organisations will serve to further marginalise Australia's Indigenous citizens;
- (b) condemns the Government for failing to:
- (i) consult or negotiate with Indigenous Australians on the provisions of the bill, and
 - (ii) develop a new legislative and administrative model that restores the right of Indigenous Australians to be responsible for their own future, despite the international evidence demonstrating that this approach delivers the best practical outcomes;
- (c) supports the implementation of new legislative and administrative arrangements that restore responsibility and opportunity for Indigenous Australians; and
- (d) calls on the Government to:
- (i) guarantee that Indigenous communities will be genuine partners in the policy development and the delivery of services,
 - (ii) ensure that a properly resourced regional representative structure is developed according to the preferences of Indigenous communities, and
 - (iii) consult with Indigenous people for the purpose of negotiating the establishment of a new national Indigenous representative body whose members are chosen by Indigenous people"—(10 March 2005).
- 2 **Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Legislation Amendment (Levy and Fees) Bill 2005**—(Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, Senator Vanstone)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Vanstone, 9 March 2005*).
- 3 **Tax Laws Amendment (2004 Measures No. 7) Bill 2005**—(Minister for Defence, Senator Hill)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Hill, 7 March 2005*).
- 4 **Administrative Appeals Tribunal Amendment Bill 2004 [2005]**—(*Senate bill*)—(Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator Ian Campbell)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*17 November 2004*).
- 5 **Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2004**—(Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator George Campbell, 2 December 2004*).
- 6 **Criminal Code Amendment (Trafficking in Persons Offences) Bill 2004 [2005]**—(*Senate bill*)—(Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*8 December 2004*).

- *7 **Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 2) 2004-2005**
Appropriation Bill (No. 3) 2004-2005
Appropriation Bill (No. 4) 2004-2005—(*Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Coonan*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Coonan, 10 March 2005*).
- 8 **Australian Communications and Media Authority Bill 2004**
Australian Communications and Media Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004
Telecommunications (Carrier Licence Charges) Amendment Bill 2004
Telecommunications (Numbering Charges) Amendment Bill 2004
Television Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2004
Datacasting Charge (Imposition) Amendment Bill 2004
Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Amendment Bill 2004
Radiocommunications (Spectrum Licence Tax) Amendment Bill 2004
Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Amendment Bill 2004
Radio Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2004—(*Minister for Defence, Senator Hill*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Hill, 7 March 2005*).
- *9 **Australian Institute of Marine Science Amendment Bill 2005**—(*Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Coonan*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Coonan, 10 March 2005*).

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 **Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee—Reports entitled: CLERP (Audit Reform and Corporate Disclosure) Bill 2003—Parts 1 and 2—Government response**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Chapman—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 10 March 2005*).
- *2 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—Report—A lost opportunity? Inquiry into the provisions of the Australian Communications and Media Authority Bill 2004 and related bills and matters**
Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Cherry)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Cherry, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

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

- 1 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 17 of 2004-05—Performance audit—The administration of the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality: Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; Department of the Environment and Heritage**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

- 2 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 30 of 2004-05—Performance audit—Regulation of Commonwealth radiation and nuclear activities: Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

- *3 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 37 of 2004-05—Business support process audit—Management of business support service contracts**

Consideration (*10 March 2005*).

- *4 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 38 of 2004-05—Performance audit—Payment of goods and services tax to the states and territories**

Consideration (*10 March 2005*).

GENERAL BUSINESS

Notices of Motion

Notice given 16 November 2004

- 10 **Senator Harradine:** To move—That Budget estimates supplementary hearings by legislation committees for the 2004-05 estimates meet, where senators give notice of matters in accordance with standing order 26(10), as follows:

Group A:

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

Tuesday, 30 November, from 8 pm to 11 pm; and

Group B:

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

Wednesday, 1 December, from 8 pm to 11 pm.

Notice given 9 December 2004

- 56 **Senator Brown:** To move—That the Senate calls on the Government to investigate the potential for a World Heritage nomination for Tasmania's Tarkine wilderness.

Notice given 7 March 2005

- 80 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) congratulates the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues on reaffirming at the United Nations, during the week beginning 27 February 2005, the Government's ongoing commitment to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and its refusal to agree to proposals from the United States of America that would have explicitly omitted women's right to safe and legal abortion;
 - (b) affirms reproductive health rights as fundamental human rights; and
 - (c) calls on the governments of other states and the Northern Territory to follow the Australian Capital Territory's lead in removing pregnancy termination from the criminal code.

Orders of the Day relating to Government Documents

1 National Oceans Office—Report for 2003-04

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Buckland—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 10 March 2005*).

2 Sydney Harbour Federation Trust—Report for 2003-04

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Buckland—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 10 March 2005*).

3 Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Report for 2003-04, including reports pursuant to the *Immigration (Education) Act 1971* and the *Australian Citizenship Act 1948*

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Buckland—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

4 Refugee Review Tribunal—Report for 2003-04

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

5 Aboriginals Benefit Account—Report for 2003-04

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

6 Torres Strait Regional Authority—Report for 2003-04

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

7 Cape York Land Council Aboriginal Corporation—Report for 2003-04

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

8 **National Environment Protection Measures (Implementation) Act 1998—Report—Independent review by Baker and McKenzie**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

9 **Australian Taxation Office—Government Co-contribution Scheme—Quarterly report for the period 1 October to 31 December 2004**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

10 **Productivity Commission—Report for 2003-04**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

11 **National Environment Protection Council and NEPC Service Corporation—Report for 2003-04**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

12 **Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency—Quarterly report for the period 1 April to 30 June 2004**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

13 **Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency—Quarterly report for the period 1 July to 30 September 2004**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

Orders of the Day

- 1 **Anti-Genocide Bill 1999 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Greig)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 2 **Charter of Political Honesty Bill 2000 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 3 **Constitution Alteration (Appropriations for the Ordinary Annual Services of the Government) 2001 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senators Murray and Stott Despoja)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 4 **Constitution Alteration (Electors' Initiative, Fixed Term Parliaments and Qualification of Members) 2000 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 5 **Defence Amendment (Parliamentary approval for Australian involvement in overseas conflicts) Bill 2003 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett and Senator Stott Despoja)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bishop, in continuation, 10 February 2005*) (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).

- 6 **Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—
(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 7 **Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 8 **Euthanasia Laws (Repeal) Bill 2004**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 9 **Financial Management and Accountability (Anti-Restrictive Software Practices) Amendment Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Greig*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 10 **Freedom of Information Amendment (Open Government) Bill 2003 [2004]**—
(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 11 **Genetic Privacy and Non-discrimination Bill 1998 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—
(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 12 **Ministers of State (Post-Retirement Employment Restrictions) Bill 2002 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senators Stott Despoja and Murray*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 13 **National Animal Welfare Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 14 **Patents Amendment Bill 1996 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 15 **Parliamentary Approval of Treaties Bill 1995 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 16 **Public Interest Disclosure (Protection of Whistleblowers) Bill 2002 [2004]**—
(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 17 **Reconciliation Bill 2001 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Ridgeway*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 18 **Republic (Consultation of the People) Bill 2001 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—
(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 19 **Sexuality Anti-Vilification Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Greig*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 20 **Sexuality and Gender Identity Discrimination Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Greig*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).

- 21 **State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 22 **Textbook Subsidy Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 23 **Uranium Mining in or near Australian World Heritage Properties (Prohibition) Bill 1998 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 24 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Paid Maternity Leave) Bill 2002 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 25 **Communications—Telstra**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Conroy—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the Government has failed to ensure that telecommunications service standards are up to scratch in rural and regional Australia,
 - (ii) the chief of the Government’s telecommunications inquiry, Mr Dick Estens, has said that telecommunications services in the bush remain a ‘shemozzle’, and
 - (iii) selling Telstra will cost the budget \$255 million over the next 4 years; and
 - (b) calls on the Government to keep Telstra in majority public ownership to ensure reliable telecommunications services for all Australians—(*Senator Heffernan, in continuation, 18 November 2004*).
- 26 **Criminal Code Amendment (Workplace Death and Serious Injury) Bill 2004**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Nettle*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 30 November 2004*).
- 27 **Constitution Alteration (Right to Stand for Parliament—Qualification of Members and Candidates) 1998 (No. 2) [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Brown*)
In committee (*committee to consider the bill as reported by the committee of the whole on 15 May 2003*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 1 December 2004*).
- 28 **Senate Voters’ Choice (Preference Allocation) Bill 2004**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Brown*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 9 December 2004*).
- 29 **Flags Amendment (Eureka Flag) Bill 2004**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Marshall*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 9 December 2004*).
- *31 **Economy**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate—
- (a) notes the deterioration in the economy including the record current account deficit of 7.1 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), record net foreign debt of \$422 billion, the negative household savings ratio and among the lowest GDP growth rates of the advanced economies; and

- (b) calls on the Government:
- (i) to acknowledge that there are severe economic imbalances in the economy that threaten to push interest rates still higher,
 - (ii) to implement policies that will lift the productive potential of the economy,
 - (iii) to invest in skills development to ease skill shortages which are now at 20 year highs, and
 - (iv) to support infrastructure investment to ease capacity constraints and inflation pressures and promote exports—(*Senator Lundy, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).

BUSINESS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Next day of sitting (15 March 2005)

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 **Legislation Committees**

Reports to be presented on the 2004-05 additional estimates.

2 **Economics Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Orders of the Day

1 **Issues from the Advance to the Finance Minister as a final charge for the year ended 30 June 2004**

Consideration in committee of the whole (*10 February 2005*).

*2 **Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005**—(*Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Coonan*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Coonan, 10 March 2005*).

On the tenth sitting day of 2005 (16 March 2005)

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Legislation Committees**

Reports to be presented on annual reports tabled by 31 October 2004.

16 March 2005

Business of the Senate—Notices of Motion

Notice given 9 December 2004

- 1 **Senator Greig:** To move—That the proposed accreditation of the Southern Bluefin Tuna Fisheries Management Plan (as amended), dated 10 November 2004 and made under subsection 33(3) of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, be opposed.

Eight sitting days remain for resolving.**

- ** *Indicates sitting days remaining, including today, within which the motion must be disposed of or the proposed accreditation of the plan will be deemed to have been opposed.*

- 2 **Senator Murray:** To move—That the terms of reference for the Legal and Constitutional References Committee inquiry into the effectiveness and appropriateness of the *Privacy Act 1988*, be amended as follows:

Paragraph (b), after “effectiveness”, insert “, including how privacy principles and processes should interact with the need for access to records,”.

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

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

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Order of the Day

- 1 **Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005—**
(*Minister representing the Minister for Ageing, Senator Patterson*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Patterson, 9 March 2005*).

Three sitting days after today (17 March 2005)

Business of the Senate—Notices of Motion

Notice given 2 December 2004

- 1 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen):** To move—That the Air Navigation (Aviation Security Status Checking) Regulations 2004, as contained in Statutory Rules 2004 No. 207 and made under the *Air Navigation Act 1920*, be disallowed.

Four sitting days remain for resolving.**

- 2 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen):** To move—That the Crimes Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 2004 No. 164 and made under the *Crimes Act 1914*, be disallowed.

Four 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.*

On 17 March 2005

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Community Affairs References Committee**
Report to be presented on children in institutional care.
- 2 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**
Report to be presented on the effectiveness of the Australian military justice system.

By the last sitting day in March 2005 (17 March 2005)

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**
Report to be presented on the administration of Biosecurity Australia concerning the revised draft import risk analysis for bananas from the Philippines.
- 2 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**
Report to be presented on the administration of Biosecurity Australia concerning the revised draft import risk analysis for apples from New Zealand.

On 18 April 2005

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**
Report to be presented on budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's Energy White Paper .

On the first day of the budget sittings 2005 (10 May 2005)

Government Business—Order of the Day

- *1 **Appropriation (Tsunami Financial Assistance) Bill 2004-2005**
Appropriation (Tsunami Financial Assistance and Australia-Indonesia Partnership) Bill 2004-2005—(*Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Coonan*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (10 March 2005).

On 10 May 2005

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Border Protection Legislation Amendment (Deterrence of Illegal Foreign Fishing) Bill 2005. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

2 Economics Legislation Committee

Report to be presented on the Tax Laws Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Order of the Day

1 Tax Laws Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005—(*Minister for Defence, Senator Hill*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Hill, 7 March 2005*).

On 11 May 2005

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 1 December 2004

27 Senator Lees: To move—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges the threats facing the endangered Asian elephant throughout its natural range, including live trade, human-elephant conflict and poaching for ivory tusks, hide and meat;
- (b) notes that:
 - (i) the Asian elephant is listed as an Appendix I species under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES),
 - (ii) Appendix I species are those whose trade must be subject to particularly strict regulation, and only authorised in exceptional circumstances,
 - (iii) Australia has been a party to CITES since 1976,
 - (iv) implementation of the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* serves as Australia's way of meeting its international obligations as a CITES party,
 - (v) under the Act, CITES Appendix I species cannot be imported for the purpose of exhibition, and zoos must prove that they are able to meet the biological and behavioural needs of the animals if importation is for reasons such as conservation breeding,
 - (vi) Australian zoos have requested permission from the Australian Government to import nine Asian elephants from Thailand as part of a captive breeding program,
 - (vii) research undertaken by Oxford University in 2002 and supported by peers has identified that zoos are unable to meet the biological and behavioural needs of elephants in captivity, as elephants in captivity suffer from stress and boredom leading to abnormal behaviours and have a greater incidence of infant mortality and early death, and

- (viii) the proposed captive breeding program offers no conservation benefit to the Asian elephant species as no offspring will ever be returned to the wild and elephants do not breed successfully in captivity; and
- (c) calls on the Government to:
 - (i) reject the proposal that would allow the impending and any future importation of elephants from Thailand to Australian zoos,
 - (ii) work with the zoo association and non-government organisations to undertake an assessment of welfare conditions for elephants currently held in Australian zoos, and
 - (iii) earmark funding from the Regional Natural Heritage Program addressing biodiversity hotspots in the Asia Pacific region, for in situ conservation projects that will help to address the threats facing the Asian elephant in Thailand and other range states.

On 12 May 2005

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee**
Report to be presented on Indigenous education.
- 2 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**
Report to be presented on the provisions of the AusLink (National Land Transport) Bill 2004 and the AusLink (National Land Transport—Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Order of the Day

- 1 **AusLink (National Land Transport) Bill 2004**
AusLink (National Land Transport—Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*10 February 2005*).

On 14 June 2005

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee**
Report to be presented on unfair dismissal laws.

On 16 June 2005

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee**
Report to be presented on compensation for wheat growers.
- 2 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee**
Report to be presented on student income support.

On 20 June 2005

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Legislation Committees**

Reports to be presented on the 2005-06 Budget estimates.

Eleven sitting days after today (21 June 2005)

Business of the Senate—Notices of Motion

Notice given 7 March 2005

1 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen):** To move—That Amendment No. 1 to the Transitional Arrangements for Students Guidelines, pursuant to items 4 and 8 of Schedule 1 of the *Higher Education Support (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Act 2003*, be disallowed.

Twelve sitting days remain for resolving.**

2 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen):** To move—That the Administrative Guidelines, made under section 238-10 of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*, be disallowed.

Twelve sitting days remain for resolving.**

3 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen):** To move—That the OS-Help Guidelines, made under section 238-10 of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*, be disallowed.

Twelve sitting days remain for resolving.**

4 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen):** To move—That the Other Grants Guidelines, made under section 238-10 of the *Higher Education Support Act 2003*, be disallowed.

Twelve sitting days remain for resolving.**

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

On 21 June 2005

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

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

Report to be presented on duties of Australian personnel in Iraq.

Twelve sitting days after today (22 June 2005)

Business of the Senate—Notices of Motion

Notice given 8 March 2005

- 1 **Senators Marshall and Nettle:** To move—That the Guidelines in relation to the exercise of Compliance Powers in the Building and Construction Industry, made under section 88AGA of the *Workplace Relations Act 1996*, be disallowed.
Thirteen sitting days remain for resolving.**
** *Indicates sitting days remaining, including today, within which the motion must be disposed of or the Guidelines will be deemed to have been disallowed.*
- 2 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen):** To move—That the Guidelines in relation to the exercise of Compliance Powers in the Building and Construction Industry, made under section 88AGA of the *Workplace Relations Act 1996*, be disallowed.
Thirteen sitting days remain for resolving.**
** *Indicates sitting days remaining, including today, within which the motion must be disposed of or the Determination will be deemed to have been disallowed.*

On 22 June 2005

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Finance and Public Administration References Committee**
Report to be presented on government advertising.

On 23 June 2005

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Community Affairs References Committee**
Report to be presented on aged care.
- 2 **Community Affairs References Committee**
Report to be presented on the delivery of services and treatment options for persons with cancer.

On 30 June 2005

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Treaties—Joint Standing Committee**
Report to be presented on the proposed agreement relating to US nationals and the International Criminal Court.
- 2 **Legal and Constitutional References Committee**
Report to be presented on the effectiveness and appropriateness of the *Privacy Act 1988*.

On 15 August 2005

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Finance and Public Administration References Committee**
Report to be presented on Regional Partnerships program.

By the first sitting day in September 2005

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Economics References Committee**
Report to be presented on possible links between household debt, demand for imported goods and Australia's current account deficit.

On 15 September 2005

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**
Report to be presented on Australia's relationship with China.

On 6 October 2005

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Mental Health—Select Committee**
Report to be presented.

BILLS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

Bill currently referred†

Tax Laws Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005‡

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred 9 March 2005; reporting date: 10 May 2005*).

Provisions of bills currently referred†

AusLink (National Land Transport) Bill 2004‡

AusLink (National Land Transport—Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004‡

Referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (*referred 9 February 2005; reporting date: 12 May 2005*).

Border Protection Legislation Amendment (Deterrence of Illegal Foreign Fishing) Bill 2005‡

Referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (*referred 9 March 2005; reporting date: 10 May 2005*).

Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005‡

Referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee (referred 9 March 2005; reporting date: 16 March 2005).

Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005‡

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (referred 9 March 2005; reporting date: 15 March 2005).

Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004‡

Referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee (referred 8 December 2004; reporting date varied 7 March 2005; reporting date: 14 March 2005).

Workplace Relations Amendment (Small Business Employment Protection) Bill 2004

Referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee (referred 9 December 2004; reporting date: 14 March 2005).

‡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.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions remaining unanswered

Question Nos, as shown, from 1 to 339 remain unanswered for 30 or more days (see standing order 74(5)).

Notice given 16 November 2004

- 1 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the announcement by the Minister on 23 August 2004 of a \$48 million package to improve security within Australia's regional airports:
 - (1) Is any of the money for this package coming from the air passenger ticket levy that was imposed in order to meet the entitlements of former Ansett employees.
 - (2) (a) How much money was raised by the levy; and (b) of this, how much has been paid to former Ansett employees.
 - (3) How much remains to be paid to former Ansett employees in order to fully meet their entitlements.
- 23 **Senator Marshall:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
 - (1) For each of the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 (to date): (a) how many appeals for ministerial discretion to grant a visa to remain in Australia were made by people whose visas were cancelled under subsection 501(2) of the *Migration Act 1958*; and (b) how many times did the Minister exercise discretion to grant a visa to a person whose visa was cancelled under section 501 of the Act.

- (2) Does the Minister have the power to re-instate a permanent resident visa previously cancelled under sections 200 or 501 of the Act.

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

- (1) What discussions or consultations were conducted with industry and consumer groups regarding the pre-election announcement of compulsory 12.5 per cent cuts in the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) prices for newly listed medicines.
- (2) (a) How will this savings measure be realised; (b) what legislative changes will be required; and (c) when will these be presented to the Parliament for consideration.
- (3) What information does the Minister have on the potential consequences of these enforced cuts in PBS prices for the sustainability of the pharmaceutical industry in Australia.
- (4) What work has been done to study the impact of this decision on the take-up of generic medicine manufacture.
- (5) What information does the Minister have on the potential consequences of these enforced cuts in PBS prices for community pharmacies.

27 **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 Monitorings 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.

29 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Leader of the Government in the Senate—When will the Minister respond to Senator Allison's letter of 7 April 2003 concerning orders for the production of documents.

30 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) For each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, how much was spent on advertising and marketing in relation to the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP).
- (2) For the 2003-04 financial year to date, how much has been spent on advertising and marketing in relation to the NAP.
- (3) For each state and territory, how much has been spent on foundation funding, priority actions, regional investment strategies and capacity building under the NAP.
- (4) Can details be provided of the priority actions that have received funding under the NAP in South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia and New South Wales.
- (5) Can copies be provided of the strategic investment plans that have been prepared in relation to the NAP for each state and territory.

31 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) What monitoring has taken place of the Kanella Aged Care Home since the audit report of February 2004, which found non-compliance with 14 expected outcomes.
- (2) Which of these non-compliant outcomes has been made compliant.
- (3) What monitoring took place between the audit report of 2003 and the subsequent decision to accredit this aged care home, and the 2004 audit.
- (4) Why were the non-compliant outcomes not identified before February 2004.

32 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Why has the Treasurer imposed competition payment penalties on the Government of South Australia and ignored the arguments it put forward about the social impact that would result from that state removing its 'proof of need' test for hotel and retail liquor merchant licences, as required by the National Competition Council.
- (2) Does the Treasurer accept advice from the Government of South Australia, and the Drug and Alcohol Services Council, the Salvation Army and the South Australia Police, that removing the 'proof of need' test would result in greater alcohol-related harm; if not, why not.

- (3) Does the Treasurer accept the arguments put forward by the South Australian Premier on 2 June 2004 that the 'proof of need' test protects against business failures in the industry, and against market domination by one or two powerful players, which would lead to a reduction in competition; if not, why not.
- (4) What other competition payment penalties will be or have been imposed on state governments, despite arguments put forward by those governments in relation to social and/or health impacts.

36 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) Does the data provided to the Aged and Community Services Association survey of December 2003 in the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales show that: (a) an estimated 8 800 people have their names on nursing home (high care) waiting lists and 11 800 on hostel (low care) waiting lists; (b) a further 1 700 people are estimated to have their names on waiting lists for Community Aged Care Packages (CACPs); (c) the average waiting time for: (i) nursing homes is 24 weeks (up from 19 weeks in 2001), (ii) hostels is 36 weeks (up from 32 weeks in 2001), and (iii) CACPs is 18 weeks (up from 13 weeks in 2001), and (d) areas with particularly long waiting lists, compared to the number of available places, include the Australian Capital Territory, the Central Coast, the Hunter region, Western Sydney and Far North Queensland.
- (2) Is more recent data on waiting lists in any or all of these areas available; if so, can it be provided.
- (3) Can data on waiting lists for the other states and territories in any or all of these areas be provided.
- (4) Can the latest data be provided on the number of non-operational residential care places in each state and territory.
- (5) For each state and territory, what is the average wait for low and high care residential places following assessment by an Aged Care Assessment Team that a person requires residential care.
- (6) For each state and territory, how many people who have been assessed as requiring low and high residential care are: (a) in acute care public hospitals; (b) in acute care private hospitals; and (c) in transitional placements other than in their homes or those of family carers.

47 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 3073: What is the projected expenditure for the National Safe Schools Framework for the period 2006 to 2008.

49 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is the Minister, in his capacity as Manager of Government Business in the Senate, aware of the following statement made by the Minister for Small Business and Tourism (Mr Hockey) in a *Meet the Press* interview aired on 14 September 2003: 'What I do know is the Labor Party and the Democrats are holding up a vast amount of legislation that the Government has put in place in the Senate'.
- (2) Does the Minister accept the *Australian Concise Oxford Dictionary's* definition of 'vast' as 'immense, huge, very great'.

- (3) Can the Minister: (a) provide a list for the Senate of any bill that could conceivably be regarded as being held up, as described by Mr Hockey; and (b) give his reasons for making that judgment.

50 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Can a table be provided of all unfair dismissal applications under federal and state law for the 1996 calendar year for each state and territory, showing the number of applications under federal law, state law, and the total.
- (2) Can a table be provided of all unfair dismissal applications under federal and state law for the 2003 calendar year for each of the states and territories, showing the number of applications under federal law, state law, and the total.
- (3) Can a table be provided showing the number and percentage change of applications for the 2003 calendar year against the 1996 calendar year for each of state and territory, broken down by whether the applications were lodged under federal or state law.
- (4) Can a breakdown be provided showing the same information shown in (1) to (3) above in relation to small business (classified as 20 or fewer employees).
- (5) Can an estimate be provided of the numbers of small businesses that fall under state and federal workplace relations law separately, for each state and territory.
- (6) Can an estimate be provided of the numbers of small business employees that fall under state and federal workplace relations law separately, for each state and territory.

Notice given 17 November 2004

56 **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'.)

57 **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.

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

- (1) Can the following information about each committee within Defence chaired by a one star rank equivalent or higher be provided: (a) name of the committee; (b) its function and role; and (c) when it met during 2002 and 2003.
- (2) (a) For the years 2001, 2002 and 2003, when did the Defence Industry Advisory Council meet; (b) what is its function and role; and (c) what is its current membership.

61 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the AGM-142 weapon:

- (1) What is the latest estimate on the total cost of modifying the F-111 fleet to enable these aircraft to deploy the AGM-142.
- (2) To date, how much has been spent on the project to equip the F-111 fleet with AGM-142s.
- (3) What is the latest estimate of when those modifications will be completed.
- (4) When is it expected that the AGM-142 will enter service.
- (5) What is the latest estimate of the total cost of the project to equip the F-111 fleet with AGM-142.
- (6) (a) Have any AGM-142s been delivered to Australia; if so, how many; and (b) do any AGM-142s remain overseas; if so, how many.

62 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to a luncheon function involving senior business people on Sunday, 28 March 2004, which was held at Fort Denison to promote Defence Reserves to employers:

- (1) Did the Minister for Employment Services and General Cosgrove attend the lunch.

- (2) How many other Australian Defence Force (ADF) and departmental personnel attended the lunch.
- (3) Did any other federal government parliamentarians attend; if so, who.
- (4) Were any non-government federal parliamentarians invited to attend; if so, who.
- (5) Which business people attended the lunch.
- (6) Were the travel costs of any of the business people who travelled from around Australia to attend the lunch borne by the taxpayer; and (b) can details be provided of all travel costs that were met, specifying which Defence program was used to fund this travel.
- (7) Can copies be provided of the menu and the drinks menu.
- (8) Were the following dishes served: Peking duck with cucumber, shallots and plum; seared scallops with prawn gow gee; soy and ginger glaze salt rubbed salmon with Asian mushrooms and fried sage; slow roasted, pepper crusted, rib eye fillet; and crisp roasted barramundi.
- (9) What was the cost of the food served at the lunch.
- (10) How many bottles of wine, champagne and beer were served.
- (11) What was the cost of alcohol served at the lunch.
- (12) What was the cost per bottle of the most expensive wine and champagne served.
- (13) Did the department pay for this lunch; if so, which program was the money drawn from; if not, who paid.
- (14) Can a list be provided showing all of the associated costs of this lunch, including table hire, glass hire, waiting staff etc.

63 Senator Evans: To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) When did the department first become aware of the Mitchell Shire Council's plans to build a refuse tip in the vicinity of the army base at Puckapunyal.
- (2) (a) What is the exact distance of the proposed site from the entrance to the Puckapunyal base; and (b) how big is the site.
- (3) (a) When did the department first raise concerns with the Mitchell Shire Council about the proposal to use the land for a refuse tip; and (b) how were these concerns raised, for example, by letter, face-to-face meetings etc.
- (4) Who raised the concerns with the council.
- (5) When was it decided that the department would seek to compulsorily acquire the proposed landfill site.
- (6) Who made this decision.
- (7) On what basis was this decision taken.
- (8) How much will it cost the department to acquire the land.
- (9) (a) Is the Minister aware that the Victorian Civil and Administration Tribunal (VCAT) found that the department's concerns about the proposed landfill site were not substantiated; and (b) why was this decision not accepted by the Commonwealth.
- (10) Was it always the Commonwealth's intention to compulsorily acquire the proposed landfill site, regardless of the outcome of the VCAT's deliberations; if so, why.

- (11) Given that the VCAT found that the department's concerns were not justified, why has the Commonwealth now compulsorily acquired land at this site to prevent the building of the tip.
 - (12) Has the Commonwealth valued the site; if so: (a) when; (b) what was the value of the site; and (c) can a copy of the valuation be provided.
 - (13) When was the law firm Clayton Utz first engaged to advise the Commonwealth on this matter.
 - (14) Can a list be provided of all Clayton Utz lawyers who have represented and/or advised the Commonwealth in respect of this matter.
 - (15) How much has been paid to Clayton Utz in respect of this matter.
 - (16) (a) What other law firms were engaged to provide advice and/or representation on this matter; (b) was the Australian Government Solicitor engaged; and (c) how much were they paid.
 - (17) (a) How much has the Commonwealth spent on legal advice and/or representation in respect of this matter; and (b) can a breakdown be provided of all legal expenses in respect of this matter.
- 64 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to page 96 of the 2004-05 Defence Portfolio Budget Statements, which indicates that the Government has agreed on a schedule of surplus Defence properties to be offered for sale in the 2004-05 financial year, and that on current valuations these sales will reap an estimated \$164.5 million in revenue: Can a list be provided of all properties that the Government has agreed will be offered for sale during the 2004-05 financial year including: (a) the property name and/or address; (b) the type of property (vacant/buildings); (c) the size of the property; and (d) the type of sale (auction, request for proposal, advertised price).
- 68 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—(a) What is the Halliburton stake in the consortium which built and operates the Alice Springs to Darwin railway line; (b) was Halliburton the project leader; and (c) what discussions has the Prime Minister or the department had with Halliburton about the projects, including where and when these were held.
- 71 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—With reference to the Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry:
- (1) Can a copy of the foundation's 2002-03 annual report be provided.
 - (2) Can a list be provided of the 32 programs to which funding was allocated in the first year, including the title of the program, the amount of funding, start and finish dates, key researchers, and expected outcomes.
 - (3) Can a list be provided of patents applied for arising from research funded wholly or partially by the foundation.
 - (4) Can a detailed account be provided of the expenditure to date of the \$35 million of public money and the matching funds from Rio Tinto.

Notice given 18 November 2004

- 95 **Senator Denman:** To ask the Minister for the Arts and Sport—
- (1) In each of the financial years 2003-04 and 2004-05 (to date): (a) how many Commonwealth grants were made to sporting associations or sporting clubs for the maintenance of facilities or equipment in: (i) New South Wales, (ii) Victoria, (iii) Queensland, (iv) South Australia, (v) Western Australia,

(vi) Tasmania, (vii) the Northern Territory, and (viii) the Australian Capital Territory; (b) under what program was each grant made; and (c) what was the nature and amount of each grant.

- (2) In the 2004-05 financial year: (a) how many Commonwealth grants have been committed but not yet made to sporting associations or sporting clubs for the maintenance of facilities or equipment in: (i) New South Wales, (ii) Victoria, (iii) Queensland, (iv) South Australia, (v) Western Australia, (vi) Tasmania, (vii) the Northern Territory, and (viii) the Australian Capital Territory; (b) under what program has each commitment been made; and (c) what is the nature and amount of each commitment.

96 **Senator Denman:** To ask the Minister for the Arts and Sport—

- (1) In each of the financial years 2003-04 and 2004-05 (to date): (a) how many Commonwealth grants were made to local government bodies or community organisations (other than sporting associations or sporting clubs) for sports or recreation purposes in: (i) New South Wales, (ii) Victoria, (iii) Queensland, (iv) South Australia, (v) Western Australia, (vi) Tasmania, (vii) the Northern Territory, and (viii) the Australian Capital Territory; (b) under what program was each grant made; and (c) what was the nature and amount of each grant.
- (2) In the 2004-05 financial year: (a) how many Commonwealth grants have been committed but not yet made to local government bodies or community organisations (other than sporting associations or sporting clubs) for sports or recreation purposes in: (i) New South Wales, (ii) Victoria, (iii) Queensland, (iv) South Australia, (v) Western Australia, (vi) Tasmania, (vii) the Northern Territory, and (viii) the Australian Capital Territory; (b) under what program has each commitment been made; and (c) what is the nature and amount of each commitment.

98 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to Tasmanian devils and the devil facial tumour disease:

- (1) What percentage of Tasmanian devils have been killed by the disease.
- (2) Will the Minister declare the Tasmanian devil a threatened species; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (3) What hypotheses have been advanced or eliminated for the cause and transmission of the disease.
- (4) Is there a coordinated research program for the devil facial tumour condition; if not, why not.
- (5) What role has the Australian Wildlife Health Network played in coordinating the research relating to this disease.
- (6) Why is the public being denied any information regarding the research outcomes on causal factors and transmission processes.
- (7) Is the Minister satisfied that the Tasmanian Government has the expertise and capacity to adequately respond to this significant wildlife disease.

99 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to Tasmania devils and the Government's election commitment to allocate \$2 million for the devil facial tumour disease:

- (1) Has the Government determined the research priorities for the \$2 million lump sum to be allocated for the disease.

- (2) Will the Commonwealth maintain control over the scientific evaluation, direction and publication of the research effort funded by the Commonwealth.
- (3) What accountability procedures have been put in place for all Commonwealth funds allocated to Tasmania to date for research on Tasmanian devils.
- (4) To date, what outputs have resulted from the World Heritage project funding for the disease.

Notice given 19 November 2004

102 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the answer to question no. 131 taken on notice by the department during the May 2003 Budget estimates hearings of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee:

- (1) Who briefed the Minister on 19 August 2002 and 26 September 2002 about Marian Wilkinson's questions.
- (2) Who initiated the briefing.
- (3) Was the briefing oral or in writing.
- (4) If it was an oral briefing: (a) who briefed the Minister; (b) who else was present; (c) were minutes and/or notes taken; if so, can a copy of minutes and/or notes be provided; and (d) what action, if any, did the Minister take after he was provided with the two briefings in August and September 2002.
- (5) If it was a written briefing: (a) who prepared the brief; (b) who cleared the brief; (c) apart from the Minister, who else saw the brief; and (d) what action, if any, did the Minister take after he was provided with the two briefings in August and September 2002.

103 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Since March 1996, on how many occasions has the Prime Minister stayed at Claridges Hotel in Mayfair, London.
- (2) On what dates did the Prime Minister stay at this self-described "five star, de luxe, luxury" hotel.
- (3) On his most recent trip to London, did the Prime Minister stay in the Brook Apartment penthouse suite, described by the hotel as '220 square metres/2,368 square feet (approximately), 2 King Beds. This stunning apartment has been restored in the Art Deco style with an elegant, gentle mauve décor, light oak floors and original fittings from the 1930s. The bedrooms are large and luxurious, each with their own dressing-rooms. The marble bathrooms are equally splendid with extra deep baths and separate showers. A beautiful sitting-room with full height windows looks out onto a stunning private roof terrace. In addition, there is an elegant dining-room with a cocktail bar and cloakroom. A personal butler service is provided with the penthouse'.
- (4) What was the cost of the Prime Minister's: (a) accommodation; (b) food; (c) beverages; and (c) other items (please specify) at Claridges for this recent trip.
- (5) How many other rooms and suites were used by the Prime Minister's party for this trip, and for what purposes.

- (6) For the Prime Minister's most recent trip, what were the costs for the Prime Minister's party, excluding the Prime Minister, of: (a) accommodation; (b) food; (c) beverages; and (d) other items (please specify).
- (7) Apart from the services provided and paid for outlined under (3) and (4) above, did the hotel provide any other services to the Prime Minister and his party.
- (8) Has the bill for the hotel been presented and paid; if not, why not; if so, who paid the bill.
- (9) On each of the occasions the Prime Minister has used this hotel since 1996, has he always stayed at the Brook Apartment penthouse suite; if not, on which occasion has he used other suites in the hotel, and which suites were used.
- (10) On each occasion that the Prime Minister stayed at the hotel, what was the cost of the Prime Minister's: (a) accommodation; (b) food; (c) beverages; and (c) other items (please specify).
- (11) On each occasion that the Prime Minister stayed at the hotel since March 1996, how much was paid by the department to the hotel for associated costs excluding the amounts at (7) above.

104 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) What was the additional cost of re-shooting the superannuation co-contribution advertising campaign when it was decided by the Ministerial Committee on Government Communications that the size of the pig had to be reduced.
- (2) Who made the decision that a re-shoot was required.
- (3) Did the print material have to be adjusted; if so, what was the additional cost.

105 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to the Superannuation Co-contribution advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) mail outs with brochures and letters signed by Mr Carmody; and (e) advertising research.
- (2) When did TV advertising screening begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) How many letters were sent by Mr Carmody.
- (4) On what basis was the mail out selected.
- (5) What database was used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (6) Given that the advertisements now do not reflect Government policy on the co-contribution, is there any plan to update the campaign; if so, what campaign components will be updated and how much will this cost.
- (7) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for

Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.

- (8) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
 - (9) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (8) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
 - (10) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.
- 107 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the Working to Keep the Country Connected advertising campaign:
- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
 - (2) On which TV stations is the advertising campaign screening.
 - (3) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies; have been engaged for the campaign.
 - (4) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
 - (5) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
 - (6) (a) As of 1 June 2004, how many phone calls has the Telinfo hotline received; and (b) how many hits has the Telinfo website had.
 - (7) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
 - (8) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
 - (9) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (8) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
 - (10) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

108 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Environment/Resource Management advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (2) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies; have been engaged for the campaign.
- (3) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (4) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (5) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (6) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (7) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (6) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (8) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

109 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Waste Oil advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (2) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies; have been engaged for the campaign.
- (3) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (4) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (5) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a

departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.

- (6) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (7) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (6) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (8) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

114 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—With reference to the proposed Natural Heritage Trust advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (2) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies; have been engaged for the campaign.
- (3) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (4) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (5) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (6) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (7) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (6) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (8) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

115 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the proposed Mature Aged Workers—Increasing Participation Rates advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (2) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies; have been engaged for the campaign.
- (3) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (4) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (5) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (6) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (7) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (6) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (8) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

117 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the proposed Auslink advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (2) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies; have been engaged for the campaign.
- (3) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (4) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (5) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.

- (6) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (7) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (6) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (8) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

118 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the proposed Regional Information Service advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (2) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies; have been engaged for the campaign.
- (3) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (4) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (5) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (6) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (7) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (6) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (8) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

120 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the current Strengthening Medicare advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these

advertising costs for: (a) television (TV) placements; (b) radio placements; (c) newspaper placements; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.

- (2) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies; have been engaged for the campaign.
- (3) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (4) If there is a mail out planned, to whom will it be targeted and what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (5) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (6) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (7) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (6) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (8) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

Senator Faulkner: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 122-140)—

- (1) Not including any advertising campaigns contained in questions on notice nos 105 to 121, for each of the financial years, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date: (a) what is the cost of any current or proposed advertising campaign in the department; (b) what are the details of the campaign, including: (a) creative agency or agencies engaged; (b) research agency or agencies engaged; (c) the cost of television advertising; (d) the cost and nature of any mail out; and (e) the full cost of advertising placement.
- (2) When will the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2003-04 or 2004-05 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (4) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.

- (5) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (4) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (6) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

123 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

124 Minister representing the Treasurer

128 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

131 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

133 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

135 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

137 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

138 Minister for the Environment and Heritage

140 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Notice given 22 November 2004

141 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the grant of \$6 000 000 for the National Equine and Livestock Centre project in Tamworth under the Regional Partnerships Programme:

- (1) (a) What total funds have been paid to the proponent; (b) if the funds were paid in one sum, on what date was the payment made; and (c) if the funds were paid in instalments, please identify instalment dates and amounts paid on each date.
- (2) What is the name of the proponent.
- (3) What is the proponent's business address.
- (4) Will the Minister provide a full description of the project.
- (5) On what date did the proponent first discuss the Regional Partnerships Programme funding application with the New England North West Area Consultative Committee.
- (6) On what date was the application submitted to the department.
- (7) On what date did the department send a copy of the submitted application to the New England North West Area Consultative Committee for comment and recommendation.
- (8) (a) On what date did the New England North West Area Consultative Committee provide the department with a response; and (b) what was the nature of the response.
- (9) On what date did the department commence assessment of the application to determine if it was suitable for Regional Partnerships funding.
- (10) (a) What representations were received from the National Party candidate for New England for the 2004 federal election in respect to the project proposal; and (b) on what date(s) and in what form(s) were the representations made by the candidate.
- (11) What referees were listed on the application.
- (12) What project partners, if any, did the application identify.

- (13) What funding did the application seek.
- (14) (a) What cash contribution(s) from the proponent and/or project partners did the application identify; and (b) what was the status of the cash contribution(s) when the application was lodged with the department.
- (15) (a) What in-kind contribution(s) from the proponent and/or project partners did the application identify; and (b) what was the status of the in-kind contribution(s) when the application was lodged with the department.
- (16) What applications over the previous five years to Commonwealth, state or local governments were identified in the application for funding of the project.
- (17) Did the application include a breakdown of various project cost items; if not, why not.
- (18) What key milestones were noted in the project timetable that formed part of the application including a project start and completion dates.
- (19) What project rationale was identified in the application.
- (20) How did the project description align with its region's identified priorities, including priorities identified by the New England North West Area Consultative Committee in its Strategic Regional Plan.
- (21) Was a project plan and feasibility study attached to the application; if not, on what date(s) were these documents provided.
- (22) (a) What evidence of community support was contained in the application; and (b) was a letter of support from the unsuccessful National Party candidate for New England for the 2004 federal election and/or Senator Sandy Macdonald attached to the application.
- (23) What evidence was provided in the application demonstrating the project would be self-sustaining.
- (24) Was an independent risk assessment of the proponent or the project or both based on information provided in the Regional Partnerships funding application; if so: (a) on what date was the independent assessment ordered; (b) who undertook it; (c) when was it completed; (d) what was its conclusion; (e) how much did it cost; and (f) can a copy of the assessment report be provided; if not, why not.
- (25) If no independent risk assessment was undertaken, why not.
- (26) With reference to additional requirements imposed on applicants for Regional Partnerships funding exceeding \$250 000:
 - (a) Did the proponent provide an outline of its management structure including full names, dates of birth, current residential addresses and driver's licence numbers of relevant persons concerned with the project; if so, on what date; if not, why not.
 - (b) Did the proponent provide audited profit and loss and balance sheet statements for the previous three financial years; if so, on what date; if not, why not.
 - (c) Did the proponent provide an authorised statement of financial position; if so, on what date; if not, why not.
 - (d) Did the proponent provide tax returns for the past three financial years; if so, on what date; if not, why not.
 - (e) Did the proponent provide a business plan for the project, including: (i) a feasibility study, (ii) industry/data research, (iii) a three year cash flow projection for the project including assumptions used and

sensitive factors in the projection, (iv) a market strategy including assumptions used, (v) a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats (SWOT) analysis, and (vi) a full list of pecuniary interests relevant to the project

- (27) Did the initial funding application fully comply with Regional Partnerships Programme guidelines; if not, what elements of the application were non-compliant.
- (28) (a) If applicable, on what date(s) was the application varied; and (b) in each case, how was the application varied.
- (29) (a) On what date did the department make a recommendation to the Minister; (b) what recommendation did the department make; and (c) were any preliminary or draft recommendations referred to the Minister and/or discussed with his office; if so, what draft recommendations were referred and/or discussed.
- (30) (a) On what occasions did the Minister and/or his office meet with the proponent and/or supporters of the project; and (b) in respect to each occasion, can the Minister identify the date, duration, attendance and matters discussed.
- (31) How did the proponent address each of the matters of concern identified in the 2002 independent assessment of the proposed National Equine and Livestock Centre project by Professor John Chudleigh, including: (a) insufficient funding to complete the project; (b) over ambitious usage targets necessary to service debt; (c) lack of funds from the equine industry; and (d) no prospect of commercial viability.
- (32) Did the Minister impose any unwritten conditions on the grant, including a requirement that the Member for New England step down from the project board and disassociate himself from the proposal.
- (33) On what date was the funding application approved by the Minister.
- (34) On what date(s) and in what form(s) did the department and/or the Minister inform the proponent, the New England North West Area Consultative Committee, the Member for New England and the unsuccessful National Party candidate for New England for the 2004 federal election about the Minister's funding approval.
- (35) On what date did the department and/or the Minister publicly announce the grant.
- (36) Will the Minister provide a copy of the original Regional Partnerships Programme funding application, including attachments, and all subsequent variations; if not, why not.
- (37) On what date did the department commence negotiations with the proponent on a funding agreement.
- (38) On what date was the funding agreement signed.
- (39) Will the Minister provide a copy of the funding agreement; if not, why not.

Notice given 2 December 2004

- 158 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—For each state and territory in each of the past 10 years up to and including 2004 (to date), how many Australians died of the effects or abuse of: (a) alcohol; (b) tobacco; (c) prescription pharmaceuticals; and (d) non-prescription pharmaceuticals.

Notice given 8 December 2004

Senator Bishop: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 166-168)—With reference to the Minister's official engagements on 15 November 2004:

- (1) Where did each engagement occur.
- (2) What was the nature of each engagement.
- (3) What was the start and finish time of each engagement.
- (4) (a) When was the Minister invited to, or when did the Minister first become aware of, each engagement; and (b) on what date did the Minister commit to attending each engagement.
- (5) (a) Who attended each engagement; and (b) in what capacity did they attend.
- (6) What was the cost incurred by the Commonwealth in arranging or ensuring the Minister's attendance at each engagement.
- (7) Will the Minister provide details of invitations or approaches to attend other official engagements on 15 November 2004 which the Minister either declined or delegated.

166 Minister representing the Prime Minister

167 Minister for Defence

168 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

170 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Minister's visit to Iraq in December 2004:

- (1) When did planning for the visit begin.
- (2) (a) Did the original idea for the visit originate from the Minister's office, the department, or the Prime Minister's office; and (b) was the visit based on media or policy advice.
- (3) Were specific media representatives selected to accompany the Minister; if so, how were they selected.
- (4) (a) Which media representatives were selected; and (b) which opted to accept the invitation to accompany the Minister.
- (5) Besides media representatives: (a) who else accompanied the Minister; and (b) in which capacity did they accompany the Minister.
- (6) (a) What was the cost to the Commonwealth of the trip to Iraq; and (b) are there any costs to the Commonwealth which could be attributed to the contingent of media representatives who accompanied the Minister.

Notice given 9 December 2004

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

- (1) For each of the past 12 months up to 31 December 2004: (a) how many veterans have been transported from Tasmania to the mainland to access: (i) medical specialist treatment, and (ii) hospital treatment; and (b) how many war widows have been transported from Tasmania to the mainland to access: (i) medical specialist treatment, and (ii) hospital treatment.
- (2) For each case in (1), what was: (a) the type of treatment accessed; (b) the location of the accessed treatment; and (c) the number of visits to date.
- (3) For each case in (1), what was the cost of: (a) the treatment; (b) transportation to the place of treatment; and (b) accommodation.

- (4) In how many cases has: (a) spousal travel been approved, and at what cost; and (b) special ambulance aircraft been required.
- (5) For each of the past 3 financial years, how much has been paid to medical specialists in Tasmania.
- (6) By speciality and state, how many medical specialists have now indicated their unwillingness to accept the Gold Card.
- (7) From 1 January 2005, what will be the average percentage of the Medical Benefits Schedule, of all Gold Card schedule items for: (a) consultations; and (b) procedures.
- (8) What is the daily rate agreed to under the Gold Card scheme for each private and public hospital in Australia.
- (9) How many inquiries have been received by the department during 2004 from veterans and war widows seeking assistance in obtaining specialist medical treatment.
- (10) (a) What amount was spent on transport of veterans and war widows to all medical appointments in each state over the past 3 financial years, and up to 31 December 2004; (b) by state and territory, how many individual journeys did this represent; and (c) by state and territory, what was the division of costs between: (i) private transport reimbursement, (ii) booked car with driver, (iii) air travel, and (iv) other.
- (11) (a) On how many occasions during the past 3 financial years and up to 31 December 2004 did the department refer compensation claimants to specialists for medical assessment by state and territory and speciality; and (b) at what annual cost.

173 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—
 (a) When did Cabinet decide to sponsor the Belgian proposal on human cloning at the United Nations (UN); and (b) when did Cabinet subsequently decide to endorse the Costa Rican proposal on human cloning at the UN.

174 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) Will the Minister provide copies of any recommendations, advice or comments the department has received in the past 18 months regarding, or in response to, a proposal put forward by Belgium to the United Nations on the issue of 'reproductive' cloning of people and/or 'therapeutic' cloning of human embryos for research into cures for serious diseases.
- (2) Will the Minister provide copies of any recommendations, advice, comments or draft reports or recommendations prepared by the department regarding the review of Australia's national legislation on human reproductive cloning and/or human embryonic stem cell research.
- (3) (a) When is the review of the legislation on human reproductive cloning and human embryonic stem cell research expected to begin; and (b) does the Minister have responsibility for the review; if not, who does.

Notice given 17 December 2004

181 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For each of the past 5 years, what funds have been paid from Commonwealth programs to each state and territory for urban public transport.

182 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With reference to the table of aviation safety investigations shown on page 66 of the department's annual report for 2003-04: For the year 2003-04, what is the breakdown, by type, for both accidents and incidents notified; that is, mechanical failure, separation, weather etc.
- (2) (a) How many charges were pressed against operators and pilots as the result of investigations into both accidents and incidents; and (b) what was the outcome in each case.

183 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With reference to page 84 of the department's annual report for 2003-04 and the claim that the Alice Springs to Darwin rail link 'will return as much as \$1.88 for every dollar spent on it': Has that estimate been revised in the light of operating experience; if so, what was the result; if not, are there plans to do so.
- (2) What was the total cost of Commonwealth contributions by way of grants and loans for the project's construction and operation.
- (3) (a) What assessment has been made of the financial performance of the railway in the first 6 months of operation, compared with projections; and (b) will the Minister provide a copy of that assessment; if not, why not.

184 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) (a) What specific capital works projects have been prepared and approved to date for expenditure from the \$450 million grant to the Australian Rail Track Corporation (ARTC); and (b) what is the time line for the completion of each project.
- (2) When is it expected that this investment will enable the goal of a 3 hour reduction in travel time between Brisbane and Sydney to be achieved.
- (3) Of the \$250 million allocated in the 2002-03 financial year for upgrading interstate rail links: (a) what projects to date have been funded; (b) at what cost; (c) which projects have been completed; and (d) what funds remain uncommitted.
- (4) What is the annual cost of leasing track from New South Wales.
- (5) What provision exists within the agreement with New South Wales for the public tendering of capital works funded by ARTC.

185 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Under Auslink how will priorities within the funds currently allocated to the Roads to Recovery Program be decided with respect to national, state and local government involvement.

190 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) As part of its role of monitoring productivity on the waterfront, what information is available to the department and its agencies on the movement of containers to and from stevedores' facilities by rail and road, storage times, waiting times for delivery, storage costs and cancelled pick-up slots.
- (2) What formal arrangements exist with the Australian Customs Service for monitoring the movement of containers through x-ray facilities, delays caused, costs and cancelled pick-up slots.

- (3) What research has been conducted by the department and its agencies into access by road and rail at each Australian container port, particularly at Port Botany.
- (4) What consultation has been conducted with the New South Wales Government on improving port access by road and rail to Port Botany.

194 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the Federation Fund:

- (1) By electorate: (a) what projects have been funded over the life of the Fund; and (b) what was the cost of each project.
- (2) (a) How many projects have received supplementary funding beyond the original estimate; and (c) what was the reason in each case.
- (3) By electorate, how many applications have been rejected to date.
- (4) What funds remain uncommitted in the Fund.
- (5) By electorate: (a) which approved project proposals have been cancelled; and (b) what was the reason in each case.
- (6) (a) What evaluation has been conducted of each completed project against the selection criteria; and (b) what was the result in relation to each project.

Notice given 20 December 2004

205 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Namoi Valley Structural Adjustment Package:

- (1) (a) What expressions of interest and/or applications have been received seeking funding under the Namoi Valley Structural Adjustment Package; and (b) for each application, will the Minister provide: (i) the date of the application, (ii) the amount of funding sought, (iii) the name of the proponent, and (iv) the nature of the project.
- (2) (a) What funding has been announced under the Namoi Valley Structural Adjustment Package; and (b) for each announcement, will the Minister provide: (i) the date of the announcement, (ii) the form of the announcement, (iii) details of the proponent, (iv) a detailed project description, and (v) the funding announced.
- (3) (a) What funding has been paid to each successful project; and (b) for each project, what job outcomes can be attributed to it.

206 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Commonwealth's commitment of \$20 million for regional structural adjustment assistance in the Namoi Valley through proposals which promote future growth of the region, diversify industry and generate long-term employment:

- (1) What total funding under the Namoi Valley Structural Adjustment Package has been: (a) announced; and (b) expended.
- (2) Did the Regional Partnerships program, launched by the Minister on 26 June 2003, amalgamate the Namoi Valley Structural Adjustment Package with other regional development programs.
- (3) How was the administration of the Namoi Valley Structural Adjustment Package affected by the amalgamation.
- (4) Did the Namoi Valley Structural Adjustment Package guidelines and assessment procedures remain in operation beyond 1 July 2003; if so, did

the guidelines and assessment procedures for Regional Solutions, Regional Assistance, Rural Transaction Centres, Dairy Regional Assistance and the structural adjustment programs for the Wide Bay-Burnett, Weipa and the South-West Forests region of Western Australia also remain in operation post-amalgamation under the Regional Partnerships program.

- 207 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Will the Minister provide details of all additions, omissions and amendments to project details published on the Regional Partnerships grant database at www.regionalpartnerships.gov.au since 9 October 2004.
 - (2) Where project details have been omitted or amended, will the Minister provide an explanation.
- 209 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Minister's claim on 14 December 2004 that 15 Regional Partnerships assessments have been subject to 'Ministerial alteration' and 'some of them have been altered up or down': Will the Minister provide details of all assessments subject to 'Ministerial alteration', including: (a) the name of the project; (b) the name of the proponent; (c) the details of the alteration; (d) the final outcome of the assessment; (e) the nature of ministerial involvement; and (f) the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary responsible for the alteration.
- 210 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the dispatch of letters concerning the Honourable De-Anne Kelly's MP signature notifying details of Regional Partnerships grants to stakeholders and posted on or after 26 October 2004, and the advice by Ms Kelly to the House of Representatives on 8 December 2004 that 'copies are on the relevant files' in the office of the Mr John Cobb MP:
- (1) Will the Minister provide details of all such correspondence, including: (a) recipient; (b) date signed; (c) date date-stamped; (d) date appearing on date-stamp; (e) date posted; (f) name of project; (g) size of grant; (h) date project approved; and (i) nature of correspondence.
 - (2) Will the Minister provide copies of all correspondence; if not, why not.
- 211 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—
- (1) What alleged breaches of the *Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* (December, 1998) have been brought to the attention of the Prime Minister and/or his office since its inception.
 - (2) In each case: (a) who was the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary responsible for the alleged breach; (b) what was the nature of the alleged breach; (c) on what date did the Prime Minister and/or his office become aware of the alleged breach; (d) what was the source of information about the alleged breach; (e) how did the Prime Minister investigate the alleged breach; (f) if the Prime Minister did not investigate the alleged breach, why not; (g) what finding did the Prime Minister make in relation to the alleged breach, and on what date did the Prime Minister make the finding; and (h) what action, if any, did the Prime Minister take, and on what date did the Prime Minister take such action.

Notice given 21 December 2004

215 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Why does the department's annual report for 2003-04 note that the \$34.3 million cost of the Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme for 2003-04 was 'slightly more than expected', while also noting that the cost of the scheme was 11.9 per cent below the revised budget estimate.
- (2) If the cost of the scheme for 2003-04 was below expectations, why was the cost below expectations.
- (3) If the cost of the scheme was above expectations, why was the cost above expectations.

216 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) By electorate: (a) what Federal Road Safety Black Spot Program ('Black Spot') projects were funded in the 2003-04 and 2004-05 financial years; and (b) what was the cost of each.
- (2) By electorate: (a) what 'Black Spot' projects were announced during the recent election campaign; (b) on what date were they announced; and (c) by whom were they announced.
- (3) Were media releases for 'Black Spot' funding announcements prepared by the department; if so: (a) by whom; and (b) at what cost in each of the past 2 years.
- (4) Which projects remain uncompleted as at 31 December 2004.
- (5) What balance of funds remains uncommitted prior to absorption into Auslink.

Senator Bishop: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 217-235)—With reference to the arrangement between the Commonwealth and Qantas Business Travel for the provision of air travel booking services to the Commonwealth, what steps have been taken to ensure that departmental personnel travel with the air carrier which provides the 'best fare on the day' as quoted by Qantas Business Travel.

- 217 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 218 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 219 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 220 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 221 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 222 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 223 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 224 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 225 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 226 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 227 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 228 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 229 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 230 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 231 Minister for Finance and Administration

232 Minister for Finance and Administration

233 Minister for Finance and Administration

234 Minister for Finance and Administration

235 Minister for Finance and Administration

236 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) With reference to the article ‘Plane trouble delays possibly grounds Deputy PM’ which appeared in the *Australian* on 20 December 2004: (a) is Qantas Business Travel the sole provider of air travel booking services to the Commonwealth; (b) when did this arrangement take effect; (c) when will the arrangement expire; (d) was the arrangement put to open tender; if not, why not; (e) which other providers expressed an interest in providing air travel booking services to the Commonwealth; and (f) how much has the Commonwealth paid Qantas Business Travel for the provision of air travel booking services for each financial year since the arrangement took effect.
- (2) With reference to the negotiation of the arrangement between the Commonwealth and Qantas Business Travel for the provision of air travel booking services to the Commonwealth: (a) who negotiated the arrangement on behalf of the Commonwealth and who provided final approval of the arrangement; (b) when and where did the Minister receive representations from the Deputy Prime Minister in relation to the negotiation of this arrangement; (c) what was the outcome of those representations; (d) were records of those representations kept; if so, will the Minister provide the records; if not, why not; (e) what documentation or contract records of the arrangement between the Commonwealth and Qantas Business Travel exist and will the Minister provide the documentation; if not, why not; (f) what provisions in the agreement ensure that Qantas Business Travel always provides the Commonwealth with quotes based on the ‘best fare on the day’; and (g) what sanctions apply should it fail to do so.

Notice given 22 December 2004

Senator O’Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 237-238)—

- (1) Which Regional Partnerships program funding announcements were submitted to the department for costing pursuant to the Charter of Budget Honesty during the 2004 election caretaker period.
- (2) For each case: (a) what are the details of the Regional Partnerships funding announcement including the amount of funding; and (b) on what date were the details submitted.
- (3) On what date was a media statement released by the Secretary of the department (or Secretaries) informing the public of the costing request, consistent with the Charter of Budget Honesty Costing of Election Commitment Guidelines jointly issued by the Secretary of the Department of the Treasury and the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration in 2004 (the guidelines).
- (4) If no media statement was released, why not.
- (5) If a media statement was released, will the Minister provide a copy; if not, why not.
- (6) Did the Secretary of the department (or Secretaries) seek further information from the Prime Minister to facilitate accurate costing, as

provided in the guidelines; if so: (a) on what date; (b) what further information was sought; and (c) what was the Prime Minister's response.

- (7) (a) On what date were costings related to the announcement released; and (b) will the Minister provide a copy of the relevant findings; if not, why not.
- (8) If the findings were not released, did the Secretary of the department (or Secretaries) release a media statement informing the public that a policy costing was not possible; if so, will the Minister provide a copy of the media statement; if not, why not.
- (9) If no media statement was released, why not.

237 Minister representing the Treasurer

238 Minister for Finance and Administration

241 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has the department provided the Minister with advice on options for responding to the report of the House of Representatives' Standing Committee on Transport and Regional Services, *Regional Aviation and Island Transport Services: Making Ends Meet*, tabled on 1 December 2003.
- (2) Why has the Minister failed to deliver a formal response to this bi-partisan report despite the passage of more than 12 months.

243 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) On what date did Airservices Australia's current review of pricing arrangements for airport control towers commence.
- (2) When will the review findings be announced.
- (3) What stakeholders have been consulted.
- (4) Has a draft report been presented to the Minister and/or his office; if so, on what date.
- (5) By airport, what subsidies were paid to airports under the scheme in the 2003-04 financial year.

244 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Which air operators receive payments under the Payment Scheme for Airservices Australia's Enroute Charges program.
- (2) What is the outcome of the client satisfaction survey undertaken in October 2004.
- (3) Is this survey part of a wider review of the program; if so: (a) who is undertaking the review; (b) what is the purpose of the review; and (c) when will the review findings be announced.

248 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) On what date did the Council of Australian Governments agree to establish the Regional Development Council.
- (2) On what dates has: (a) the Regional Development Council met; and (b) the Standing Committee on Regional Development met.

250 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Commonwealth Regional Information Service (CRIS), launched on 1 August 2002:

- (1) (a) By year, what is the total cost of the CRIS call centre operation in the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date; (b) will the Minister provide a breakdown of the costs; and (c) what is the budgeted cost of the call centre operation in the 2004-05 financial year.
- (2) By year, how many calls has the CRIS 1800 number received in the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date.
- (3) (a) By year, what total costs have been incurred in relation to the production and distribution of the Commonwealth Regional Information Directory (CRID) in the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date; (b) will the Minister provide a breakdown of the costs; and (c) what is the budgeted cost for production and distribution in the 2004-05 financial year.
- (4) (a) By year, how many copies of the CRID have been distributed in the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date; and (b) what total number of copies are expected to be distributed in the 2004-05 financial year.
- (5) (a) By year, what total costs have been incurred in relation to the production and distribution of the quick reference guide known as the Commonwealth Regional Information Book (CRIB) in the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date; (b) will the Minister provide a breakdown of the costs including design, printing and postage; and (c) what is the budgeted cost for production and distribution in the 2004-05 financial year.
- (6) (a) By year, how many copies of the CRIB have been distributed in each of the following financial years: (i) 2002-03, (ii) 2003-04, and (iii) 2004-05 to date, by year; and (b) what total number of copies are expected to be distributed in the 2004-05 financial year.
- (7) With reference to the household distribution of the CRIB, what information source was used to identify households.
- (8) (a) What is the total cost of the CRIS media campaign in the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date; (b) will the Minister provide a breakdown of the costs including production, and advertising by television, radio and print media; and (c) what is the budgeted cost for media in the 2004-05 financial year.
- (9) Does the firm Singleton Ogilvy and Mather maintain the contract to provide the CRIS advertising campaign; if so, what are the terms of the contract; if not, which advertising firm holds the contract and what are the terms of the contract.
- (10) (a) By year, what is the total cost of the CRIS travelling show in the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date; (b) will the Minister provide a breakdown of the costs; and (c) what is the budgeted cost for the travelling show in the 2004-05 financial year.
- (11) (a) By year, what is the total cost of production and distribution of CRIS community information stands in the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date; (b) will the Minister provide a breakdown of the costs; and (c) what is the budgeted cost for community information stands in the 2004-05 financial year.

- (12) Which community and/or business organisations have received community information stands.
- (13) (a) By year, what is the total cost of maintaining the regional entry point Internet portal managed by the department in the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date; (b) will the Minister provide a breakdown of the costs; and (c) what is the budgeted cost for maintenance of the portal in the 2004-05 financial year.

251 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the claim on page 111 of the department's annual report for 2003-04 that a Regional Partnerships program grant funded some operating costs of the heritage railway from Beaudesert to Bethania in Queensland:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm the accuracy of departmental evidence given to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee during the Budget estimates on 27 May 2004 (*Hansard* p. 102) that that grant enabled Beaudesert Rail to 'pay off its creditors—it had amassed an unsustainable bundle of creditors—and to provide it with some supplementary operating funds for the remainder of the financial year'.
- (2) (a) On what dates were Regional Partnerships payments made to Beaudesert Rail; and (b) on each occasion, what was the amount of the payment.
- (3) (a) How much of the \$660 000 Regional Partnerships grant to Beaudesert Rail was directed to paying creditors; and (b) how much was directed to operating costs.
- (4) Will the Minister provide detailed advice of creditors and monies owing at the time of the grant decision; if not, why not.
- (5) When did the Minister and/or the department first become aware that Beaudesert Rail had 'amassed an unsustainable bundle of creditors'.
- (6) (a) On what date did the Commonwealth commence discussions with Beaudesert Rail on the provision of a loan to assist its operations; (b) on what date did the Commonwealth offer Beaudesert Rail a loan; (c) what was the amount of the loan offer and the proposed interest rate and term of repayment; (d) what role did the Minister and/or the department play in the consideration and negotiation of the loan proposal; and (e) what program was the proposed source of loan funds.
- (7) (a) On what date: (a) was a Regional Partnerships funding application for the Beaudesert Rail project submitted; and (b) was advice sought from the local Area Consultative Committee.
- (8) (a) When did the Minister approve the conversion of the loan to a grant under the Regional Partnerships program; (b) what was the financial position of Beaudesert Rail at this time; and (c) what due diligence preceded the decision to convert the loan to a grant.
- (9) (a) Do the Regional Partnerships guidelines provide that the Government cannot fund retrospective costs in relation to a project; and (b) does the department define retrospective funding as funding to meet any expenditure, or commitment to expenditure, incurred prior to a Regional Partnerships funding agreement being signed by both parties.
- (10) On what date was the funding agreement in relation to the Beaudesert Rail project signed.

- (11) Does the funding of creditors under the Regional Partnerships program constitute retrospective funding; if so: (a) did the funding of the Beaudesert Rail project to pay creditors constitute a breach of the program rules; and (b) does the Minister accept responsibility for the breach.
 - (12) On what date was: (a) the funding agreement for Beaudesert Rail signed by both parties; (b) a satisfactory independent audit of accounts in accordance with the Government's requirements undertaken; and (c) the Government provided with evidence of an acquittal of expenditure against the approved budget for the project.
 - (13) Has Beaudesert Rail produced evidence of satisfactory performance and achievement of all project milestones.
 - (14) What outcomes can the Minister attribute to the allocation of \$660 000 in Regional Partnerships grant money to the Beaudesert Rail project.
 - (15) Who determined that the allocation of Regional Partnerships funding to Beaudesert Rail should be featured in the department's annual report.
- 252 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the 2004-05 Regional Partnerships client satisfaction survey reported on page 112 of the department's annual report for 2003-04:
- (1) Who will conduct the survey.
 - (2) What is the survey timetable.
 - (3) Which stakeholders will be invited to participate in the survey.
 - (4) What is the budgeted cost of the survey.
- 254 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did the Minister authorise the publication of media statements carrying The Nationals' party logo on the publicly-funded Sustainable Regions website, www.sustainableregions.gov.au; if so, when; if not, who authorised the publication of these party-political media statements.
 - (2) (a) What guidelines apply to the publication of party-political material by the department; and (b) is the publication of party-political media statements on the Sustainable Regions website consistent with these guidelines.

Notice given 23 December 2004

- 256 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads—
- (1) Is it the case that budget cuts forced the National Capital Authority to give the National Christmas Tree to the Government of the Australian Capital Territory; if not, what was the reason.
 - (2) On what date was the decision made to give the National Christmas Tree away.
 - (3) Which elected representatives were consulted on the decision to give the tree away.
 - (4) Who made the decision.
 - (5) On what date was the Minister informed.
 - (6) Is the Minister aware that a former Minister for Territories, Senator Ian Macdonald, said the significance of lighting the National Christmas Tree

goes beyond Canberra and out to the entire nation, describing it as important in the ongoing quest to promote the national capital as a warm and friendly place.

- (7) Is the Minister aware that the Governor-General lit the tree in 2003 and said it symbolised the spirit of giving and encouraged Australians to help needy members of our community.
- (8) On what date was the Governor-General informed that the National Christmas Tree would not be erected outside Parliament House in 2004.
- (9) On what dates has the National Christmas Tree been lit in previous years.

257 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the Special Employee Entitlement Scheme for Ansett Group Employees (SEESA):

- (1) What has been paid under SEESA to former Ansett employees.
- (2) What entitlements, other than SEESA, are yet to be paid to former Ansett employees.
- (3) (a) Will the Minister provide a copy of the business rules under which SEESA operates; and (b) have these rules been varied since inception; if so, how and when.
- (4) Did the department specify targets for timeliness of payments from SEES Pty Ltd to the Ansett Administrators and payments from the Ansett Administrators to former Ansett employees; if so: (a) what targets; and (b) how were these targets set; if not, why not.
- (5) Will the Minister provide full details of the timeliness of: (a) SEESA payments to the Ansett Administrators; and (b) SEESA payments through the Ansett Administrators to former Ansett employees.
- (6) Will the Minister provide documented evidence of the department's role in the selection of the scheme's financier.
- (7) Will the Minister provide full details, by financial year, of the loan facility obtained by SEES Pty Ltd including: (a) all amounts drawn down on the loan facility; (b) the date and purpose of each drawdown; (c) all fees, charges and interest paid in relation to the loan; and (d) the term and repayment schedule of the loan.
- (8) Will the Minister provide, by financial year, full details of costs incurred by the department in relation to the establishment and operation of SEESA.
- (9) Will the Minister provide, by financial year, full details of any payments (including the source of the funds) made to the department in relation to the establishment and operation of SEESA.

259 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Special Employee Entitlement Scheme for Ansett Group Employees and the corresponding ticket levy administered by the department: does the Minister stand behind his statement on 28 September 2001 that 'The Government has imposed the levy to pay for the entitlements of Ansett employees'.

260 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the amount of the surplus collected from the Ansett ticket levy.

- (2) (a) For what purpose or purposes has the surplus been expended; and (b) will the Minister provide precise expenditure details, including the amount, by expenditure item.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 262-264)—

- (1) On what date did: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department, become aware of the meeting of former Ansett employees on 27 November 2004 to discuss unpaid entitlements.
- (2) In each case in (1) what was the source of information.
- (3) Did: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department, attend the meeting to address former Ansett employee concerns about outstanding employee entitlements.
- (4) In each case in (3) if not, why not.
- (5) On what date(s) has: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department, met with representatives of former Ansett employees to discuss the matter of outstanding employee entitlements.

262 Minister representing the Prime Minister

263 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

274 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads—

- (1) On what date: (a) was the appointment of the current Administrator of Norfolk Island announced; and (b) did the Administrator commence the appointment.
- (2) What is the term of the Administrator's appointment.
- (3) Will the Minister provide details, by financial year, of the Administrator's publicly-funded travel.
- (4) (a) On what dates has the Administrator provided formal reports to the Minister; and (b) will the Minister provide copies of these reports; if not, why not.

275 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads—

- (1) On what date: (a) was the appointment of the current Administrator of the Indian Ocean Territories announced; and (b) did the Administrator commence the appointment.
- (2) What is the term of the Administrator's appointment.
- (3) Will the Minister provide details, by financial year, of the Administrator's publicly-funded travel.
- (4) (a) On what dates has the Administrator provided formal reports to the Minister; and (b) will the Minister provide copies of these reports; if not, why not.

277 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What are the names and terms of appointment of the members of the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme Authority.
- (2) What costs have been associated with the authority in the each of the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date.

- 278 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—On what date(s) has the Prime Minister visited: (a) Christmas Island; (b) the Cocos (Keeling) Islands; and (c) Norfolk Island.
- 286 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—(a) What grants have been made under the Regional and Rural Research Information and Data program in each of the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date; and (b) for each project, will the Minister provide details of the amount of the grant, the name of the proponent and the start and finish dates.
- 287 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—(a) What grants have been made under the Regional and Rural Development Grant program in each of the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date; and (b) for each project, will the Minister provide details of the amount of the grant, the name of the proponent and the start and finish dates.
- 288 **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.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 293-296)—

- (1) On what date(s) 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 it 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.

293 Minister representing the Prime Minister

294 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

295 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

297 **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(s) 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.

298 **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(s) 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.

300 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
With reference to the answer to paragraph (3)(a) of question on notice no. 565 (Senate *Hansard*, 11 November 2002, p. 6016):

- (1) Was the alleged broadcasting of bogus Emergency Position Indicating Rescue Beacon signals by the *Volga* to assist the illegal fishing vessel the *Lena* to evade hot pursuit by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority contracted *Southern Supporter* subject to investigation by Australian authorities; if so, what was the outcome of the investigation; if no investigation has been undertaken, why not.
- (2) Was the alleged broadcasting of bogus Emergency Position Indicating Rescue Beacon signals by the *Florence* during the *Southern Supporter's* hot pursuit of the illegal fishing vessel the *Lena*, and the *Florence's* alleged re-fuelling of the *Lena*, subject to investigation by Australian authorities; if so, what was the outcome of this investigation and what legal action, if any, has been initiated against the crew of the *Florence*; if no investigation has been undertaken, why not.

301 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) When were Australian authorities first made aware of alleged, actual or intended illegal fishing activity by the vessel the *Viarsa* in Australian waters near the Heard and McDonald Islands (HIMI) in 2003.
- (2) What was the source of the information.
- (3) When did Australian authorities authorise the Australian Fisheries Management Authority-contracted vessel the *Southern Supporter* to intercept the *Viarsa*.
- (4) Where and when did the *Southern Supporter* first locate the *Viarsa*.
- (5) (a) What action, pursuant to what international or domestic law, did the *Southern Supporter* order the *Viarsa* to undertake; (b) when was this order made; and (c) what was the *Viarsa's* response.
- (6) (a) Were the *Viarsa's* identifiers displayed at the time it was located by the *Southern Supporter*; if so, were these identifiers later removed and when.
- (7) When and how did the *Viarsa* first identify itself to the *Southern Supporter*.
- (8) Was authorisation from a Minister or departmental officer required before the *Southern Supporter* commenced its hot pursuit of the *Viarsa*; if so: (a) when was this authorisation requested; (b) when was it provided; and (c) who provided it.
- (9) When did the hot pursuit of the *Viarsa* by the *Southern Supporter* commence.
- (10) Why did the Minister not announce the commencement of the pursuit until 12 August 2003.
- (11) With reference to the Minister's statement on 13 May 2003 concerning armed enforcement in HIMI, was the *Southern Supporter* armed; if not, what capacity did the *Southern Supporter* have to apprehend the *Viarsa* without additional enforcement assistance.
- (12) Was the Department of Defence asked to provide logistical or enforcement assistance in the interception of the *Viarsa*; if so: (a) when was the request made; (b) what was the department's response; and (c) what assistance was provided.
- (13) (a) When did the Australian Government first make direct representations to the Uruguayan Government urging it to exercise its flag state responsibilities and require the *Viarsa* to accompany the *Southern Supporter* to the nearest Australian port; (b) what form did those representations take; (c) what was the Uruguayan Government's initial

response and when was that response received; (d) did the Uruguayan Government consent to Australia's request that the *Viarsa* be ordered to accompany the *Southern Supporter*; (e) did the Uruguayan Government order the *Viarsa* to accompany the *Southern Supporter* to an Australian port; if so, when was that order made and what is the source of that information.

- (14) (a) What subsequent representations did the Government make to the Uruguayan Government prior to the vessel's apprehension; (b) what was the Uruguayan Government's response to these representations; (c) when did the Minister make direct contact with the Uruguayan Minister for Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries; (d) what assistance did the Minister seek; (e) how did the Uruguayan Minister respond to the Minister's request for assistance; and (f) what assistance has the Uruguayan Embassy in Canberra provided in the *Viarsa* matter.
- (15) Did the Uruguayan Government order the *Viarsa* to return to Montevideo; if so, when was that order made and what is the source of the information.
- (16) (a) When was the Minister and/or his department informed that a Uruguayan Government official was aboard the *Viarsa*; (b) what was the source of this information; (c) what is the name of the Uruguayan Government official and what position does the official hold; (d) what representations has the Government made to the Uruguayan Government in this matter; (e) what was the Uruguayan Government's response; and (f) when did the Uruguayan official board the *Viarsa*.
- (17) (a) What representations has the Government received from the Uruguayan Government since the vessel's apprehension; and (b) how has Australia responded to those representations.
- (18) When did the Government first alert the secretariat of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) of the alleged illegal fishing activity by the *Viarsa*.
- (19) (a) What assistance did the Government, through its secretariat, ask members of CCAMLR to provide in relation to the *Viarsa*; (b) when was that assistance sought; and (c) what assistance, by country, was provided.
- (20) (a) When did the Government first make direct representations to the South African Government seeking assistance in the apprehension of the *Viarsa*; (b) what request did the Government make; (c) what response did the South African Government provide and when was it received; (d) when was the Government informed that the *SA Agulhas* would be directed to intercept the *Viarsa*; and (e) when did the *SA Agulhas* join the hot pursuit of the *Viarsa*.
- (21) (a) When did the Government initiate commercial negotiations on the hire of the tug boat *John Ross* to assist in the apprehension of the *Viarsa*; (b) when did the tug commence pursuit of the *Viarsa*; (c) what was the composition of the crew aboard the tug; (d) did the tug operate under Australian command; (e) what was the total cost of the tug hire; (f) was the cost of hiring the tug reduced as a result of Australia's cooperative relationship with the South African Government on illegal fishing matters; and (g) what total cost is payable to South African interests for assistance in the *Viarsa* matter.
- (22) (a) When did the Government first make direct representations to the United Kingdom (UK) Government seeking assistance in the apprehension of the *Viarsa*; (b) what request did the Government make; (c) what

response did the UK Government provide and when was it received; (d) what assistance did the UK Government provide; and (e) what total cost is payable to UK interests for assistance in the *Viarsa* matter.

- (23) When and where was the apprehension of the *Viarsa* effected.
- (24) (a) What was the number and composition of the crew aboard the *Viarsa* upon its apprehension; and (b) has the Government made representations to other governments on the presence of their nationals aboard the *Viarsa*; if so, what representations has the Government made and what was the response.
- (25) What fish and equipment was allegedly found aboard the vessel.
- (26) What is the status of legal proceedings related to the investigation into the *Viarsa*'s conduct in Australian waters; and (b) where is the vessel and its crew currently located.
- (27) What arrangements did the Government make for the disposal of fish allegedly found aboard the vessel.
- (28) How has the Government recognised the performance of the Australian officers involved in the pursuit and apprehension of the *Viarsa*.
- (29) What was the cost of the operation to apprehend the *Viarsa*.
- (30) What total cost has the Government incurred in the *Viarsa* matter, including the cost of pre-pursuit and post-apprehension operations.
- (31) Was the cost of the *Viarsa* operation met from the \$12 million budget allocation for Southern Ocean fisheries enforcement in the 2003-04 financial year, announced by the Minister on 13 May 2003; if so, was the operational plan for the 2003-04 financial year amended to account for the *Viarsa* operation.

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

- (1) Does the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) receive advice from Livecorp on all withdrawals of accreditation and accreditation downgrades under the Live Export Accreditation Program.
- (2) Will the Minister provide details of all such accreditation withdrawals for each of the following financial years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date, including for each withdrawal: (a) the name of the company; (b) the reason for withdrawal; and (c) the consequential action by AQIS.
- (3) Will the Minister provide details of all such accreditation downgrades for each of the following financial years: 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date, including for each downgrade: (a) the name of the company; (b) the change in accreditation level; (c) the reason for downgrade; and (d) consequential action by AQIS.

303 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—(a) Which countries have banned, suspended or varied conditions of export for Australian live animals since 1996; and (b) in each case, will the Minister provide details of the ban, suspension or variation, including date of action and basis of action.

306 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) For each of the past 4 financial years, including 2004-05 to date, how many foreign fishing vessels (FFVs) were sighted inside Australia's Fishing Zone.
- (2) How many of those vessels were located in waters to the north of Australia.
- (3) In relation to the vessels that were located to the north of Australia: (a) on how many occasions was no action taken by Australian authorities; and (b) in each case, on what basis was no action taken.
- (4) How many of the FFVs were the subject of an administrative seizure.
- (5) (a) How many of the FFVs were towed or escorted to an Australian port; and (b) of those vessels: (i) how many were destroyed, (ii) how many had a bond posted, and (iii) how many crews were charged with an offence and prosecuted and in each case, what was the outcome of that legal process.

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

- (1) Has the Prime Minister's office had any involvement in the Government's response to legal claims against the Commonwealth by Mr Mark McMurtrie of New Italy, New South Wales; if so, what involvement has the Prime Minister's office had in relation to this matter.
- (2) Has the Prime Minister's office convened any meetings at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices in Sydney, or any other location, with Mr McMurtrie and/or any other party to discuss a resolution to Mr McMurtrie's claims; if so, for each meeting:
 - (a) when and at what time was the meeting held;
 - (b) what was discussed; and
 - (c) who was present.
- (3) Have members of the Prime Minister's office given to Mr McMurtrie, or any other party, orally or in writing, any undertakings in respect to the resolution of Mr McMurtrie's claims; if so:
 - (a) which staff member gave these undertakings; and
 - (b) in each case:
 - (i) what was the undertaking,
 - (ii) who received the undertaking,
 - (iii) when was the undertaking given, and
 - (iv) was the undertaking given orally or in writing, if orally:
 - (A) at what time, and
 - (B) how was it provided (i.e. telephone, meeting etc.), and if written, can a copy of the undertaking be provided; if not, why not.
- (4) Has the Prime Minister and/or his office received correspondence from third parties who are concerned about the conduct of the Prime Minister's office in relation to this matter; if so:
 - (a) what was the nature of the concerns expressed on each occasion; and
 - (b) can a copy of the correspondence be provided; if not, why not.
- (5) Is the Prime Minister aware of the obligations imposed on ministers by *A Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* (December 1998) with respect to the timely response to questions on notice.

- (6) Is the Prime Minister aware that a question placed on notice during the previous Parliament in precisely the same terms as this question lapsed unanswered after 210 days.

Notice given 10 January 2005

310 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) What is the current immigration status of Mr Peter Qasim, a refugee from Kashmir.
- (2) How long has Mr Qasim been held in detention.
- (3) Has there been an investigation into reports that Mr Qasim was raped while in jail in Perth; if so, what was the outcome; if not, why not.
- (4) What is Mr Qasim's mental health condition.
- (5) Has Mr Qasim attempted self harm; if so, what action has the Government taken to prevent further incidents.

Notice given 17 January 2005

312 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—Given reports that significant numbers of birds continue to die in tailings ponds in South Australia's Olympic Dam uranium mine:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm the numbers and species of birds, and any other animals, which annually perish in tailings ponds in South Australian mines.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm the numbers and species of birds, and any other animals, which annually perish in the tailings ponds of uranium mines in other states and territories.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm whether any species listed as threatened under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* may be at risk as a result of the existence of toxic tailings ponds in the vicinity of their habitats.
- (4) Can the Minister give an assessment of the effectiveness of mitigation efforts currently used, including deterrence of animals by shooting and strobe lighting.

Notice given 21 January 2005

Senator Hutchins: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 315-317)—Can the Minister provide: (a) the directives, guidelines or other instructions issued by the department for the procurement of transport services to the department; (b) the date on which such contracts were agreed; (c) the entity which the Commonwealth has contracted with; and (d) the total costs of these contracts for the 2003-04 financial year.

316 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

319 **Senator Hutchins:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can the Minister provide: (a) the directives, guidelines or other instructions issued or developed by the Minister regarding the procurement of transport services by the Commonwealth for either the department or issued to other Commonwealth departments or agencies; (b) the date on which such contracts were agreed; (c) the entity which the Commonwealth has contracted with; and (d) the total costs of these contracts for the 2003-04 financial year.

Notice given 31 January 2005

325 **Senator Boswell:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—Recent public debate on abortion has been characterised by a wide range of proffered statistics and claims. Recognising that abortion is a matter for state law, but that the Commonwealth funds abortion procedures through Medicare, can the Minister provide the most detailed and recent information as set out below, to expedite an informed debate:

- (1) How many abortion procedures are carried out each year in Australia in the private and public health sectors in the different states and territories.
- (2) (a) Does the department have access to reliable information on the percentage of pregnancies that end in abortion in Australia; and (b) what is the department's estimate.
- (3) (a) Has the department access to reliable forecasts or predictions of the number of abortions likely in future years; and (b) what is the department's expectation of Medicare funding allocations required for abortion procedures in the next 10 years.
- (4) Has the department access to and, if so, can it provide a current statistical profile of Australian women who have an abortion – for example, information tabulated across age, income, married status, number of children, previous abortions, reason for procedure, geographical location, etc.
- (5) (a) How many Medicare providers provided abortions in the past year; and (b) how many public hospitals or centres carry out abortions.
- (6) (a) What is the market structure of the private abortion sector; and (b) can the department provide a numerical breakdown of the private operators according to number of abortions.
- (7) Are abortion clinics subject to any form of government accreditation relating to counselling and abortion procedures.
- (8) (a) How does the department define a 'late term abortion'; (b) how many late term abortions have been performed in Australia each year for the past 10 years; (c) how many providers of late term abortions are there for the same time period; and (d) what are the statistically significant reasons for late term abortions.
- (9) (a) Is there reputable research in the international medical/scientific literature linking women who have abortions with higher rates of mental illness or breast cancer; (b) has any research been done on this recently in Australia; if not, are there any plans to do so; and (c) is this claimed link a public health outcome which needs addressing; if so, what action is being considered.
- (10) (a) Can the Minister detail the recent history of Commonwealth funding provided to pregnancy counselling services; and (b) can this funding be broken down into services provided by the abortion clinic itself (or affiliated groups) and those provided by 'pro-life' groups and those provided by independent services.
- (11) (a) Has there been any research into the impact of mandatory independent pregnancy counselling services on the number of subsequent abortions; and (b) is the Minister aware of any Australian institutions where mandatory independent counselling is provided and the impact this has had on the abortion rate.

- (12) (a) How does the Commonwealth measure the performance of pregnancy counselling services funded by the Commonwealth; and (b) what criteria are used to allocate funding.
- (13) What would be the cost of providing mandatory independent counselling for all women seeking abortions.
- (14) How many women who have abortions do not receive any counselling.
- (15) What would be the cost of including an ultrasound of the foetus as part of the counselling process.
- (16) (a) How does the department budget for Medicare-funded abortions; and (b) what part of the cost of abortions is paid by the Commonwealth in Medicare, Australian Health Care Agreements and other funding.

Notice given 3 February 2005

Senator Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 326-327)—In relation to restrictions on non-commercial growing of bananas in Queensland and potential impacts on flying foxes:

- (1) Are non-commercial banana-growers limited to 30 stems; if so, why.
- (2) Is there any evidence linking the restriction on non-commercial banana-growing with population levels of fruit-eating native species, in particular, is there any suggestion that flying fox populations are in decline and that limitations on banana-growing may be part of the cause.
- (3) What work is being done to reduce the dependence of commercial banana crops on chemicals, for example, by encouraging more diversity in the varieties of bananas grown.

326 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

330 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the heritage listing and protection of the north-east peninsula of Recherche Bay, Tasmania, and the Minister's media release of 28 January 2005:

- (1) On what date or dates and from which agencies did the Minister receive advice that Recherche Bay should not be given emergency listing on the National Heritage List.
- (2) What investigation was undertaken and what information was used as the basis for the advice.
- (3) Can the Minister provide a formal statement of the reasons for refusing an emergency listing.
- (4) Why does the Minister refer to receiving an assessment of Recherche Bay from the Australian Heritage Council 'in the next few months' when the 12 month statutory assessment period expires on 2 March 2005.

331 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Has the Australian Government received any communication or application from the owners or associates of the fishing vessels *Veronica* or *Atlantic Dawn*; if so, can the Minister give details including: (a) date; (b) who made the contact; (c) what was requested; and (d) how the government responded.

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

- (1) Is there any proposal to extend mining leases or allow new mining contracts on Christmas Island; if so, can the Minister give details.

- (2) What action is the government taking to ensure the long-term protection and good management of Christmas Island's environment, including the potential to end mining.
- 333 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the plight of Burmese migrant workers in Thailand following the tsunami:
- (1) What action has been taken and will be undertaken to persuade the Thai Government and the Burmese junta to legalise the procedures controlling the entry and exit of migrant workers.
 - (2) What action will the Minister take to persuade the Burmese junta to establish a formal legal framework governing the return of migrant workers, especially those traumatised by the tsunami.
 - (3) What action has Australia taken to assist Burmese migrant workers affected by the tsunami.
- 334 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—With reference to the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Research Economics (ABARE) report 'Near Zero Emissions Technologies' published in January 2005 and prepared for the department:
- (1) Can the Minister provide a copy of ABARE's brief for this study, together with any other documents provided to the researchers by the department in commissioning the work or during the research and preparation of the report.
 - (2) (a) How much did the report cost; and (b) who funded it.
 - (3) (a) What is the source of the carbon capture and storage costs used in the study; (b) were the researchers given the figures; (c) why were they chosen; and (d) how do they compare with the costs provided in answers to questions on notice nos. 1061-1063 answered in March 2003.
 - (4) (a) What is the source of the renewable energy and energy efficiency costs used in the study; (b) were the researchers given the figures; (c) why were they chosen; and (d) what is the sensitivity of the results to changes in these figures.

Notice given 4 February 2005

- 335 **Senator Hogg:** To ask the Minister for Defence—In relation to Defence Housing Authority (DHA) properties at, or near, Wallangarra, Queensland:
- (1) What is the value of the properties held.
 - (2) How many properties are held or managed for Defence housing.
 - (3) How many were occupied in the past: (a) three months; (b) six months; and (c) year.
 - (4) What has been the average number of days of occupancy for each property over the past three years.
 - (5) What is the cost of maintaining these properties each year for the past three years: (a) if occupied; and (b) if vacant.
 - (6) Has DHA undertaken any review of the stock held in this area; if so: (a) when was the review completed; and (b) what was the outcome of that review.

Notice given 8 February 2005

- 336 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—Is it the case that the Federal Government is using the Global Information System (GIS) old growth layer, dated 2004, to determine areas of old growth forest for protection in Tasmania; if so, can the Minister provide copies of the 1997, 2002 and 2004 GIS old growth layer for Tasmania.

Notice given 9 February 2005

- 337 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—
- (1) Is the Family Court of Australia a statutory body.
 - (2) Is the Family Court of Australia established in accordance with Chapter III of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia.
 - (3) Is the Family Court of Australia, or any section of the Family Court of Australia, an agency.
 - (4) Are the persons who carry out functions for all sections that are essential for the operation of the Family Court of Australia employed as Commonwealth public servants.
 - (5) Are all Family Court of Australia sessions recorded in their entirety.
 - (6) Do all tapes and subsequent transcripts of the court (with the exception of those purchased by interested parties) remain within the confines of the Family Court of Australia precincts and under the courts' strict control and security.
 - (7) Are all Family Court of Australia hearings formally convened.
 - (8) Are all Family Court of Australia proceedings recorded verbatim.
 - (9) Is the Family Court of Australia a corporation registered with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.
 - (10) Do any of the sections of the Family Court of Australia referred to in (3) above issue shares or have a share register; if so, who holds copies of such a register.
 - (11) Can a person employed by the Family Court of Australia or an agency of the Family Court of Australia be the holder/owner of shares in the Family Court of Australia or any of the Family Court's agencies.

Notice given 10 February 2005

- 338 **Senator Marshall:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) In each of the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04, and 2004-05:
 - (a) what were the levels of federal government care subsidies paid to for-profit corporate sector service providers;
 - (b) what were the levels of federal government care subsidies paid to not-for-profit community sector service providers;
 - (c) how many for-profit corporate sector service providers received federal government care subsidies;
 - (d) how many not-for-profit community sector service providers received federal government care subsidies;
 - (e) how many residents were accommodated in for-profit corporate sector facilities; and
 - (f) how many residents were accommodated in not-for-profit community sector facilities.

- (2) (a) How many Greek-speaking elders who reside in nursing homes and who have shown their preferred language to be Greek are residing in mainstream nursing homes (i.e. not cultural homes); and (b) what is the average length of stay for all Greek-speakers in these facilities.
 - (3) (a) How many Italian-speaking elders who reside in nursing homes and who have shown their preferred language to be Italian are residing in mainstream nursing homes (i.e. not cultural homes); and (b) what is the average length of stay for all Italian-speakers in these facilities.
 - (4) In each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05:
 - (a) how many bed licences, per state and territory, were granted to for-profit corporate sector service providers;
 - (b) how many bed licences, per state and territory, were granted to not-for-profit community sector service providers; and
 - (c) how many bed licences, per state and territory, were targeted for elders with non-English speaking backgrounds.
 - (5) What is the department's monitoring process for ensuring that specific groups and people targeted for beds actually receive beds.
- 339 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—Is it the case that the Federal Government is using the Global Information System (GIS) old growth layer, dated 2004, to determine areas of old growth forest for protection in Tasmania; if so, can the Minister provide copies of the 1997, 2002 and 2004 GIS old growth layer for Tasmania.

Notice given 15 February 2005

- 340 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Given the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's (ABC) recent decision to terminate its supply agreement with the Australian Caption Centre: Can the Minister explain what the ABC has done or what the Government will do to ensure that the vital information and consultative services previously provided by the Australian Caption Centre, including initiatives to ensure media access for people with sensory disabilities, are available to the Australian public at the same or better level than the Australian public has enjoyed to date.
- 341 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) What was the Bakhtiyari's address in Quetta.
 - (2) Was anyone ever interviewed who employed Mr Ali Bakhtiyari as an electrical plumber.
 - (3) Is it true that none of the Bakhtiyaris spoke any Pakistani language; if so, why was it believed they were Pakistani.
 - (4) Why is linguistic evidence ignored by the department.
 - (5) Where are the Bakhtiyaris now located.
 - (6) Is it true that in January 2005 Pakistani authorities decided the Bakhtiyaris were not Pakistanis and immediately helped them go to Afghanistan.
 - (7) If the Bakhtiyaris were from Pakistan, and presumably had relatives and friends there, why did they choose to go to Afghanistan.
 - (8) If the Bakhtiyaris are from Afghanistan, why was \$5 million spent denying they were.

- (9) Can the Minister provide linguistic proof that the Bakhtiyaris were from Pakistan; if not, will the Minister admit the Bakhtiyaris were innocent as charged and apologise for their torment and suffering, especially that of the children.
- (10) What will the Minister do to recompense them for their suffering and the mistakes made by the department that distorted and probably ruined their lives.

Notice given 23 February 2005

342 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With reference to the Minister's media statement (reference A155/2003, dated 4 December 2003) regarding the appointment of an independent Inspector of Transport Security: (a) on what date was the inspector appointed; (b) what is the name of the inspector; (c) what is the term of the inspector's tenure; and (d) what is the amount of the inspector's annual total remuneration.
- (2) With reference to the recruitment process for the Inspector of Transport Security, can the following details be provided: (a) the schedule of advertisements used to attract applicants (including outlet and date of advertisement); (b) the number of applications received; (c) the number of applicants interviewed; and (d) the dates on which the interviewing of candidates began and ceased.

343 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Government's commitment to fund hardened cockpit doors on the Australian commercial Dash 8 aircraft fleet, noted during the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee estimates hearing on 26 May 2004 (*Hansard*, p. 92):

- (1) When did the Government take this decision.
- (2) Was this decision taken by Cabinet or by the Minister.
- (3) When, and by which method, was this decision first publicly announced.
- (4) What were the original commencement and completion dates for the program.
- (5) What is the actual commencement date of the program.
- (6) What is the original projected expenditure by financial year.
- (7) How many commercial Dash 8 aircraft in the Australian fleet were eligible for funding under the program at the time of the Government's decision.
- (8) How many commercial Dash 8 aircraft have been fitted with hardened cockpit doors at the Commonwealth's expense to date.
- (9) What is the actual cost of the program to date.
- (10) What is the current projected completion date of the program.
- (11) What is the current projected total cost of the program by financial year.

344 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With reference to the Minister's media statement (reference A114/2004, dated 6 September 2004): (a) when was the decision taken by the Government to provide regional airports with grants totalling \$35 million to upgrade security with new fences, lighting and other security measures;

- (b) was this decision taken by Cabinet or by the Minister; (c) what were the original commencement and completion dates for the program; (d) what is the actual commencement date of the program; (e) what was the original projected expenditure by financial year; (f) what is the actual expenditure by financial year to date; and (g) what is the current projected completion date for this program.
- (2) Would the Minister provide a list of funding recipients, the amount of each grant, the date of payment, and the recipient's stated purpose for the funding; if not, why not.
 - (3) Would the Minister provide a copy of the standard application form and guidelines for this project; if not, why not.
 - (4) (a) Have the application form and guidelines been made publicly available; and (b) when were they made available.
- 345 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Would the Minister provide details of any Commonwealth-funded driver training programs or research for the purpose of enhancing driver training for drivers of four-wheel drive vehicles.
- 346 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Minister's media statement (reference A178/2004, dated 16 December 2004) regarding Airservices Australia:
- (1) (a) Besides Mr Burton Taylor, how many other candidates were considered for the role of chairman of Airservices Australia; (b) how many were interviewed; (c) who made the final decision; and (d) when was it made.
 - (2) Would the Minister provide: (a) details of the media outlets used; and (b) the dates of advertisements used to attract candidates for this position.
- 347 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Minister's media statement (reference TRS13/Budget, dated 11 May 2004) regarding the provision of a pressurised, twin-engine turbine aircraft on permanent stand-by in Darwin, for Australian Maritime Safety Authority operations, can the following details be provided: (a) the date on which the tender was released; (b) the date of placement and media used to publicise the release of the tender; (c) the number of expressions of interest received; (d) the name of the successful tenderer; (e) who made the final decision; and (f) the amount to be paid under the contract by the Commonwealth.
- 348 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of the derailment of a freight train on 21 November 2004 at the Glenalta level crossing in South Australia.
 - (2) Has the Minister or his department been approached to investigate the cause of this derailment; if so: (a) when was the approach made; (b) by whom; and (c) in what form.
 - (3) What action has the Minister or his department taken to facilitate an investigation into this incident.
- 349 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) For each financial year since the introduction of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) Australian Parts Manufacture Approval system, what has been the value of aviation parts exports to the United States of America.

- (2) Can a list be provided of organisations which have successfully made the transition to the new production rules under CASA's Civil Aviation Safety Regulation Part 21; if not, why not.
- 350 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) For each of the past 3 financial years: (a) what is the total quantity of aviation turbine fuel (AVTUR) and aviation gasoline (AVGAS) used by the Australian commercial and general aviation industries; (b) what is the amount of levies, excises and customs duties collected by the Commonwealth on AVTUR and AVGAS; and (c) what is the amount of levies, excises and customs duties collected by the Commonwealth on AVTUR and AVGAS provided to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority.
 - (2) For each of the next 3 financial years: (a) what is the projected total quantity of AVTUR and AVGAS to be used by the Australian commercial and general aviation industries; and (b) what is the projected amount of levies, excises and customs duties to be collected by the Commonwealth on AVTUR and AVGAS.
- 351 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) For each of the past 3 financial years, what is the total amount spent by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) on: (a) domestic staff travel and accommodation; and (b) international staff travel and accommodation.
 - (2) For each of the next 3 financial years, what is the projected amount to be spent by CASA on: (a) domestic staff travel and accommodation; and (b) international staff travel and accommodation.
- 352 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the review of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) new enforcement regime: (a) when did the review commence; (b) when was the review completed; (c) who conducted the review and how were they selected; (d) what is the projected total cost of the review; (e) what is the actual cost of the review to date; (f) when did the Minister receive the report of the review; and (g) on what date will the Government and/or CASA make their response to the review.
- 353 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to page 39 of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) Annual Report for 2003-04:
- (1) What steps have been taken to assess the effectiveness of CASA safety seminars.
 - (2) What research has been undertaken to determine the reason for the overall reduction of 14.8 per cent in attendance at CASA safety seminars.
 - (3) Would the Minister provide a copy of the results of any research undertaken; if not, why not.
- 354 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) For each of the past 2 financial years, what action has been taken to assess industry satisfaction with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) performance in relation to aviation regulatory services (Output 4), with particular reference to: (a) the number of industry participants invited to

participate in surveys; (b) the number of respondents; (c) the frequency with which surveys are conducted; and (d) the cost of the surveys.

- (2) Would the Minister provide a copy of the most recent survey questionnaire; if not, why not.
- (3) Would the Minister provide a copy of the latest survey results; if not, why not.
- (4) Were these surveys conducted internally or externally; if the surveys were conducted externally: (a) who provided the survey/research services; and (b) was the provider of the survey/research services selected by open tender; if not, how was the provider selected.

355 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the role of the agricultural unit established in the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) Tamworth office.
- (2) (a) How has any improvement or otherwise of the level of service delivery resulting from the establishment of this unit been measured; and (b) would the Minister provide the results of any such measurement; if not, why not.
- (3) What is the proposed full staffing compliment for this unit.
- (4) How many staff are currently posted to this unit.
- (5) For each of the past 2 financial years, what has been the actual cost to CASA of operating the unit at the Tamworth office.
- (6) For each of the next 2 financial years, what is the projected cost to CASA of operating the unit at the Tamworth office.
- (7) Is a scale-back or closure of this unit currently under consideration by the Minister or his department; if so: (a) when will a decision be made on the scale-back or closure of this unit; (b) who will make the final decision; and (c) what, if any, changes to staffing levels at the Tamworth office are likely to result from any scale-back or closure of this unit.

356 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Would the Minister confirm that in the 2003–04 financial year the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) provided support in the development of Automatic Dependent Surveillance Broadcast (ADS-B) through a visit to the Federal Aviation Administration Capstone Program in Alaska.
- (2) (a) When did this visit occur; (b) who went on the visit and in what capacity; (c) what was the overall cost of the visit; and (d) what was the cost to CASA of this visit.
- (3) Did anyone else contribute to the cost of the visit; if so, who and how much did they contribute.
- (4) Was a written report to the Minister a proposed outcome of the visit; if so: (a) when did the Minister receive the report; and (b) can a copy of the report be provided; if not, why not.

357 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Would the Minister provide a list of activities that may be reported under the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) protected disclosure policy.

- (2) How many reports by activity type have been lodged since the inception of the protected disclosure policy.
 - (3) What is the process by which STOPline was selected for its role in the protected disclosure policy.
 - (4) Who made the final decision to engage STOPline.
 - (5) What is the annual amount to be paid to STOPline for its role in the protected disclosure policy.
 - (6) When did STOPline's contract commence and when is it due to finish.
 - (7) Would the Minister confirm that STOPline regularly monitors CASA's actions in dealing with disclosures and that reports are provided to CASA's Audit and Risk Committee.
 - (8) Does the Minister receive a copy of these reports; if so, how often are the reports provided.
 - (9) Can these reports be made available to the Senate; if not, why not.
 - (10) Would the Minister provide the dates, numbers and office locations of instances of staff discipline resulting from the protected disclosure policy since its inception.
 - (11) Would the Minister provide the dates, numbers and office locations of instances of staff dismissal resulting from the protected disclosure policy since its inception.
 - (12) Would the Minister provide the numbers, office locations and commencement dates of instances of legal proceedings brought against staff resulting from the protected disclosure policy since its inception.
- 358 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to page 75 of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) Annual Report for 2003-04:
- (1) For each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04, what has been the cost of the CASA Hotline.
 - (2) For each of the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03, how many calls were received on the CASA Hotline.
 - (3) For each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04, how many calls fell into the following categories: (a) advice; (b) complaints; (c) general information; and (d) wrong number.
 - (4) For each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04, how many staff operated the CASA Hotline.
- 359 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to page 68 of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) Annual Report for 2003-04:
- (1) When does the Minister expect to receive the report on CASA's internal audit of its fraud control arrangements, including benchmarking CASA against the results of the Australian National Audit Office's 'Survey of Fraud Control Arrangements Australian Public Service'.
 - (2) When available, would the Minister provide a copy of the report; if not, why not.
- 360 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) For the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03, what is the rate of staff turnover in the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).
 - (2) For each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04, what steps have been taken by CASA to measure staff morale.
 - (3) Would the Minister provide copies of any reports resulting from steps taken to measure staff morale in each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04; if not, why not.
 - (4) Would the Minister provide the projected and/or targeted rate of CASA staff turnover for the 2004-05 financial year and any future projections; if not, why not.
- 361 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to page 100 of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) Annual Report for 2003-04:
- (1) What functions were performed by HMA Blaze Pty Limited.
 - (2) To which advertising campaigns does this activity relate.
 - (3) What was the process by which HMA Blaze Pty Limited was selected to perform these functions.
 - (4) How much has been paid by CASA to HMA Blaze Pty Limited for each month since 1 July 2004.
- 362 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to page 79 of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) Annual Report for 2003-04:
- (1) (a) Who is CASA's current supplier of telephony services; (b) who was CASA's previous provider of telephony services; and (c) when did the provider of telephony services change.
 - (2) By what process was the new provider selected.
 - (3) For each of the past 3 financial years, what was the total cost of CASA's telephony services.
 - (4) For each of the next 3 financial years beginning 1 July 2004, what is the projected cost of CASA's telephony services.

Notice given 25 February 2005

- 363 **Senator Ridgeway:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—In the context of the disbursement of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Service (ATSIS) responsibilities, resources and staff to various Commonwealth government departments, coordinated by the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination in the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs:
- (1) Which department or agency now manages, or administers, in any sense, the Calton Hills Station property in Kalkadoon, Queensland.
 - (2) (a) Who holds the title to this property; and (b) are there any charges or conditions held over this property; if so: (i) by whom are they held, and (ii) what exactly are the charges or conditions.
 - (3) What are the responsibilities of the relevant department or agency in relation to this property.
 - (4) Is it the case that when this property was acquired by ATSIC in the 1994-95 financial year, it was specifically for the Kalkadoon people.

- (5) (a) Why have the Kalkadoon people not been granted access to this property; and (b) why has the property not been transferred to them.
- (6) When will the property be transferred to the Kalkadoon people.
- (7) (a) When the department or agency took control of the management or administration of the property, or of the transfer of the property to the Kalkadoon people, at what stage of the process of transferral was ATSIC; and (b) what steps had ATSIC or ATSI taken to have the property transferred.
- (8) (a) How far has this process progressed since the department or agency has had control; (b) what steps has the department or agency taken regarding the Calton Hills property since it took control; (c) what steps are going to be taken by the department or agency to ensure the property is transferred to the Kalkadoon people; and (d) what is the timeline for these steps to be taken and for the ultimate transfer of the property to the Kalkadoon people.

Notice given 4 March 2005

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

- (1) Is the Government aware of the 1994 British American Tobacco (BAT) report which found that 'light' cigarette labels misled consumers into thinking that they were reducing their health risks; if so, has this report been provided to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).
- (2) Is the Government aware that the 1994 BAT report identified that young female smokers in particular associated strongly with 'Lights' descriptors.
- (3) What information is available regarding the increases in smoking prevalence among young Australian women and the use of 'light' and 'mild' descriptors.
- (4) Is the ACCC considering accepting the use of the terms 'smooth' and 'fresh' as alternatives to 'mild' and 'light', as reported in the *Sunday Age* on 20 February 2005.
- (5) What evidence does the Government have on how the terms 'smooth' and 'fresh' are perceived by current and potential smokers.
- (6) Has the Government undertaken any examination of the potential for the introduction of sweet-flavoured cigarettes or cigarettes that use 'potentially reduced exposure products', such as filter technology, into the Australian market.
- (7) What changes to current tobacco regulations are the Government considering to control the use of sweet-flavoured cigarettes and cigarettes that use 'potentially reduced exposure products', such as filter technology.
- (8) In February 2005 the ACCC advised the Economics Legislation Committee during estimates hearings that the Department of Health and Ageing was the responsible body for initiating a regulatory framework for the harmful and addictive ingredients in tobacco products on the basis that it is a health matter: Has the Government considered such a move; if not, why not.

365 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the \$918 800 provided to the Australian Episcopal Conference of the Roman Catholic Church and the \$245 580 provided to the Australian Federation of Pregnancy Support Services:

- (1) For how long have these organisations been receiving government funding.
- (2) Can the Minister provide a list of the amount of funding per year provided for each year that these organisations have received funding.
- (3) Was this money allocated via an open tendering process; if not, why not; if so, can a copy be provided of the notice that appeared in national newspapers calling for expressions of interest.
- (4) What are the reporting processes in place to determine the quality of the services provided by these organisations.
- (5) Does the department require these organisations to inform women of the beliefs and attitudes that underlie their organisations in their advertising, and before providing pregnancy counselling; if not, why not.
- (6) Given best practice in unplanned pregnancy counselling involves providing objective, unbiased, non-directional information about all the options and support services available, how does the department assess if these groups are meeting best practice standards of care when they are counselling people.
- (7) What conflicts of interest could arise between these organisations' underlying beliefs and attitudes and the provision of best practice in unplanned pregnancy counselling.
- (8) How does the department ensure that the pregnancy counselling is provided by properly trained health workers and counsellors.
- (9) What proportion of women receiving pregnancy counselling from these organisations also receives information on all options available to them, including: (a) continuing with a pregnancy; (b) giving the child up for adoption after birth; or (c) having a termination.
- (10) How does the department ensure that the information provided by these organisations reflects the most up-to-date scientific evidence available on the effects of: (a) continuing with a pregnancy; (b) giving the child up for adoption after birth; or (c) having a termination.
- (11) Has any investigation been undertaken into the quality of counselling provided by these groups; if not, why not; if so, what was the outcome of this investigation.
- (12) Has client satisfaction with the services provided by these groups been evaluated; if not, why not; if so, what was the outcome of this evaluation.
- (13) Does the department collect information on whether the Australian Episcopal Conference of the Roman Catholic Church or the Australian Federation of Pregnancy Support Services pass on any of the government funding they receive to other organisations; if not, why not; if so, what are the names of these organisations.

Notice given 7 March 2005

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

- (1) How many general practitioners have registered to participate in the 'Better outcomes in mental health care' initiative.
- (2) What is the total amount of expenditure for these one-off payments when a general practitioner (GP) registers for a course.

- (3) How many GPs have participated in: (a) level 1 training (6 hours – how to assess and plan); and (b) level 2 training (20 hours – teaching psych therapy).
- (4) How many of these trained GPs have claimed the relevant Medical Benefits Scheme (MBS) rebate items.
- (5) (a) What has been the total expenditure on the Better Outcomes MBS items 2574, 2575, 2577, and 2578; and (b) can that expenditure be broken down by year and on a geographical basis.
- (6) On average, how much income per annum is a participating GP receiving from these items.
- (7) Why is funding directed through a general practitioner, who may have comparatively little training in this area, rather than through, for example a psychologist or similarly highly-trained professional.
- (8) Upon completion of this training, how is a GP's competency evaluated.
- (9) Given that there is no requirement for any clinical supervision of GPs when they commence providing mental health therapy, how does this initiative ensure that GPs are providing appropriate standards of therapy when they commence treating people.
- (10) Has any investigation been undertaken into the quality of mental health treatment that is being provided, particularly in comparison to what may have been provided by a more highly trained mental health professional; if so, what was the outcome of this investigation.
- (11) Has patient satisfaction with this program been evaluated; if so, what were the outcomes of this evaluation.
- (12) (a) Can the Government confirm that the expansion to the Better Outcomes project announced during the 2004 election alluded to expanding the Allied Health Services component; and (b) what consultation has been undertaken.
- (13) (a) How much of the \$30 million will go to mental health workers for providing therapy; and (b) how much will go to GPs.
- (14) Is the Government considering expanding the number of sessions or range of people with mental health conditions for which mental health professionals would be able to access MBS rebates.
- (15) Is the Government investigating models of access to mental health professionals which do not rely on a referral by a GP.

367 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has the Minister, the department or any agency for which the Minister is responsible investigated the disappearance of an overnight bag checked in by Ms Sarah Murfett at Launceston Airport on 12 November 2004 prior to boarding flight DJ613 to Melbourne; if so: (a) who initiated the investigation; (b) who undertook the investigation; (c) who was interviewed as part of the investigation; (d) when did the investigation commence; and (e) when did the investigation conclude.
- (2) How did Ms Murfett's bag disappear.
- (3) What did the disappearance reveal about the integrity of airport baggage security at Launceston Airport.
- (4) What recommendations arose from the investigation.

- (5) What was the Government's response to those recommendations and what action has been taken to address security concerns associated with the disappearance of Ms Murfett's bag.
- (6) (a) When was Ms Murfett advised of the outcome of the investigation; (b) by whom; and (c) in what form was that advice provided.
- (7) If no investigation has been undertaken by the Minister, the department or any agency for which the Minister is responsible, why not.

368 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) For each of the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date and by airport, how many items of checked luggage have been stolen or subject to unlawful tampering at Australian airports.
- (2) Has the Government taken action to address the security of checked baggage at Australian airports; if so, can details be provided including expenditure by item and year and measurable outcomes.

369 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the Government's reduction pricing measure in relation to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS):

- (1) How is the 12.5 per cent policy different from current pricing.
- (2) How many drugs will be subject to the 12.5 per cent measure.
- (3) Why was the policy recently changed in the Minister's announcement on 7 February 2005.
- (4) How does the amended policy differ from the original measure announced in October 2004.
- (5) Given that the policy has changed: (a) how can the amount of money estimated to be taken out of the PBS still be the same; and (b) does the generics industry agree that this is still the case.
- (6) Has the Government been provided with any updated estimate from the generics industry on the likely savings from the amended measure announced on 7 February 2005; if so, what was their estimate.
- (7) (a) To what extent did the Government seek the advice of other stakeholders, such as consumer groups and manufacturers, on the impact of this measure before announcing this policy; (b) can a list of the groups consulted be provided, including the dates of those consultations.
- (8) Is it correct that patient premiums, over and above the PBS co-payment, could rise substantially for some medicines under the new policy.
- (9) Has the Government made any estimate of the likely rise in patient premiums under this policy; if so: (a) how much will this be; and (b) for which types of medicines.
- (10) Has the Government received any advice from industry on this; if so, what advice.
- (11) How will this policy generate savings by encouraging 'people to use generic medicines and reduce the cost of the PBS' (Minister's Questions and Answers document) when it will reduce the price of patented and brand name medicines by the same amount, namely 12.5 per cent.
- (12) (a) How many generic brands will disappear owing to the 12.5 per cent price reduction; and (b) has the department undertaken any modelling on this.

- (13) What information does the Government have on the impact of the flow-on effects that the 12.5 per cent cut to generics will have upon community pharmacy in relation to the whole PBS manufacturing, supply and retail chain.
- (14) (a) Has the Government undertaken any modelling on the impact of the policy throughout the whole prescription medication system, for example, from newly listed PBS medicines, and the way they will be now priced, through to the availability of commercially unviable generic brands now that they will have a drop in the price paid; and (b) what does this modelling show.
- (15) (a) Does the Government have statistics on the proportion of pharmacies that are commercially-at-risk or, financially, only marginally viable; and (b) has the department estimated the impact of this policy on those pharmacies.
- (16) Has the Government been briefed on the consequences to rural and regional pharmacies on this savings measure; if so, what are the likely consequences.
- (17) Are there any plans to extend or expand this policy further.
- (18) Is it correct that the savings from this measure are not going to be used in the PBS.

370 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the recall on 28 April 2003 of products manufactured by Pan Pharmaceuticals:

- (1) How many serious adverse events were reported in the 12 months prior to the recall.
- (2) Of the 62 serious adverse events occurring in individuals who consumed products for which Pan Pharmaceuticals was an approved manufacturer and that were reported in the 12 months prior to the Pan Pharmaceuticals recall, what proportion of that total number of adverse events reported do those 62 reports represent.
- (3) Can the Government confirm that, for those 62 adverse events possibly associated with Pan Pharmaceuticals, it is not possible to say that Pan Pharmaceuticals was definitely the manufacturer as it was only one of a list of approved manufacturers for those products; if so, what action was taken with other possible manufacturers to investigate their manufacturing processes.
- (4) Can the Government confirm that when adverse drug reactions are reported, it is the practice that all medications that a person may be taking are listed and that it is common for people to be using multiple products at the one time; if so, of the 62 serious adverse events occurring in individuals who consumed products for which Pan Pharmaceuticals was an approved manufacturer and that were reported in the 12 months prior to the Pan Pharmaceuticals recall, how many of the 62 reports had other medications listed.
- (5) If there were other products also listed in the adverse events reports, what action was taken to investigate these other products.
- (6) How was it determined that the adverse reaction was caused by the Pan Pharmaceuticals product and not another product that the person had taken.

- (7) Are these adverse reports the only evidence to demonstrate an ‘imminent risk of death or serious injury’, and the reason for the Pan Pharmaceuticals recall; if not, what other evidence is required; if so, have there been other products which have had a similar number of adverse event reports and were these products recalled.

371 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the introduction of the Medicare Safety Net arrangements and the concomitant instances of obstetricians changing their charging practices to include some charges that previously fell outside the Medicare system:

- (1) (a) How many cases of this were there; (b) what action was taken in these cases; (c) were charges laid against any of these obstetricians; and (d) what figures are available on how much this practice by obstetricians cost the public.
- (2) With reference to the new Medicare Benefits Schedule obstetrics planning and management item 15999: (a) what data is available on how this item is being used; (b) since its introduction, what has been the uptake of that item; and (c) how much in dollar terms does this amount to.
- (3) According to a government press release, a letter was written to all doctors to inform them about this new item; what was the cost of this letter.

372 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the Government’s attempt to clarify the use of Medicare Benefits Schedule item 35643 with the medical professions in 2004:

- (1) Who initiated the need to clarify the use of this item.
- (2) What was the nature of the clarification that was sought.
- (3) What was the purpose of the clarification; that is, what was intended to be done with the information received through this clarification process.
- (4) What was the outcome of the attempt to clarify the use of this item.
- (5) Has any work been planned or commenced to undertake any consultation on the use of this item or the use of item 16525; if so, what is the purpose and nature of this consultation.
- (6) (a) What work has the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare been requested to undertake in relation to abortion statistics; (b) when is this work expected to be finalised; and (c) will this work be made public.

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

- (1) On average how many injections are babies receiving at 2, 4 and 6 months if they are being immunised according to the recommendations on the Australian Standard Vaccination Schedule.
- (2) To what extent has this number increased or decreased in recent years.
- (3) What information does the Government have on differences in rates of immunisation between urban areas and rural and remote areas.
- (4) What information does the Government have on whether the increase in the number of injections has had any impact on the likelihood of parents having their babies immunised.
- (5) Does the Government have any plans to monitor this possibility.

- (6) Given that correct storage and transportation of vaccinations is more difficult in rural areas, would funding of a combined vaccination improve vaccination processes in rural areas.
- (7) Given that unemployment and low income are associated with low immunisation coverage in rural areas, does the lack of government funding for the complete recommended vaccination schedule mean that rural children are more at risk of not being adequately immunised.
- (8) Can the Minister outline progress on considering the possible funding of:
(a) injectable polio combination vaccines for babies; and (b) varicella (chicken pox) vaccine.

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

- (1) With reference to the 2004 Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) report into the regulation of non-prescription medicinal products which recommended that the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) arrange an independent assessment of recent key enforcement actions, such as the Pan Pharmaceutical recall; (a) what action, if any, has the Government initiated to arrange this independent assessment of recent key enforcement actions; (b) what is the timeframe for this independent assessment; (c) what will be the terms of reference for the independent assessment; and (d) what will be the criteria for assessing if the group/organisation who undertake the assessment have the appropriate expertise in the area of complementary medicines.
- (2) Do the deficiencies identified in the ANAO report apply equally to the manufacture and supply of prescription drugs; if not, why not; if so: (a) what are the safety implications; and (b) how does the TGA know this.
- (3) In the past 2 years, how many pharmaceutical manufacturers has the TGA audited.
- (4) How many of these manufacturers have subsequently closed in the past 2 years.
- (5) From where are these products now being supplied.
- (6) If they are being imported: (a) what measures have been taken to ensure that manufacturers are better than those that have closed; and (b) are the imported products safe.
- (7) Has the Government investigated whether recent key enforcement actions, such as the Pan Pharmaceutical recall, are sending business offshore; if not, why not.
- (8) Has the Government examined the effect of recent key enforcement actions, such as the Pan Pharmaceutical recall, on international credibility and the export market for complementary medicines, especially in Asia; if not, why not.

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

- (1) Has the Government requested or received any policy advice in relation to abortion service billing practices.
- (2) Has the Government requested any systematic examination of the charging practices of abortion providers to be undertaken; if so, what is the nature of this; if not, are there any plans to do so.

- (3) Does the Government have any plans to write to abortion service providers to provide clear information about billing practices; if so, why; if not, why not.
 - (4) Has the Government requested any systematic examination of the out-of-pocket costs experienced by women wanting to access abortion services; if so, does the Department have plans to do so; if not, why not.
 - (5) Are there any plans to introduce an item similar to the new planning, counselling and support item for obstetricians in relation to abortion services; if not, why not.
- 376 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—Can a copy of the report into the review of the Therapeutic Goods Administration's (TGA) consultative mechanisms conducted by Strategic Consulting Services Pty Ltd be provided; if not, why not.
- 377 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—Has the Minister received advice from the department on the abortion issue within the past 12 months; if so, can the Minister provide a copy of this advice.
- 378 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) How many schools are expected to receive grants from the Capital Infrastructure Program.
 - (2) What will be the minimum amount of funding granted under this program.
 - (3) Will the details of all grants awarded under this program be reported to Parliament.
 - (4) Will the details of all recommendations from the assessment panels that are rejected by the Minister be made publicly available with an explanation of the reasons for the rejection.
 - (5) Will schools in regional or remote areas have access to supplementary grants, or a greater maximum grant, to offset any increased costs associated with their capital works.
 - (6) Will grants include a component for possible ongoing maintenance of the capital project.
 - (7) Will schools' socio-economic status scores or fee-structure be taken into consideration when assessing applications for grants; if not, why not.
 - (8) Can details be provided of the membership of each assessment panel.
 - (9) What is the total administrative cost of the Capital Infrastructure Program.
- 379 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—Can a breakdown, by state, be provided of the number of applications the department has received for flagpole funding.
- 380 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) What evidence is there to suggest that the current Year 3 national reading benchmark is too low.
 - (2) Are there any plans to raise the standard of the current Year 3 national reading benchmark.
 - (3) Will parents be informed of any changes to the national literacy test and the reasons for any changes.

- (4) What measures are being taken to ensure those students most in need of assistance with literacy will receive it through the Tutorial Voucher Initiative (TVI).
 - (5) Was this issue examined before the TVI commenced.
- 381 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) How many schools have received funding from the \$3 million, \$1 million and \$300 000 allocations for implementation of the National Safe Schools Framework (NSSF) detailed in answer E133_05 provided to the Employment Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee.
 - (2) What is the breakdown of NSSF implementation funding between government, independent and catholic systemic schools for each program.
 - (3) Without any modelling of the cost of implementation, what was the reasoning behind the appropriation of \$4.5 million for NSSF funding.
 - (4) Given that it is now a requirement of legislation that schools implement NSSF, will funding be provided for NSSF implementation beyond 2005.
 - (5) How many teachers remain to be trained to support the implementation of NSSF.
 - (6) Has any agreement been reached with the states over their contribution to the implementation of the NSSF.
- 382 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) Will the material on sex education programs from all schools, which is being provided to the Minister, be made publicly available; if not, why not.
 - (2) How will this data be collected, compiled and analysed.
- 383 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) What discussions did the Federal Government have with state and territory governments prior to the announcement of the Australian Technical Colleges (ATC), and prior to the release of a discussion paper on the ATC, dated 13 January 2005.
 - (2) What was the outcome of these discussions.
 - (3) Has any agreement been reached with the states over the funding arrangements of the technical colleges.
 - (4) Will there be any assistance measures for students who cannot afford the fees at a technical college.
 - (5) What measures will the Government introduce to ensure the best qualified students will have access to the technical colleges.
 - (6) By the closing date of expressions of interest, which areas had no expression of interest for an ATC.
- 384 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) What is the estimated cost of the Tutorial Voucher Initiative (TVI) if it is continued in 2006, 2007 and 2008.
 - (2) How much money has been committed to the TVI program to date.

- (3) After setting up the infrastructure, what happens if the program does not go ahead; and how much money will have been spent on setting up the TVI.
- (4) Will tutors be matched to students (for example, non-English speaking students being tutored by those who are fluent in the relevant language).
- (5) Who has applied to be a broker.
- (6) What is the highest hourly rate a tutor has charged.
- (7) If state education departments are applying to be brokers, why do they not administer this funding.

Notice given 8 March 2005

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

- (1) What evidence exists regarding the level of inappropriate use of medications in Australian residential aged care facilities, including the use of psychotropic medication.
- (2) Has the Government undertaken any investigation into the extent of systemic problems with the prescription, administration and review of medication in aged care facilities and, in particular, the extent of the use of psychotropic medications as a method of restraint.
- (3) What information does the Government have on the factors that contribute to the inappropriate use of medications in residential aged care facilities.
- (4) What plans does the Government have to review current practice in relation to the use of psychotropic medication as a chemical restraint on residents of aged care facilities.
- (5) How is the Government monitoring whether psychotropic medications are being used appropriately in residential aged care facilities.
- (6) Has the Government investigated whether standards concerning informed consent are being applied appropriately and adequately with regard to the use of medications in residential aged care facilities.
- (7) What information does the Government have on variations in the rate of use of psychotropic medication between different jurisdictions, localities and/or providers of residential aged care.

386 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the July 2004 report published by the Australian Council for Safety and Quality in Health Care and the National Institute of Clinical Studies titled *Charting the safety and quality of health care in Australia*:

- (1) Is the Government aware that this report identified that one in five Australian women will undergo a hysterectomy by the age of 50.
- (2) What information is available on how this rate compares with other developed countries.
- (3) How is the Government examining the appropriate rate of hysterectomies.
- (4) What information does the Government have on the factors that contribute to the need for hysterectomies.
- (5) Is the Government monitoring whether hysterectomies are being used appropriately.
- (6) Is the Government aware that this report also identified that there are substantial differences in the rates of hysterectomies according to socioeconomic status and whether a woman lived in a metropolitan, rural or

regional location, with higher hysterectomy rates experienced by women in lower socioeconomic areas and regional areas.

- (7) How is the Government investigating this variation in the use of hysterectomies.

387 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With respect to the former Mt Leyshon gold mine, situated 30 km from Charters Towers, Queensland:

- (1) Has there been any assessment of possible leakage of sodium cyanide from the north and south tailings dams into the nearby Burdekin River which might lead to environmental degradation of the river.
- (2) Has there been any assessment of a possible impact upon the marine environment in proximity to the mouth of the river, or any impact upon the Great Barrier Reef.

388 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the refusal by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) for film-maker Judy Rymer to use archival footage in a documentary program 'Punished not Protected':

- (1) Are the guidelines used by ABC Enterprises in determining whether to licence other parties to use ABC content publicly available; if not, will the Minister ask the ABC to publish the guidelines on its website.
- (2) Do documentary film-makers, whether or not they are promoting a particular cause, have the same entitlement as anyone else to use ABC content that is part of the public record; if not, will the Government require the ABC to remove any such discrimination from its guidelines and procedures.
- (3) Is the Minister legally entitled to direct the ABC with respect to the principles that it applies to the licensing of the use of ABC content.

389 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With respect to the media release VPS 122/2004 by the Minister on 24 August 2004 headed 'New TPV Measurers to Commence on 27 August 2004':

- (1) Since that announcement: (a) how many Temporary Protection Visa (TPV) holders and Temporary Humanitarian Visa (THV) holders have applied for mainstream migration visas; (b) how many such applications have been successful; (c) how many such applications have been rejected; and (d) how many such applications are still under consideration.
- (2) What is the average time taken to determine on such an application.
- (3) How does this time compare with that taken to process migration visas from other than TPV or THV holders.

390 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Regarding Abdlmoneim Khogali (Abdul) who was detained in Villawood Detention Centre for seven years and one month:

- (1) Was Abdul ever assessed by a registered psychiatrist or psychologist in view of warnings by refugee advocates that he was spiralling into deep depression and irrational behaviour; if not, why not.
- (2) (a) Was Abdul removed from Australia accompanied by nine police and departmental personnel wearing full riot gear; if so, why; (b) was Abdul

removed late at night without being previously advised about his removal; if so, why.

- (3) Was the family member who held Abdul's power of attorney, and who had previously met with the Minister, advised of his removal or given information after calling the Department of Immigration Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs on 12 and 13 January 2005; if not, why not.
- (4) Was Abdul transported by a private plane or by an air force plane.
- (5) Were Abdul's arms and legs shackled and was he chemically restrained by way of sedation; if so, why.
- (6) Was Abdul deported directly to Khartoum or did the plane stop in Dubai.
- (7) If Abdul was taken to Dubai en route to Sudan, was he forcibly or chemically restrained on arrival; if so, why.
- (8) Was Abdul handed an account to pay for his seven years and one month of imprisonment; if so, how much was the account.
- (9) Was Abdul, together with his documents, handed over to Interpol on his arrival in Sudan.
- (10) Does Abdul now have to face a military court.

391 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) What number or percentage of non-detained protection visa applicants have been refused the right to work and access to Medicare in the past 12 months, as a result of the 45 day application limit.
- (2) Why was the arbitrary number of '45 days' introduced in the 1997-98 financial year.
- (3) (a) Why is this the cut-off point for eligibility for healthcare and potential income; and (b) what is the intended outcome in limiting the application time to 45 days.
- (4) (a) How many individual applications are before the Minister under section 417; and (b) are all members of this group denied the right to work or access to Medicare assistance.
- (5) What percentage of this group was previously eligible for the federally-funded Asylum Seeker Assistance Scheme program (for health, torture or other reasons).
- (6) With reference to the Government's recent policy that all protection visa applicants undertake health checks within a set time of seeking asylum, as opposed to at the end of the determination process, as previously practiced: (a) what does the Government intend to do with this information; and (b) will applicants be notified of the results of the health checks.
- (7) As many applicants are denied access to Medicare or any government health care scheme, what does the government intend to do if the checks reveal a major health concern, either for the applicant or the community.
- (8) What is the Government's duty of care for the health needs of those individuals awaiting an outcome on their refugee claim.

Notice given 9 March 2005

392 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to Coastwatch surveillance contract CMS04:

- (1) (a) How many companies expressed an interest in tendering for the contract; (b) how many registered to tender for the contract; and (c) how many actually tendered for the contract.
- (2) (a) How many companies withdrew during the tender process; and (b) how many proceeded.
- (3) Were reasons given by any of the companies withdrawing from the process; if so, what were those reasons.
- (4) When was the contract officially opened for tender.
- (5) When were the Electronic Response Forms (ERF) first sent out.
- (6) When was distribution of the ERFs completed.
- (7) Were there any complaints relating to delays in transmission or receipt of ERFs; if so: (a) what was the period of delay; and (b) what were the reasons for the delay.
- (8) Was the initial tender closing date extended from 28 October 2004 to 11 November 2004; if so, why was this extension granted.
- (9) Were there any requests for this extension from tenderers.
- (10) If this extension was granted as a result of tenderer requests, how many requests for the extension were received.
- (11) Were any complaints received from tenderers or potential tenderers about insufficient time between the initial dates for the opening and closing of tenders.
- (12) Were there any requests from tenderers for a further extension of the tender period beyond 11 November 2004; if so, how many requests were received.
- (13) What was the tender period for the previous Coastwatch surveillance contract.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos *393-*423)—

- (1) For each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 to date, what is the type and value of goods and services procured from regional Australia by the department and agencies for which the Minister is responsible.
- (2) If the Minister cannot identify the type and value of goods and services procured from regional Australia, why not.

393 Minister representing the Prime Minister

394 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

395 Minister representing the Treasurer

396 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

397 Minister for Defence

398 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

399 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

400 Minister representing the Attorney-General

401 Minister for Finance and Administration

402 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

403 Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

404 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

405 Minister for Family and Community Services

- 406 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
407 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
408 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
409 Minister for the Environment and Heritage
410 Minister for Justice and Customs
411 Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation
412 Minister for the Arts and Sport
413 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services
414 Minister representing the Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs
415 Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
416 Special Minister of State
417 Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Technical Education
418 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing
419 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism
420 Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads
421 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
422 Minister representing the Minister for Workforce Participation
423 Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues
424 **Senator Kirk:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) How many Iranian nationals are currently detained in Baxter Detention Centre, and of those: (a) how many have agreed to be voluntarily repatriated; and (b) how many are awaiting involuntary repatriation.
 - (2) For the period 3 March 1996 to 15 March 2005, how many failed asylum seekers have been repatriated to Iran and can the Minister specify: (a) the number of people who volunteered to be repatriated; and (b) the number of people who were involuntarily repatriated for each of the periods: (i) 3 March 1996 to 31 December 1996, (ii) each of the calendar years 1997 to 2004 inclusive, and (iii) 1 January 2005 to 15 March 2005.
 - (3) What assurances has the Australian Government obtained from Iran that any person returned involuntarily will not be incarcerated, tortured, killed or mistreated in any way.
 - (4) Does Australia currently have a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Iran to accept both voluntary and involuntary repatriation of failed asylum seekers.
 - (5) Given the article in the *Australian Financial Review* by Julie Macken, dated 28 May 2003, which contained reports of failed asylum seekers forcibly returned to Iran in 2001, and who, according to their families, were never seen again, what action has the Government taken with respect to the claims contained within this article.
 - (6) For the period 3 March 1996 to 15 March 2005, have other claims of disappearance or incarceration of repatriated Iranians been brought to the attention of the Government; if so, how many claims have been received and in respect of each claim: (a) how many individuals were concerned, and (b) what action or investigations were undertaken by the Government.

- (7) Does the Government monitor the safety and whereabouts of failed asylum seekers after they have been repatriated from Australia to Iran.
- 425 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to departmental form 956 ‘Appointment of a migration agent or exempted agent’, which replaced the previous form 956 ‘Authorisation of a person to act and receive communication’: Was the new form developed in consultation with representatives of migration agents.
- 426 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to departmental form 956 ‘Appointment of a migration agent or exempted agent’, which replaced the previous form 956 ‘Authorisation of a person to act and receive communication’:
- (1) Does form 956 properly address the situation where there are multiple applicants who do not have the same answer to question 4 or question 9 on the form.
 - (2) Given the very limited space on form 956 for entering the details required in response to question 4, will the department accept attachments which provide the required information.
 - (3) If, in answer to question 4, the applicant permits the agent to receive all communications, why is it necessary to give details of the most recent visa application, rather than accessing that information from the department’s own files.
 - (4) Why does question 9 on the form relate only to exempted agents.
- 427 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to departmental form 956 ‘Appointment of a migration agent or exempted agent’, which replaced the previous form 956 ‘Authorisation of a person to act and receive communication’: Do persons wishing to end the appointment of a migration agent or exempted agent need to use form 956; and (b) previously, was it possible to simply write an advisory letter to the department.
- 428 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to departmental form 956 ‘Appointment of a migration agent or exempted agent’, which replaced the previous form 956 ‘Authorisation of a person to act and receive communication’:
- (1) How many individuals or organisations have written to the department complaining about the design of form 956.
 - (2) Is there any work in progress to streamline or improve new form 956; if so, will migration agents be able to continue to use the existing form until stocks are depleted.
- 429 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With respect to the media release VPS 96.04 by the Minister on 5 July 2004 headed ‘Unauthorised Boat Arrivals: One Child in Detention Centre’ in which the Minister claimed that ‘only one child, whose parents were unauthorised boat arrivals, is in a mainland detention centre’:
- (1) (a) How many children, whose parents were unauthorised boat arrivals, are currently residing in a mainland detention centre; (b) how many children are residing in detention centres that are not on the Australian mainland; and (c) what is the maximum time that any such child has been in detention.
 - (2) (a) How many children are residing in detention centres for which the department has responsibility, whether on the mainland or not, whose

parents were not unauthorised boat arrivals; and (b) what is the maximum time that any such child has been in detention.

Notice given 10 March 2005

- *430 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Does the Government approve or disapprove of the United States of America's (US) policy of rendition, that is, kidnapping people for transfer to, and interrogation in, third countries which permit torture.
 - (2) Has the Government ever been involved, directly or indirectly, in rendition.
 - (3) Has the Government ever entertained the concept of rendition; if so, how and what was the outcome.
 - (4) Does the Government oppose rendition.
 - (5) What does the Government know about the US rendition program and its efficacy and outcome.
- *431 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the sinking of the boat known as SIEV X:
- (1) Will the Minister now release the list of names of people who are thought to have drowned.
 - (2) How many queries has the Government had from people seeking the names of persons thought to have been on board: (a) from within Australia; and (b) from outside Australia.
 - (3) If the list is not to be released: (a) what are the precise reasons; and (b) if one reason is that release of the list would endanger an informant, in what way.
- *432 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the sinking of the boat known as SIEV X: Is there an inquiry or investigation in progress; if so: (a) how many people are involved in the inquiry; and (b) what results have been forthcoming in the past year.
- *433 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to Australian citizen Noorpolat Abdulla who is being held in a Kazakhstan prison:
- (1) What are the circumstances surrounding his imprisonment.
 - (2) Has he been tortured.
 - (3) Is he being visited by Australian officials; if so: (a) how routinely; and (b) what is the nature of those visits.
 - (4) Is he in a single cell.
 - (5) What is the condition of his health.
 - (6) What communication does he have with his family.
 - (7) What is his sentence and alleged crime.
- *434 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—
- (1) With reference to the Part IVA (*Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*) Panel meeting held on 27 and 28 May 1999 which resulted in tax avoidance accusations against many of 41 000 taxpayers, some of which were not

upheld in court (for example, the Vincent case): Were outside experts Verick, Momsen and Phillips present.

- (2) With reference to tax ruling 95/33, which approved round robin loans in some circumstances and which Deputy Commissioner Doherty cited with approval when giving the Golden Vintage private ruling in 1997 and which the Assistant Commissioner Kevin Fitzpatrick disclaimed knowledge of in Economics Legislation Committee hearings on additional estimates on 17 February 2005: was tax ruling 95/33 considered at the Part IVA Panel meeting held on 27 and 28 May 1999.
- (3) For each of the years 1992 to 1998: (a) how many applications were received for private rulings on group investment projects in the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) 2002 settlement list; and (b) how many of those applications were given unfavourable rulings by the ATO.

*435 **Senator Mason:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With respect to the Australian Taxation Office (ATO):

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the ATO has records: (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by the ATO's employees; and (b) for that same period, what was the average number of sick leave days taken per full-time equivalent employee of the ATO.
- (2) Under the ATO's Certified Agreement or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Does the ATO monitor and review its employees' use of their sick leave entitlement.

*436 **Senator Mason:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With respect to: (a) the Family Court of Australia, and (b) IP Australia (the organisations):

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the organisations have records: (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by each organisation's employees; (b) for that same period, what was the average number of sick leave days taken per full-time equivalent employee of each organisation.
- (2) Under the organisation's Certified Agreements or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees of each organisation as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Do the organisations monitor and review their employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

*437 **Senator Mason:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services—With respect to: (a) the Child Support Agency, and (b) Centrelink (the agencies):

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the agencies have records: (a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by each agency's employees; and (b) for that same period, what was the average number of sick leave days taken per full-time equivalent employee of each agency.
- (2) Under the agencies' Certified Agreements or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees of each agency as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Do the agencies monitor and review their employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

*438 **Senator Mason:** To ask the Special Minister of State—With respect to the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC):

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the AEC has records:
(a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by the AEC's employees; and (b) for that same period, what was the average number of sick leave days taken per full-time equivalent employee of the AEC.
- (2) Under the AEC's Certified Agreement or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to the employees as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Does the AEC monitor and review its employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

Senator Mason: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos *439-*445)—

- (1) For the last calendar or financial year for which the department has records:
(a) what is the total number of sick leave days taken by the department's employees; and (b) for that same period, what was the average number of days of sick leave taken per full-time equivalent employee of the department.
- (2) Under the department's Certified Agreement or individual contracts, what is the sick leave entitlement allowable to employees of the department as part of their terms of employment.
- (3) Does the department monitor and review its employees' use of sick leave entitlement.

*439 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

*440 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

*441 Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

*442 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

*443 Minister for Family and Community Services

*444 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

*445 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

*446 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) In relation to beryllium exposure by Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel and veterans, is testing for exposure conducted by urine test or blood test.
- (2) Does the department believe that a urine test is sufficient to determine exposure to beryllium, particularly in people who have had chronic low dose exposures some years ago, and whether any potential risk is posed.
- (3) Will the department insist on blood tests to determine whether, with past exposure to beryllium-containing dusts, these people have become 'sensitised' to beryllium.
- (4) Does the department intend to conduct any medical research into beryllium and the effects on exposure by veterans.
- (5) Which veterans, or serving personnel, is the department contacting in relation to their possible exposure to beryllium, and how is this contact being made.

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

- (1) In each of the past 5 years what funds have been spent at Gallipoli on: (a) capital works; (b) travel by officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) and the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG); (c) entertainment; and (d) other costs including the provision of public facilities.
- (2) What specific capital works have been funded directly by Australia or as part contribution to works conducted by the Government of Turkey.
- (3) Is the Minister aware of any funding contributed by the New Zealand Government, and the purpose of that funding.
- (4) In each of the past five years, on how many occasions have discussions been held with Turkish authorities concerning the upgrading of the road.
- (5) Was the OAWG consulted by Turkish authorities on the design, funding and timing of the current road works; if so, when and, if consulted in writing, can a copy of the correspondence be provided; if not, why not.
- (6) What Commonwealth funding has been, or will be, contributed to the upgrading of the road.
- (7) (a) Have representations been made to the Government of Turkey to suspend the upgrading of the current road works; if so, when and by whom; and (b) if consultations were made in writing, can a copy of the correspondence be made available to the Senate; if not, why not.
- (8) What investigations have been made by OAWG, or its agents, into allegations that human remains have been uncovered, and in some cases destroyed, at the current road works.
- (9) What research and examination was conducted prior to the current road works with respect to: (a) the environment; and (b) sites of military significance.
- (10) How many Australians were posted missing at Gallipoli and never found.
- (11) When were discussions last held with Turkish authorities concerning reported plans to charge admission to the Gallipoli site.
- (12) On each of the past five Anzac days, what was the estimated crowd at Gallipoli.
- (13) What is the estimated budget for Anzac Day 2005, in total, and, for the entertainment component.
- (14) How many Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel will be in attendance in 2005, and at what cost.
- (15) Which Federal Parliamentarians have, or will be, invited to travel to Turkey to attend the commemoration of the 90th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing.
- (16) What is the estimated cost to the Commonwealth of Federal Parliamentarians travelling to Turkey for this commemoration.
- (17) Can the Minister confirm what proportion of these costs will be met from the Saluting Their Service program.
- (18) (a) What regulation is conducted by Turkish authorities with respect to the sale and consumption of alcohol at Gallipoli; (b) what representations have been made on this subject; and (c) by whom and with what result.

*448 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Are, or have, Australian military forces been involved in reconnoissance or other missions inside Iran during the past 12 months.

- (2) Is the new deployment of Australian military forces in Iraq, and their stated mission announced in February 2005 by the Prime Minister, related to any planned Australian participation with United States of America (US), Israeli and British forces in a future offensive against Iran.
- (3) Has the Australian Defence Force (ADF) requested a larger military contingent to be sent to Iraq instead of the additional 450 troops the Government has announced.

Senator Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos *449-*450)—With reference to orang-outangs that are found only in Indonesia and Malaysia which, at the current rate of habitat loss, are facing extinction in the world in the next 10 years:

- (1) What is the Government doing to: (a) ensure that this does not happen; and (b) allow consumers to make an informed choice when choosing timber that may have come from these areas.
- (2) Why is country of origin labelling of timber not compulsory as it is for other goods.
- (3) Is the Government certain that it is not using illegally-felled timbers.
- (4) How many litres of Indonesian and Malaysian palm oil are being imported into Australia each year.
- (5) Are Australian consumers aware that the main reason for rainforest habitat destruction is to allow palm oil plantations to be established, and that this oil is being used in Australia for low-grade cooking applications.

*449 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

*450 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

ORDERS OF THE SENATE

Contents

Committees	89
Meeting of Senate.....	92
Orders for production of documents.....	93
Orders for production of documents still current from previous parliaments.....	94
Parliament.....	97

Committees

1 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
 Human Services
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, 13 February 2002 and 17 November 2004.)

2 Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee—Authorisation to meet

That the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Tuesday, 15 March 2005, from 5 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the statutory oversight of the operations of ASIC

(Agreed to 8 March 2005.)

***3 Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—Delivery of Australian Competition and Consumer Commission report in relation to competition notice issued to Telstra on 19 March 2004**

See: *Orders for production of documents*: Communications—Australian Competition and Consumer Commission report—Telstra—Order for production of document

4 Estimates—Answers to questions

That answers be provided by 31 January 2005 to:

- (a) estimates questions on notice lodged with legislation committees in the course of the estimates hearings in May and June 2004; and
- (b) estimates questions on notice lodged with legislation committees by 2 December 2004.

(Agreed to 18 November 2004.)

5 Estimates hearings

- (1) That estimates hearings by legislation committees for 2005 be scheduled as follows:

2004-05 additional estimates:

Monday, 14 February and Tuesday, 15 February and, if required, Friday, 18 February (*Group A*)

Wednesday, 16 February and Thursday, 17 February and, if required, Friday, 18 February (*Group B*)

2005-06 Budget estimates:

Monday, 23 May to Thursday, 26 May and, if required, Friday, 27 May (*Group A*)

Monday, 30 May to Thursday, 2 June and, if required, Friday, 3 June (*Group B*)

Monday, 31 October and Tuesday, 1 November (*supplementary hearings—Group A*)

Wednesday, 2 November and Thursday, 3 November (*supplementary hearings—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:
 Tuesday, 15 March 2005 in respect of the 2004-05 additional estimates; and
 Monday, 20 June 2005 in respect of the 2005-06 Budget estimates.

(Agreed to 10 February 2005.)

6 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 the sittings of the Senate.

(Agreed to 6 December 2004.)

7 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.)

Meeting of Senate

8 Meeting of Senate

That the days of meeting of the Senate for 2004 and 2005 be as follows:

Spring sittings (2004):

Tuesday, 16 November to Thursday, 18 November
Monday, 29 November to Thursday, 2 December
Monday, 6 December to Thursday, 9 December

Summer sittings (2005):

Tuesday, 8 February to Thursday, 10 February

Autumn sittings (2005):

Monday, 7 March to Thursday, 10 March
Monday, 14 March to Thursday, 17 March

Budget sittings (2005):

Tuesday, 10 May to Thursday, 12 May

Winter sittings (2005):

Tuesday, 14 June to Thursday, 16 June
Monday, 20 June to Thursday, 23 June

Spring sittings (2005):

Tuesday, 9 August to Thursday, 11 August
Monday, 15 August to Thursday, 18 August
Monday, 5 September to Thursday, 8 September
Monday, 12 September to Thursday, 15 September
Tuesday, 4 October to Thursday, 6 October
Monday, 10 October to Thursday, 13 October

Spring sittings (2) (2005):

Monday, 7 November to Thursday, 10 November
Monday, 28 November to Thursday, 1 December.

(Agreed to 17 November 2004.)

9 Divisions on Thursday—Temporary order

That the following order operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2005 sittings:

If a division is called for on Thursday after 4.30 pm, the matter before the Senate shall be adjourned until the next day of sitting at a time fixed by the Senate.

(Agreed to 9 February 2005.)

10 Adjournment debate on Tuesdays—Temporary order

That the following order operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2005 sittings:

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.

(Agreed to 9 February 2005.)

Orders for production of documents

11 Trade—Free trade agreement—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Trade, no later than 4 pm on Tuesday, 7 December 2004, the final letters and any attachments and annexures exchanged between the governments of Australia and the United States of America (US) to finalise the free trade agreement between Australia and the US.

(Motion of Senator Nettle agreed to 2 December 2004.)

12 Health—Abortion issue—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, no later than the conclusion of question time on 17 March 2005, the following documents:

- (a) any instructions given by the Minister for Health and Ageing to the Department of Health and Ageing to prepare advice regarding the abortion issue within the past 12 months; and
- (b) any responses from the Department of Health and Ageing received by the Minister in relation to those instructions within the past 12 months.

(Motion of Senator Stott Despoja agreed to 8 March 2005.)

*13 Communications—Australian Competition and Consumer Commission report—Telstra—Order for production of document

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that on 21 February 2005 the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) reached an agreement with Telstra to deal with issues involved in the competition notice issued to Telstra on 19 March 2004; and
- (b) resolves that there be laid on the table, no later than 3.30 pm on 10 May 2005, a report by the ACCC containing:
 - (i) recommendations by the ACCC to:
 - (A) prevent a similar situation from recurring, and
 - (B) improve the ACCC's ability to handle anti-competitive behaviour engaged in by Telstra,
 - (ii) specific details of the pricing conduct for which Telstra will be rebating its wholesale customers through the settlement including the period of time during which this conduct was undertaken,
 - (iii) an explanation of how the settlement will act as a deterrent to Telstra engaging in anti-competitive conduct in the future both in the broadband market and in other telecommunications markets,
 - (iv) an explanation of how the structure of the retail broadband market has been affected by Telstra's conduct during the period of the competition notice, including the impact of Telstra's conduct on retail market shares of broadband internet service providers, and
 - (v) an explanation of how the settlement will rectify any detrimental impacts on the structure of the retail broadband market that have resulted from Telstra's conduct.

(Motion of Senator Conroy agreed to 10 March 2005.)

*14 Communications—Australian Competition and Consumer Commission report—Telstra—Order for production of document

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) on 21 February 2005 the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) reached an agreement with Telstra to deal with issues involved in the competition notice issued to Telstra on 19 March 2004, and
 - (ii) while the ACCC maintains that Telstra's conduct was likely to have been in breach of the Trade Practices Act it decided to resolve the matter after obtaining senior legal advice; and
- (b) resolves that a report by the ACCC be provided on a confidential basis to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee, no later than 3.30 pm on Thursday, 17 March 2005, containing:
- (i) the internal and external legal advice it obtained which caused it to decide to resolve the matters raised in the competition notice without litigation, and
 - (ii) details of the nature of the evidence received from Telstra's wholesale customers which influenced its decision to take no further action in relation to the matters raised in the competition notice.

(Motion of Senator Conroy agreed to 10 March 2005.)

Orders for production of documents still current from previous parliaments

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
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)

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
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
19.06.2002	Mining—Christmas Island	
24.06.2002	Superannuation system	
25.06.2002	Finance—Retirement and income modelling	
27.06.2002	Health—Tobacco	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
20.08.2002	Animal Welfare—Cattle	
28.08.2002	Superannuation Working Group	
11.11.2002	Environment—Queensland—Nathan Dam	
14.11.2002	Trade—General Agreement on Trade in Services	Minister representing the Minister for Trade
18.11.2002	Environment—Oceans policy	
19.11.2002	Superannuation—Insurance and Superannuation Commission	Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Minchin) and the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan)
10.12.2002	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer	
11.12.2002	Environment—Tasmania—Logging	Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation
12.12.2002	Science and Technology—Genetically-modified food	Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs and representing the Prime Minister (Senator Hill)
05.02.2003	Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository	
05.02.2003	Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository	

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
05.03.2003	Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository	
25.03.2003	Immigration—Illegal migration	
14.05.2003	Environment—Radioactive waste—National store	Minister representing the Minister for Science
14.05.2003	Industry—Basslink	
19.06.2003	Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme—Draft regulations	
17.09.2003	Animal Welfare—Live sheep export	The Government
08.10.2003	Health—National Drug Research Strategy	Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
13.10.2003	Immigration—Management of detention centres	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
13.10.003	Finance—Calculation of the IBNR levy	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
14.10.2003	Animal Welfare—Live sheep export	
16.10.2003	Environment—Sepon Mine	Minister representing the Minister for Trade (Senator Hill)
28.10.2003	Science and Technology—Assisted reproductive technology	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
28.10.2003	Education—Higher education—Regional impact statement	Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
25.11.2003	Finance—Deposit bonds	
01.12.2003	Taxation—First home owners, 'bracket creep' and Intergeneration Report	Minister representing the Treasurer
03.12.2003	Health—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme	
03.12.2003	Environment—Sepon mine	
10.02.2003	Science and Technology—Assisted reproductive technology	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
24.03.2004	Superannuation—Departing temporary residents	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
24.03.2004	Australian Federal Police Commissioner—Statement	Leader of the Government in the Senate
01.04.2004	Immigration—Ministerial discretion	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
21.06.2004	Indigenous Australians— Lands Acquisition Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 2)	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
22.06.2004	Defence—Iraq—Human rights abuses	Minister for Defence
23.06.2004	Science and Technology— Synthetic aperture radar	Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
23.06.2004	Defence—Office of National Assessments report	Leader of the Government in the Senate
24.06.2004	Environment—Videophone facilities	
04.08.2004	Defence—Missile defence program	Minister for Defence
05.08.2004	Environment—Bushfire mitigation and management	Minister representing the Prime Minister
10.08.2004	Environment—Repulse Bay	Minister for the Environment and Heritage
11.08.2004	Environment—Nuclear waste storage	Minister for Finance and Administration

Parliament

15 Security funding

The Senate:

- (a) notes the transfer of \$1 million from the Department of the Senate to the Department of Parliamentary Services as a special contribution to security costs in the parliamentary precincts over and above the transferred funds previously provided for security, and
- (b) agrees that, if any further funds are necessary to provide additional security costs, they be made by additional appropriation to, or savings within, the Department of Parliamentary Services.

(Agreed to 8 December 2004 upon adoption of a recommendation of the Appropriations and Staffing Committee in its 41st report.)

16 Appropriation bills: Payments to international organisations

The Senate is of the view that:

- (a) an initial payment to an international organisation in effect represents a new policy decision and therefore should be in Appropriation Bill (No. 2); and
- (b) subsequent payments represent a continuing government activity of supporting the international organisation and therefore represents an ordinary annual service and should be in Appropriation Bill (No. 1).

(Agreed to 8 December 2004 upon adoption of a recommendation of the Appropriations and Staffing Committee in its 41st report.)

CONTINGENT NOTICES OF MOTION

Auditor-General's reports—Consideration

- 1 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Nettle
Senator Lees

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 Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Nettle
Senator Lees

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 matter.

Government documents

- 4 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Nettle

Senator Lees

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 Evans)

Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)

Senator Brown

Senator Harradine

Senator Harris

Senator Nettle

Senator Lees

- 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 Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Nettle
Senator Lees

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 Evans)**

Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Nettle
Senator Lees

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 Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Nettle
Senator Lees

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 Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Nettle
Senator Lees

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 Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris

Senator Nettle

Senator Lees

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.

TEMPORARY CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES

Senators Bolkus, Brandis, Chapman, Cherry, Crossin, Ferguson, Hutchins, Kirk, Knowles, Lightfoot, Sandy Macdonald, Marshall, Moore and Watson

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

Administration of Indigenous Affairs
 Lindeberg Grievance
 Mental Health
 Scafton Evidence

Joint Statutory Committees

ASIO, ASIS and DSD
 Australian Crime Commission
 Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings
 Corporations and Financial Services
 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

Administration of Indigenous Affairs—Select Committee

(appointed 16 June 2004; reappointed 17 November 2004; final report tabled 8 March 2005)

Members

Senator Moore (*Chair*), Senator Johnston (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Carr, Crossin, Heffernan, Nettle, Ridgeway and Scullion

Reports presented

Interim report (*presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

After ATSIC – Life in the mainstream? (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

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 Bartlett, Boswell, Faulkner, Ferris, Heffernan and Ray

Report presented

41st report—Security funding; Appropriation bills: Payments to international organisations (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

ASIO, ASIS and DSD—Joint Statutory Committee

Members

Mr Jull (*Chair*), Senators Ferguson, Sandy Macdonald and Ray and Mr Byrne, Mr Kerr and Mr McArthur

Current inquiries

Review of Division 3 Part III of the *Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Act 1979* (*statutory responsibility*)

Review of listings of certain terrorist organisations under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (*statutory responsibility*)

Reports presented

Review of the listing of six terrorist organisations (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Australian Crime Commission—Joint Statutory Committee

Members

Senator Santoro (*Chair*), Mr Kerr (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Denman, Ferris, Greig and Hutchins and Mr Byrne, Mrs Gash, Mr Richardson and Mr Wood

Report presented

Examination of the annual report for 2002-03 of the National Crime Authority and the Australian Crime Commission (*presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings—Joint Statutory Committee

Members

The President, the Speaker and Senators Faulkner and Ferris and Mr Baldwin, Mr Bartlett, Mr Lindsay, Mr Murphy and Ms Vamvakinou

Community Affairs Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Family and Community Services; Health and Ageing

Members

Senator Knowles (*Chair*), Senator Greig (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, Denman, Humphries and Moore

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Allison, Bishop, Boswell, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Hogg, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Mackay, McGauran, McLucas, Moore, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Ray, Tierney, Watson and Webber

Reports presented

Tobacco advertising prohibition (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 30 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Private Health Insurance Incentives Amendment Bill 2004 (*tabled 8 February 2005*)

Provisions of the National Health Amendment (Prostheses) Bill 2004 (*tabled 10 February 2005*)

Community Affairs References Committee

Members

Senator Marshall (*Chair*), Senator Knowles (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Humphries, Hutchins, Lees and Moore

Substitute members

Senator Allison to replace Senator Lees for the committee's inquiry into aged care

Senator Murray to replace Senator Lees for the committee's inquiry into children in institutional care

Senator Cook to replace Senator Hutchins for the committee's inquiry into the delivery of services and treatment options for persons with cancer

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Allison, Barnett, Bishop, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Greig, Harradine, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Murray, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Tierney, Watson and Webber

Current inquiries

Children in institutional care (*referred 4 March 2003; readopted 1 December 2004; reporting date: 17 March 2005*)

Aged care (*referred 23 June 2004; readopted 1 December 2004; reporting date: 23 June 2005*)

The delivery of services and treatment options for persons with cancer (*referred 10 February 2005; reporting date: 23 June 2005*)

Reports presented

Inquiry into aged care—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 30 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 1 December 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee

Members

Senator Chapman (*Chair*), Ms AE Burke (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Brandis, Lundy, Murray and Wong and Mr Bartlett, Mr Bowen, Ms JM Kelly and Mr McArthur

Current inquiries

Regulation of property investment advice (*adopted 8 December 2004*)

Regulation of the time share industry in Australia (*adopted 8 December 2004*)

Exposure draft of the Corporations Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2005 (*adopted 16 February 2005*)

Report presented

Australian Accounting Standards tabled in compliance with the *Corporations Act 2001* on 30 August and 16 November 2004 (*tabled 10 February 2005*)

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 Lundy to replace Senator Webber for the committee's consideration of the provisions of the Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Brown, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Cherry, Colbeck, Conroy, Cook, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Hogg, Kirk, Knowles, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Mackay, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, O'Brien, Payne, Ray, Ridgeway, Sherry, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Wong

Current inquiries

Tax Laws Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005 (*referred 9 March 2005; reporting date: 10 May 2005*)

Provisions of the Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005 (*referred 9 March 2005; reporting date: 15 March 2005*)

Reports presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Superannuation Reporting) Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2004 Measures No. 7) Bill 2005 (*tabled 9 March 2005*)

Economics References Committee

Members

Senator Stephens (*Chair*), Senator Brandis (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Chapman, Lundy, Ridgeway and Webber

Substitute member

Senator Allison to replace Senator Ridgeway for matters relating to the Resources portfolio

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Barnett, Boswell, Brown, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Cherry, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Kirk, Knowles, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Murray, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney, Watson and Wong

Current inquiry

Possible links between household debt, demand for imported goods and Australia's current account deficit (*referred 9 December 2004; reporting date: first sitting day in September 2005*)

Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee*(appointed 18 November 2004)**Members*

Senators Brandis, Carr, Forshaw, Mason and Murray and Mr Ciobo, Mr Danby, Mr Melham, Ms Panopoulos and Mr ADH Smith

Current inquiry

Electoral funding and disclosure and any amendments to the Commonwealth Electoral Act necessary in relation to political donations (*referred 30 November 2004*)

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee*Portfolios*

Employment and Workplace Relations; Education, Science and Training

Members

Senator Tierney (*Chair*), Senator Marshall (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, Johnston, Stott Despoja and Wong

Substitute members

Senator Allison to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Schools and Training portfolio

Senator Cherry to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Employment portfolio

Senator Murray to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Workplace Relations portfolio

Senator Carr to replace Senator Wong for matters relating to the Education portfolio

Senator Crossin to replace Senator Wong for matters relating to the Industrial Relations portfolio

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Boswell, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Cherry, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Hogg, Humphries, Hutchins, Knowles, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Ray, Santoro, Sherry, Stephens, Watson and Webber

Current inquiries

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004 (*referred 8 December 2004; reporting date: 14 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Small Business Employment Protection) Bill 2004 (*referred 9 December 2004; reporting date: 14 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005 (*referred 9 March 2005; reporting date: 16 March 2005*)

Reports presented

Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2004 (*presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*) and a supplementary report from the Australian Democrats (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting Small Business Employment) Bill 2004—Interim report (*presented to the President on 14 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Inquiry into the proposed amendment in the form of Schedule 1B to the Workplace Relations Amendment (Codifying Contempt Offences) Bill 2004—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator McLucas, on 27 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Agreement Validation) Bill 2004 (*tabled 29 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee

Members

Senator Crossin (*Chair*), Senators Barnett, Collins, Kirk, Stott Despoja and Tierney

Substitute members

Senator Allison to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Schools and Training portfolio

Senator Cherry to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Employment portfolio

Senator Murray to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Workplace Relations portfolio

Senator Carr to replace Senator Collins for matters relating to education

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Boswell, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Cherry, Colbeck, Coonan, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Humphries, Hutchins, Johnston, Knowles, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mackay, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Moore, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Ray, Santoro, Sherry, Stephens, Watson, Webber and Wong

Current inquiries

Indigenous education (*referred 6 December 2004; reporting date: 12 May 2005*)

Unfair dismissal laws (*referred 7 December 2004; reporting date: 14 June 2005*)

Student income support (*referred 11 March 2004; readopted 8 December 2004; reporting date: 16 June 2005*)

Reports presented

Inquiry into lifelong learning—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 20 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Inquiry into Indigenous training and employment—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 20 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Inquiry into student income support—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 20 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Environment and Heritage; Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Members

Senator Eggleston (*Chair*), Senator Lundy (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Conroy, Santoro and Tchen

Substitute members

Senator Cherry to replace Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Communications portfolio

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

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Allison, Bolkus, Boswell, Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Heffernan, Hogg, Humphries, Knowles, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Moore, Nettle, O'Brien, Ray, Watson and Wong

Reports presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the National Water Commission Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Provisions of the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Anti-Siphoning) Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

Members

Senator Cherry (*Chair*), Senator Tierney (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bishop, Conroy, Lundy and Tchen

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Allison, Bartlett, Bolkus, Boswell, Brown, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Humphries, Knowles, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Ray and Watson

Current inquiry

Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's Energy White Paper (*referred 24 June 2004; readopted 8 December 2004; reporting date: 18 April 2005*)

Reports presented

Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's energy white paper—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 1 December 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Turning back the tide – the invasive species challenge: Report on the regulation, control and management of invasive species and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

- * A lost opportunity? Inquiry into the provisions of the Australian Communications and Media Authority Bill 2004 and related bills and matters (*tabled 10 March 2005*)

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Parliament; Prime Minister and Cabinet; Finance and Administration; Human Services

Members

Senator Mason (*Chair*), Senator Murray (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Brandis, George Campbell, Forshaw and Heffernan

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fifield, Harradine, Hogg, Knowles, Ludwig, Lundy, Mackay, Marshall, McGauran, Moore, O'Brien, Payne, Ray, Ridgeway, Sherry, Stephens, Tchen, Tierney, Watson and Webber

Report presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*) and corrigendum (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator McLucas, on 7 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Finance and Public Administration References Committee

Members

Senator Forshaw (*Chair*), Senator Watson (*Deputy Chair*), Senators George Campbell, Heffernan, Moore and Ridgeway

Substitute members

Senator Murray to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into government advertising

Senators Barnett and Johnston to replace Senators Watson and Heffernan for the committee's inquiry into the Regional Partnerships program

Senator Murray to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into the Regional Partnerships program

Senators Carr and O'Brien to replace Senators George Campbell and Moore for the committee's inquiry into the Regional Partnerships program

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Brandis, Boswell, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fifield, Harradine, Knowles, Ludwig, Lundy, Sandy Macdonald, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Murray, O'Brien, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Stephens, Tchen, Tierney and Webber

Current inquiries

Government advertising (*referred 18 November 2004; reporting date: 22 June 2005*)

Regional Partnerships program (*referred 2 December 2004; reporting date: 15 August 2005*)

Report presented

Inquiry into government advertising and accountability—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 3 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee

(appointed 18 November 2004)

Members

Senator Ferguson (*Chair*), Senators Bolkus, Cook, Eggleston, Harradine, Hutchins, Johnston, Kirk, Lundy, Sandy Macdonald, Payne and Stott Despoja and Mr Baldwin, Mr Baird, Mr Barresi, Mr Danby, Mrs Draper, Mr Edwards, Mrs Gash, Mr Gibbons, Mr Haase, Mr Hatton, Mr Jull, Mrs Moylan, Mr Prosser, Mr Scott, Mr Sercombe, Mr Snowdon, Mr Turnbull, Ms Vamvakinou, Mr Wakelin and Mr Wilkie

Current inquiries

Review of the Department of Defence annual report 2003-04 (*under resolution of appointment*)

Australia's defence relations with the United States (*adopted 26 November 2003; readopted 17 January 2005*)

Australia's human rights dialogues (*adopted 25 March 2004; readopted 2 December 2004*)

Report presented

Expanding Australia's trade and investment relations with the Gulf States (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Foreign Affairs and Trade; Defence (including Veterans' Affairs)

Members

Senator Sandy Macdonald (*Chair*), Senator Hutchins (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Ferguson, Mackay, Payne, and Ridgeway

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Bishop, Boswell, Brandis, Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferris, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Hogg, Johnston, Kirk, Knowles, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Nettle, Ray, Santoro, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Report presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Members

Senator Hutchins (*Chair*), Senator Sandy Macdonald (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Hogg, Johnston, Mackay and Ridgeway

Substitute members

Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into the effectiveness of the Australian military justice system

Senators Evans and Faulkner to replace Senators Hutchins and Mackay for the committee's inquiry into duties of Australian personnel in Iraq

Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into duties of Australian personnel in Iraq

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Boswell, Brandis, Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Collins, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Kirk, Knowles, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Nettle, Payne, Ray, Santoro, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Current inquiries

Effectiveness of the Australian military justice system (*referred 30 October 2003; terms of reference varied 12 February 2004; readopted 6 December 2004; reporting date: 17 March 2005*)

Australia's relationship with China (*referred 8 December 2004; reporting date: 15 September 2005*)

Duties of Australian personnel in Iraq (*referred 8 March 2005; reporting date: 21 June 2005*)

Reports presented

Inquiry into the effectiveness of Australia's military justice system—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator McLucas, on 8 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 6 December 2004*)

House—Standing Committee

Members

The President (*Chair*), the Deputy President and Senators Carr, Crossin, Ferris, 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, Barnett, Bartlett, Bishop, Brandis, Brown, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Hogg, Humphries, Kirk, Knowles, Lightfoot, Lundy, Mackay, McGauran, McLucas, Nettle, Ray, Ridgeway, Sherry, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Reports presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Marriage Amendment Bill 2004 (*presented to the President on 6 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Criminal Code Amendment (Suicide Related Material Offences) Bill 2004 (*presented to the President on 6 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Copyright Legislation Amendment Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Disability Discrimination Amendment (Education Standards) Bill 2004 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Administrative Appeals Tribunal Amendment Bill 2004 [2005] (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

- * Criminal Code Amendment (Trafficking in Persons Offences) Bill 2004 [2005] (*tabled 10 March 2005*)

Legal and Constitutional References Committee

Members

Senator Bolkus (*Chair*), Senator Payne (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Buckland, Greig, Kirk and Scullion

Substitute members

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Greig for matters relating to the Indigenous Affairs portfolio

Senator Mason to replace Senator Scullion for the committee's inquiry into the effectiveness and appropriateness of the *Privacy Act 1988* on 21 and 22 April 2005 and 19 and 20 May 2005

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Barnett, Bartlett, Bishop, Brandis, Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Humphries, Knowles, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Murray, Nettle, Ray, Sherry, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Current inquiry

Effectiveness and appropriateness of the *Privacy Act 1988* (*referred 9 December 2004; reporting date: 30 June 2005*)

Reports presented

The road to a republic (*presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Inquiry into Australian expatriates—Interim report (*presented to the President on 1 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 6 December 2004*)

They still call Australia home: Inquiry into Australian expatriates (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

Library—Standing Committee

Members

The President (*Chair*) and Senators Faulkner, Kirk, Scullion, Stephens, Tchen and Tierney

Lindeberg Grievance—Select Committee

(appointed 1 April 2004; final report tabled 16 November 2004)

Report presented

Report *(presented to the Deputy President on 15 November 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)*

Mental Health—Select Committee

(appointed 8 March 2005; reporting date: 6 October 2005)

Members

Leader of the Australian Democrats (*Chair*), and Senators Forshaw, Humphries, Moore, Scullion, Troeth and Webber

Migration—Joint Standing Committee

(appointed 18 November 2004)

Members

Senators Bartlett, Eggleston, Kirk and Tchen and Mr L Ferguson, Mrs Irwin, Mr Keenan, Dr Lawrence, Mr Randall and Dr Southcott

National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee

(appointed 18 November 2004)

Members

Senator Lightfoot (*Chair*), Senator Crossin (*Deputy Chair*), The Deputy President and Chairman of Committees, the Deputy Speaker, and Senators O'Brien, Scullion and Stott Despoja and Mrs AL Ellis, Mr Neville, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Snowdon and Mr Secker

Current inquiry

Adequacy of funding for Australia's Antarctic Program *(adopted 10 September 2003; terms of reference varied 26 November 2003; readopted 8 December 2004)*

Reports presented

Indian Ocean territories: Review of the annual reports of the Department of Transport and Regional Services and the Department of the Environment and Heritage *(presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)*

Difficult choices: Inquiry into the role of the National Capital Authority in determining the extent of redevelopment of the Pierces Creek Settlement in the ACT *(presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)*

Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund—Joint Statutory Committee

(term extended until 23 March 2006 in accordance with the Extension of Sunset of Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title Act 2004)

Members

Senator Johnston (*Chair*), Ms Vamvakinou (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Carr, Crossin, Lees and Scullion and Mr McMullan, Mr Randall, Mr Slipper and Mr Tollner

Privileges—Standing Committee*Members*

Senator Faulkner (*Chair*), Senator Knowles (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Humphries, Johnston, Payne, Ray and Sherry

Current inquiries

Whether there was an unauthorised disclosure of the draft report of the Community Affairs References Committee in relation to poverty and financial hardship and whether any contempt was committed in that regard (*referred 12 May 2004*)

Whether there was an unauthorised disclosure of the draft report of the Community Affairs References Committee in relation to Hepatitis C and blood supply in Australia, and whether any contempt was committed in that regard (*referred 24 June 2004*)

Report presented

120th report—Possible unauthorised disclosure of private deliberations or draft report of Select Committee on the Free Trade Agreement between Australia and the United States of America (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

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 Bartlett, Eggleston, Ellison, Faulkner, Ferguson and Ray

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Statutory Committee*Members*

Mr Baldwin (*Chairman*), Senators Hogg, Humphries, Moore, Murray, Scullion and Watson and Ms AE Burke, Mr Broadbent, Ms Grierson, Ms JM Kelly, Ms King, Dr Laming, Mr Somlyay, Mr Tanner and Mr Ticehurst

Current inquiry

Indigenous law and justice (*adopted 8 December 2004*)

Report presented

- * Nomination of a new Commonwealth Auditor-General, pursuant to subsection 8A(7) of the *Public Accounts and Audit Committee Act 1951* (*statement made, by way of a report, 10 March 2005*)
-

Public Works—Joint Statutory Committee*Members*

Mrs Moylan (*Chairman*), Senators Ferguson, Forshaw and Troeth and Mr Forrest, Mr Jenkins, Mr BP O'Connor, Mr Ripoll and Mr Wakelin

Current inquiries

Proposed refurbishment of Australia House in London (*referred 9 February 2005*)
 Ordnance Breakdown facility, Proof and Experimental Establishment Site, Port Wakefield, SA (*referred 9 February 2005*)
 Development of on-base house for Defence at Puckapunyal, Victoria (*referred 9 February 2005*)
 Maribyrnong Immigration Detention Centre (MIDC) – Additional accommodation and related works (*referred 9 December 2004*)
 Fit-out of new leased premises for Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources in Civic, ACT (*referred 4 August 2004, readopted 6 December 2004*)
 Development of land for Defence Housing at McDowall in Brisbane (*referred 24 June 2004, readopted 6 December 2004*)

Reports presented

Proposed development of land at Lee Point, Darwin, for defence and private housing (Fifth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)
 Fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet at 1 National Circuit, Barton, ACT (Sixth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)
 Fit-out of new leased premises for the Attorney-General's Department at 3-5 National Circuit, Barton, ACT (Seventh report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)
 New east building for the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, ACT (Eighth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)
 Development of a new collection storage facility for the National Library of Australia at Hume, ACT (Ninth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Publications—Standing Committee

Members

Senator Watson (*Chair*), Senators Hutchins, Johnston, Kirk, Marshall, Moore and Scullion

Report presented

1st report (*tabled 9 December 2004*)

Regulations and Ordinances—Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committee

Members

Senator Tchen (*Chairman*), Senators Bartlett, Marshall, Mason, Moore and Santoro

Documents presented

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, February to December 2004 (*tabled 9 March 2005*)

Delegated legislation monitor—Regulations and disallowable instruments tabled in the Senate in 2004, dated February 2005 (*tabled 9 March 2005*)

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, Ferris, McGauran and Stephens

Substitute member

Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Cherry for the committee's consideration of the provisions of the Border Protection Legislation Amendment (Deterrence of Illegal Foreign Fishing) Bill 2005

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Allison, Bishop, Boswell, Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Greig, Harradine, Hogg, Hutchins, Knowles, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Sandy Macdonald, Mackay, Mason, McLucas, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Ray, Santoro, Tchen, Tierney, Watson and Webber

Current inquiries

Administration of Biosecurity Australia concerning the revised draft import risk analysis for bananas from the Philippines (*adopted under standing order 25(2)(b), 2 March 2004; readopted 1 December 2004; reporting date: last sitting day in March 2005*)

Administration of Biosecurity Australia concerning the revised draft import risk analysis for apples from New Zealand (*adopted under standing order 25(2)(b), 2 March 2004; readopted 1 December 2004; reporting date: last sitting day in March 2005*)

Provisions of the AusLink (National Land Transport) Bill 2004 and the AusLink (National Land Transport—Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004 (*referred 9 February 2005; reporting date: 12 May 2005*)

Provisions of the Border Protection Legislation Amendment (Deterrence of Illegal Foreign Fishing) Bill 2005 (*referred 9 March 2005; reporting date: 10 May 2005*)

Reports presented

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), including final report on the administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the National Animal Welfare Bill 2003—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Watson, on 8 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 1 December 2004*)

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, Allison, Boswell, Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Greig, Harradine, Hutchins, Ludwig, Knowles, Lightfoot, Sandy Macdonald, Mackay, Mason, McLucas, Nettle, Payne, Ray, Santoro, Tchen, Tierney, Watson and Webber

Current inquiry

Compensation for wheat growers (*referred 8 December 2004; reporting date: 16 June 2005*)

Report presented

Australian forest plantations: A review of Plantations for Australia: The 2020 Vision (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004) and corrigendum (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 3 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004) and further corrigenda (tabled 8 December 2004)

Scrafton Evidence—Select Committee

(appointed 30 August 2004; reappointed 18 November 2004; final report tabled 9 December 2004)

Members

Senator Collins (*Chair*), Senator Brandis (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Faulkner and Ferguson

Report presented

Report (tabled 9 December 2004)

Scrutiny of Bills—Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committee

Members

Senator Ray (*Chairman*), Senator Mason (*Deputy Chairman*), Senators Barnett, Johnston, Marshall and Murray

Current inquiry

Entry, search and seizure provisions in Commonwealth legislation (*referred 25 March 2004; readopted 29 November 2004*)

Alert Digests presented

No. 11 of 2004 (tabled 1 December 2004)

No. 12 of 2004 (tabled 8 December 2004)

No. 1 of 2005 (tabled 9 February 2005)

No. 2 of 2005 (presented 9 March 2005)

Reports presented

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (tabled 29 November 2004)

Eleventh report of 2004 (tabled 1 December 2004)

Twelfth report of 2004 (tabled 8 December 2004)

First report of 2005 (tabled 9 February 2005)

Second report of 2005 (presented 9 March 2005)

Selection of Bills—Standing Committee

Members

The Government Whip (*Chair*), the Opposition Whip, the Australian Democrats Whip, the Nationals Whip and Senators Eggleston, Ellison, Ludwig and Webber

Reports presented

Report no. 12 of 2004 (presented 1 December 2004)

Report no. 13 of 2004 (presented 6 December 2004)

Report no. 14 of 2004 (presented 8 December 2004)

Report no. 1 of 2005 (tabled 9 February 2005)

Report no. 2 of 2005 (*presented 9 March 2005*)

Senators' Interests—Standing Committee

Members

Senator Denman (*Chair*), Senator Lightfoot (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Allison, Forshaw, Humphries, Kirk, McGauran and Webber

Notifications of alterations of interests

Register of senators' interests incorporating a statement of interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 19 June and 6 December 2004 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Report presented

Report 1/2005: Annual report 2004 (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Senators Bartlett, Collins, Mackay, Mason, Santoro, Stephens and Tchen and Mr Adams, Mr Johnson, Mrs May, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Ripoll, Mr Scott, Dr Southcott, Mr Turnbull and Mr Wilkie

Current inquiry

Proposed agreement relating to US nationals and the International Criminal Court (*referred 7 December 2004; reporting date: 30 June 2005*)

Reports presented

Report 61—The Australia – United States Free Trade Agreement—Corrigenda (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Report 63—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

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*).

HARRY EVANS

Clerk of the Senate

MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION

Minister	Representing
Senator the Honourable Robert Hill <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 Veterans' Affairs
Senator the Honourable Nicholas Minchin (Nick) <i>Minister for Finance and Administration</i> <i>Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate</i> <i>Vice-President of the Executive Council</i>	Treasurer Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
Senator the Honourable Amanda Vanstone <i>Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs</i> <i>Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Indigenous Affairs</i>	Minister for Education, Science and Training Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs Minister for Vocational and Technical Education
Senator the Honourable Kay Patterson <i>Minister for Family and Community Services</i> <i>Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues</i>	Minister for Health and Ageing Minister for Human Services Minister for Ageing
Senator the Honourable Helen Coonan <i>Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts</i>	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
Senator the Honourable Ian Campbell <i>Minister for the Environment and Heritage</i>	Minister for Transport and Regional Services Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads
Senator the Honourable Christopher Ellison (Chris) <i>Minister for Justice and Customs</i> <i>Manager of Government Business in the Senate</i>	Attorney-General
Senator the Honourable Ian Macdonald <i>Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation</i>	Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Senator the Honourable Charles Kemp (Rod) <i>Minister for the Arts and Sport</i>	
Senator the Honourable Eric Abetz <i>Special Minister of State</i>	Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations Minister for Small Business and Tourism Minister for Workforce Participation
Parliamentary Secretary	
Senator the Honourable Richard Colbeck <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</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 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 lists all 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.

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 online version of the *Notice Paper*, available on ParlInfo and on the Senate’s Internet site at aph.gov.au/senate.

Inquiries concerning the *Notice Paper* or business listed in it may be directed to the Senate Table Office on (02) 6277 3018.