

2004-06

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

## NOTICE PAPER

No. 100

THURSDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2006

*The Senate meets at 9.30 am*

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

## BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

### Orders of the Day

1 **Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on annual reports tabled by 30 April 2006.

2 **Parliamentary Entitlements Amendment Regulations—Motion for disallowance**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)—That Schedules 1 and 3 to the Parliamentary Entitlements Amendment Regulations 2006 (No. 1), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2006 No. 211 and made under the *Parliamentary Entitlements Act 1990*, be disallowed (*Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)*, in continuation, 6 September 2006).

*Twelve sitting days remain, including today, to resolve the motion or the instrument will be deemed to have been disallowed.*

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## GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

### Notices of Motion

*Notice given 6 September 2006*

\*1 **Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison):** To move—

- (1) That the 2006-07 supplementary Budget estimates hearings by committees be scheduled as follows:
  - Monday, 30 October and Tuesday, 31 October (*Group A*)
  - Wednesday, 1 November and Thursday, 2 November (*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 Affairs  
 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

**Group B:**

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

- \*2 **Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Ian Campbell):** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) recognises that local government is part of the governance of Australia, serving communities through locally-elected councils;
  - (b) values the rich diversity of councils around Australia, reflecting the varied communities they serve;
  - (c) acknowledges the role of local government in governance, advocacy, the provision of infrastructure, service delivery, planning, community development and regulation;
  - (d) acknowledges the importance of cooperating and consulting with local government on the priorities of their local communities;
  - (e) acknowledges the significant Australian Government funding that is provided to local government to spend on locally determined priorities, such as roads and other local government services; and
  - (f) commends local government elected officials who give their time to serve their communities.
- \*3 **Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison):** To move—That, on Thursday, 7 September 2006, the routine of business be varied to provide that questions without notice be called on at 2.30 pm.

### Orders of the Day

- 1 **Financial Transaction Reports Amendment Bill 2006**—(*Senate bill*)—  
(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Murray, in continuation, 6 September 2006*).
- 2 **Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Superannuation Safety and Other Measures) Bill 2005**—(*Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Minchin*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Minchin, 18 August 2005*).
- 3 **Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment Bill 2005**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Colbeck*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 5 September 2005*).
- 4 **International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2006**—(*Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator Ian Campbell*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ian Campbell, 17 August 2006*).
- 5 **Tax Laws Amendment (Repeal of Inoperative Provisions) Bill 2006**—(*Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator Ian Campbell*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ian Campbell, 16 August 2006*).

- 6 **Privacy Legislation Amendment Bill 2006**—(*Minister for the Arts and Sport, Senator Kemp*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Kemp, 4 September 2006*).
- 7 **Health Insurance Amendment (Medical Specialists) Bill 2005**—(*Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Minchin*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Minchin, 18 August 2005*).
- 8 **Customs Legislation Amendment (Modernising Import Controls and Other Measures) Bill 2006**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*21 June 2006*).
- 9 **Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Promoting Safer Workplaces) Bill 2005**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Colbeck*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*8 December 2005*).
- 10 **Public Works Committee Amendment Bill 2006**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*21 June 2006*).
- 11 **Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Bill 2006**—(*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, Senator Vanstone*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Vanstone, 8 August 2006*).
- 12 **Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment Bill 2006**—(*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, Senator Vanstone*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Vanstone, 5 September 2006*).
- 13 **Petroleum Retail Legislation Repeal Bill 2006**—(*Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator Ian Campbell*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ian Campbell, 16 August 2006*).
- \*14 **Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Amendment (Security Plans and Other Measures) Bill 2006**—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Abetz, 6 September 2006*).
- \*15 **National Health Amendment (Immunisation) Bill 2006**—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Abetz, 6 September 2006*).
- 16 **Customs Legislation Amendment (Border Compliance and Other Measures) Bill 2006**—(*Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator Ian Campbell*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ian Campbell, 17 August 2006*).

- 17 **Social Security and Family Assistance Legislation Amendment (Miscellaneous Measures) Bill 2006**—(*Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator Ian Campbell*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ian Campbell, 16 August 2006*).
- 18 **Crimes Act Amendment (Forensic Procedures) Bill (No. 1) 2006**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*21 June 2006*).
- 19 **Sex Discrimination Amendment (Teaching Profession) Bill 2004**—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Abetz, 14 June 2005*).
- 20 **Budget statement and documents 2006-07**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin)—That the Senate take note of the statement and documents (*adjourned, Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz), 11 May 2006*).
- 21 **Budget statement and documents 2005-06**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin)—That the Senate take note of the statement and documents (*adjourned, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Colbeck), 12 May 2005*).

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

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

- \*1 **Economics Legislation Committee—Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee—Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee—Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee—Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—Reports—Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee (Senator Johnston)—That the Senate take note of the reports (*Senator Bishop, in continuation, 6 September 2006*).
- \*2 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—Report—About time! Women in sport and recreation in Australia**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Bartlett)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Adams, in continuation, 6 September 2006*).

**3 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee—First progress report—Reforms to Australia’s military justice system**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Johnston)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Bishop, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).

**4 Community Affairs Legislation Committee—Report—Transparent Advertising and Notification of Pregnancy Counselling Services Bill 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Humphries)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Moore, 17 August 2006*).

**5 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee—Report—National Animal Welfare Bill 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

**6 Community Affairs References Committee—Report—Beyond petrol sniffing: Renewing hope for Indigenous communities**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Moore)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

**7 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Report—Expanding Australia’s trade and investment relations with North Africa**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Ferguson)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

**8 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Report—Australia’s defence relations with the United States**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Ferguson)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

**9 Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee—Report—Funding and disclosure: Inquiry into disclosure of donations to political parties and candidates**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

**10 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Report—China’s emergence: Implications for Australia**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Hutchins)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

**11 Mental Health—Select Committee—First report—A national approach to mental health - from crisis to community**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Allison)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

- 12 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—Report—Living with salinity – a report on progress: The extent and economic impact of salinity in Australia**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Bartlett)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 13 **Legal and Constitutional References Committee—Report—Administration and operation of the *Migration Act 1958***  
Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Crossin)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 14 **Community Affairs References Committee—Reports entitled: Forgotten Australians: A report on Australians who experienced institutional or out-of-home care as children—Protecting vulnerable children: A national challenge: Inquiry into Australians who experienced institutional or out-of-home care—Government responses**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Murray—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

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

- 1 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 36 of 2005-06—Performance audit—Management of the Tiger Armed Reconnaissance Helicopter Project – Air 87: Department of Defence; Defence Materiel Organisation**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bishop—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 2 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 49 of 2005-06—Performance audit—Job placement and matching services: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Moore—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Wong, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).
- 3 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 1 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Administration of the Native Title Respondents Funding Scheme: Attorney-General's Department**  
Consideration (*4 September 2006*).
- \*4 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 2 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Export certification: Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service**  
Consideration (*6 September 2006*).
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## GENERAL BUSINESS

### Notices of Motion

*Notice given 9 December 2004*

- 56 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob 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.

*Notice given 10 May 2005*

- 123 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) affirms:
    - (i) its support for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and, in particular, Article 12 that refers to the need to ensure 'access to health care services, including those related to family planning',
    - (ii) the principle that health decisions should be made by those most closely involved with them, and
    - (iii) its respect for the right of women to make decisions regarding their fertility, including unplanned pregnancies, based on their life situations, personal values and beliefs;
  - (b) notes that in the Australian Survey of Social Attitudes (2003), 81.2 per cent of Australians agreed that women should have the right to choose an abortion, 9 per cent disagreed and 10 per cent were undecided;
  - (c) encourages:
    - (i) the provision of unbiased, relevant and accurate information for women experiencing unwanted pregnancy, without coercion,
    - (ii) accurate advice and support for women to act on their own values in making reproductive decisions, whether they be adoption, motherhood or termination of pregnancy, including non-directive, all-options counselling,
    - (iii) improvements in the evaluation of, and access to, advice and support on contraceptive choices,



- (iv) measures to ensure a wide variety of contraceptive measures are accessible and affordable, and that the privacy of women and men accessing such measures is protected,
  - (v) the more ready availability of emergency contraception from a variety of settings, and
  - (vi) lifelong sexuality and health education;
- (d) calls on the Government to work with state and territory governments to develop:
- (i) a thorough and inclusive national framework of evidence-based and age-appropriate sex education in all schools, and
  - (ii) national standards for pregnancy counselling services; and
- (e) supports the privacy of medical records for reproductive health, including abortion and access to Medicare rebates for termination services.

*Notice given 11 May 2005*

- 137 **Senator Conroy:** To move—That the order of the Senate providing for estimates hearings be amended by adding at the end of paragraph (2) the following:  
“and (b) that officers of the ACCC responsible for communications matters, including telecommunications matters, are required to appear before the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee considering Budget estimates during May 2005”.

*Notice given 16 June 2005*

- 176 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate calls on the Government to bring Australia’s troops home from Iraq.

*Notice given 17 August 2005*

- 225 **Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that:
    - (i) Friday, 26 August 2005 is the 4th anniversary of the rescue of 433 asylum seekers by the MV *Tampa*, and
    - (ii) 4 years later, 32 asylum seekers remain on Nauru as part of the Government’s cruel Pacific Solution; and
  - (b) calls on the Government to bring the remaining asylum seekers still on Nauru to the Australian mainland.

*Notice given 6 September 2005*

- 240 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison) and Senator McLucas:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) recognises that the United Nations (UN) Secretary General’s report on achieving the Millennium Development Goals, *In larger freedom*, calls on governments to ensure universal access to reproductive health services;
  - (b) acknowledges that in January 2005 the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) reaffirmed the vision of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) for human development, social justice, economic progress and environmental preservation and called on the international community, national governments and private philanthropic organisations to prioritise the ICPD Program of Action; and

- (c) recognises that access to sexual and reproductive health is also a critical strategy towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment, the third of the Millennium Development Goals.

*(As amended on 8 September 2005.)*

*Notice given 8 September 2005*

252 **Senator Milne:** To move—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) based on longstanding bipartisan policy as announced by the then Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, in May 1997 (Uranium—Australia's Decision, Fraser Government, 24 May 1977), export of uranium from Australia is permitted, in the case of non-nuclear weapon states, only to those which are party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and with which Australia has a bilateral safeguards agreement, and
- (ii) India is not a signatory to the treaty; and therefore
- (b) calls on the Government to immediately rule out the export of uranium from Australia to India in order to uphold our international obligations as a signatory to the treaty.

*Notice of motion altered on 12 September 2005 pursuant to standing order 77.*

*Notice given 4 October 2005*

268 **Senator Carr:** To move—That the Senate supports the maintenance of compulsory voting for federal elections.

*Notice given 30 November 2005*

339 **Senator Lundy:** To move—That the Senate condemns the Howard Government's targeted attack on women in Australian society through its extreme industrial relations changes and the changes contained in the so-called welfare to work proposals.

340 **Senator Sherry:** To move—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Treasurer, no later than 2.30 pm on Friday, 2 December 2005, all correspondence in relation to the nomination and appointment of Mr Robert Gerard to the Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia, from 1 January 2003 until 1 December 2005, between:

- (a) the Department of the Treasury and the Treasurer (Mr Costello);
- (b) the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Prime Minister (Mr Howard); and
- (c) the Attorney-General (Mr Ruddock) and the Treasurer.

*Notice given 2 December 2005*

343 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) abhors the hanging of Australian citizen Mr Nguyen Tuong Van in Singapore on Friday, 2 December 2005; and
- (b) reiterates its opposition to the death penalty wherever in the world it is invoked.

*Notice given 7 February 2006*

- 364 **Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding):** To move—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee on the Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Repeal of Ministerial responsibility for approval of RU486) Bill 2005 be extended to 16 February 2006.

*Notice given 29 March 2006*

- 410 **Senator Ludwig:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) condemns the Howard Government's extreme workplace relations changes which took effect in the week beginning 26 March 2006, and the immediate adverse impact that they have had in undermining the employment security and conditions of all ten million working Australians; and
  - (b) calls on the Government to scrap its extreme workplace relations changes and turn its attention to those areas that will realise genuine productivity improvements, in particular, fixing the nation's skills shortage.

*Notice given 14 August 2006*

- 490 **Senator Bartlett:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that:
    - (i) alarming rates of deforestation are occurring in south east Asia and the Pacific region through illegal and unsustainable logging practices,
    - (ii) unsustainable management of natural resources will have long-term negative economic, environmental and social consequences for countries in which illegal logging is occurring,
    - (iii) illegal logging and associated trade in timber products contributes to corruption, money laundering, organised crime and human rights abuses, and threatens the viability of responsible companies that want to invest in sustainable forest practices,
    - (iv) there is a suspected presence of illegal timber from Papua New Guinea and Indonesia in Australia, and
    - (v) the Australian Government committed to addressing the problem at the 2004 election and has since reaffirmed this commitment; and
  - (b) calls on the Government to:
    - (i) develop a 'test of legality' for forest products to be imported into Australia and facilitate its voluntary application by importers, with the aim of stopping the importation of illegal timber into Australia; and, in the advent that voluntary compliance has not led to the halting of the importation of illegal timber within 3 to 5 years, agree to implement further mechanisms to achieve this end, and
    - (ii) work within Australia and other countries in the Asia-Pacific region to facilitate the wide-spread adoption of certified and sustainable forest management practices that would stand the scrutiny of internationally recognised forest certification schemes and the International Organization for Standardization, recognised by the United Nations.

*Notice of motion altered on 5 September and 6 September 2006 pursuant to standing order 77.*

*Notice given 16 August 2006*

501 **Senator Stephens:** To move—That the Senate condemns the Howard Government for its failure to keep inflationary pressures in the Australian economy under control, including:

- (a) appropriately addressing the skilled labour shortage;
- (b) recognising that capacity constraints are choking the economy;
- (c) adequately addressing the rising price of petrol; and
- (d) the growing disparity between executive salaries and wages of working Australians.

*Notice given 17 August 2006*

507 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To move—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Santoro), no later than the end of question time on 5 September 2006, the report on developments in assisted reproductive technology prepared for the Government by Matthews Pegg Consulting Pty Ltd.

*Notice of motion altered on 17 August 2006 pursuant to standing order 77.*

*Notice given 4 September 2006*

509 **Senator Bartlett:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the week beginning 3 September 2006 is Child Protection Week, and
  - (ii) there have been repeated, fundamental major failures by a number of child welfare agencies and others to protect children from serious abuse and neglect;
- (b) urges the Federal Government to prioritise the encouragement of states and territories to develop uniform laws and strategies on child protection; and
- (c) expresses support for child protection to be made a national priority and for all governments to urgently decide on ways to significantly reduce child abuse and neglect in Australia.

*Notice of motion altered on 5 September and 6 September 2006 pursuant to standing order 77.*

*Notice given 5 September 2006*

517 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) 9 September 2006 is International Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day, and
  - (ii) there is no cure for foetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) but they are 100 per cent preventable;
- (b) recognises that:
  - (i) those born with FASD have mild to profound, lifelong disabilities, usually intellectual developmental disorders, and
  - (ii) early diagnosis can lead to better outcomes if services and programs are available to support children and families; and

- (c) calls on the Government to:
- (i) promote awareness of the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol through warning labels on all alcohol products,
  - (ii) reconsider recommendations in the document, *National clinical guidelines for the management of drug use during pregnancy, birth and the early development years of the newborn*, in relation to alcohol consumption during pregnancy given the compelling international evidence that mothers who drink even small amounts of alcohol during pregnancy could unwittingly harm their unborn children,
  - (iii) provide specific resources to help identify and support children who have FASD, and
  - (iv) ensure that all newborns are screened for FASD.

*Notice of motion altered on 5 September 2006 pursuant to standing order 77.*

*Notice given 6 September 2006*

**\*525 Senator Siewert:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
- (i) the recent decision by the Western Australian Minister for Indigenous Affairs to vary the protection of the Woodstock-Abydos Reserves in the Pilbara, in order to accommodate the building of a railway by Fortescue Metals Group Limited, and
  - (ii) that the building of a railway on these reserves would impact on Aboriginal sites within the reserves; and
- (b) expresses regret at the potential loss of Aboriginal heritage and urges a review of the decision to vary the protection of the Woodstock-Abydos Reserves.

**\*526 Senator Bartlett:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to end the mandatory detention of visa applicants and asylum seekers, and for related purposes. *Migration Legislation Amendment (End of Mandatory Detention) Bill 2006.*

**\*527 Senator McLucas:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) the Government is divided over the sale of Medibank Private,
  - (ii) the public is concerned about the consequences of the sale of Medibank Private and its impact on the affordability of private health insurance, and
  - (iii) despite government promises to keep private health insurance premiums low, they have risen by almost 40 per cent since 2001; and
- (b) calls on the Government to abandon plans to sell-off Medibank Private.

**\*528 Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) supports the right of parliamentarians to freely pursue their duties;
- (b) notes the opposition of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the European Parliament and the New Zealand Parliament to Israel's arrest of more than 20 members of the Palestinian Parliament; and

- (c) calls for the immediate and unconditional release of the Palestinian Speaker, the Deputy Prime Minister and the other arrested ministers and members of the Palestinian Parliament.

\*529 **Senator Milne:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the Federal Coalition promised at the 2004 federal election to introduce within 100 days a mandatory code of conduct to govern dealings between farmers and grocery buyers, and
  - (ii) on 4 September 2006, the National Farmers' Federation and the Horticulture Australia Council stated that the delay in delivering on this pledge is fuelling speculation that the Government will renege on its promise; and
- (b) calls on the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Mr McGauran) to explain to the parliament why the Government has not implemented its promise and whether and when it intends to do so.

\*530 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate supports the Geneva Convention and opposes the failure to implement the convention regardless of by whom or where they may be breached.

\*531 **Senator Milne:** To move—That, on National Threatened Species Day, the Senate—

- (a) recognises that habitat destruction and fragmentation together with alien invasive species exacerbated by global warming are the main drivers of species extinction globally;
- (b) notes that:
  - (i) since 1788, 52 plants and 55 animal species have gone to extinction in Australia including the Thylacine, which was last seen in Tasmania 70 years ago today, and
  - (ii) in 2006 there are 1 243 plants, 91 mammals, 107 birds, 52 reptiles, 27 frogs, 39 fishes and 22 invertebrates listed as either critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable or conservation dependent in Australia;
- (c) expresses concern that only 21 per cent of nationally-listed threatened species have recovery plans, none of which any longer have implementation schedules or life of the project funding plans;
- (d) calls on the Government to recognise that protection of threatened species under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* has failed and does not fulfil Australia's obligations to protect threatened species under the Convention on Biological Diversity; and
- (e) urges the Government to immediately develop and implement legislation that does protect threatened species.

\*532 **Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) congratulates the organisers of 'A Taste of Slow - Australia 2006', a 'Slow Food' festival culminating in the Abbotsford Convent Weekend in Victoria on the weekend of 9 and 10 September 2006 at the Collingwood Children's Farm and Collingwood Farmers Market;

- (b) notes:
- (i) the fast growing international Slow Food Movement, which was founded not only as a response to the culture of fast food, but to encourage the use of local seasonal produce, to restore time-honoured methods of food production and preparation and to highlight the importance of sharing food at communal tables, and
  - (ii) that the Slow Food Movement encourages environmentally sustainable production, the ethical treatment of animals and social justice;
- (c) recognises:
- (i) the importance of family meal times for the emotional, cultural and physical health of our communities, and
  - (ii) the importance of promoting healthy food options in light of increasing community health concerns such as obesity, diabetes and related nutritionally linked disease;
- (d) calls on the Government to take action to promote healthy food options; and
- (e) notes, with concern, the pressures placed on family time due to the rapid rise in non-standard work hours.

## Orders of the Day relating to Government Documents

### 1 Department of Defence—Report for 2004-05

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

### 2 Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report for 2004-05

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

### 3 Aboriginal Land Commissioner—Report for 2004-05

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

### 4 North Queensland Land Council Native Title Representative Body Aboriginal Corporation—Report for 2004-05

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

### 5 Torres Strait Regional Authority—Report for 2004-05

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

### 6 Australian Taxation Office—Government Co-contribution Scheme—Quarterly report for the period 1 July to 30 September 2005

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

### 7 Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited (ARTC)—Report for 2004-05

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Webber—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 17 August 2006*).

**8 Natural Heritage Trust—Report for 2004-05**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Milne—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 17 August 2006*).

**9 National Rural Advisory Council—Report for 2001-02, including a report on the Rural Adjustment Scheme**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stott Despoja—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 17 August 2006*).

**10 National Rural Advisory Council—Report for 2002-03**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stott Despoja—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 17 August 2006*).

**11 Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Government response to the Commonwealth Ombudsman’s reports—Personal identifiers 003/05 to 013/05 and 015/05, dated 7 February 2006**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

**12 Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 003/05, 4 November 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

**13 Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 004/05, 21 November 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

**14 Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 005/05, 4 November 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

**15 Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 006/05, 21 November 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

**16 Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 007/05, 21 November 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).



- 17 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 008/05, 21 November 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 18 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 009/05, 25 November 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 19 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 010/05, 25 November 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 20 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 011/05, 4 November 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 21 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 012/05, 4 November 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 22 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 013/05, 25 November 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 23 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 015/05, 4 November 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 24 **National Environment Protection Council and NEPC Service Corporation—Report for 2004-05**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 25 **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner—Report for 2005—Social justice (Report no. 3/2005)**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Crossin—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

- 26 **Cape York Land Council Aboriginal Corporation—Report for 2004-05**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stephens—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 27 **Commonwealth Grants Commission—Report on state revenue sharing relativities—2006 update**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Watson—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 17 August 2006*).
- 28 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 014/05, 1 December 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 29 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Report by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifier 016/05, 1 December 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 30 **Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—Protection visa processing taking more than 90 days—Report for the period 1 July to 31 October 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).
- 31 **Australian Taxation Office—Government Co-contribution Scheme—Quarterly report for the period 1 October to 31 December 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).
- 32 **Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997—Live-stock mortalities for exports by sea—Report for the period 1 July to 31 December 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).
- 33 **Queensland Fisheries Joint Authority—Report for 2003-04**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).
- 34 **Indigenous Business Australia—Corporate plan 2006-2008**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).
- 35 **Multilateral treaty—Text of the proposed treaty action together with the national interest analysis and annexures—Agreement Establishing the Pacific Islands Forum, done at Port Moresby on 27 October 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).

36 **Migration Act 1958—Section 440A—Conduct of Refugee Review Tribunal reviews not completed within 90 days—Report for the period 1 July to 31 October 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).

37 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Government response to the Commonwealth Ombudsman's reports—Personal identifiers 017/05 to 019/05 and 020/06 to 048/06, dated 28 March 2006**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).

38 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Reports by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifiers 017/05 to 019/05 and 020/06 to 048/06**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).

39 **National Rural Advisory Council—Report for 2004-05**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).

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

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).

41 **Australia—Indonesia Institute—Report for 2004-05**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stott Despoja—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 17 August 2006*).

42 **Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)—Australian Aid: Promoting growth and stability—White paper**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stott Despoja—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 17 August 2006*).

43 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Government response to the Commonwealth Ombudsman's reports—Personal identifiers 049/06 to 055/06, dated 9 May 2006**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

44 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Reports by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifiers 049/06 to 055/06**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

45 **Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—Protection visa processing taking more than 90 days—Report for the period 1 November 2005 to 28 February 2006**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

- 46 **Australian Livestock Export Corporation Limited (Livecorp)—Report for 2004-05**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 17 August 2006*).
- 47 **Australian Taxation Office—Government Co-contribution Scheme—Quarterly report for the period 1 January to 31 March 2006**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 48 **Roads to Recovery Programme—Report for 2004-05**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 17 August 2006*).
- 49 **Northern Territory Fisheries Joint Authority—Report for 2004-05**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Siewert—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 17 August 2006*).
- 50 **Australian National University—Report for 2005**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).
- 51 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Government response to the Commonwealth Ombudsman’s reports—Personal identifiers 056/06 to 066/06, dated 14 June 2006**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).
- 52 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Reports by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifiers 056/06 to 066/06**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Kirk—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Kirk, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).
- 53 **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission—Report for the period 1 July 2004 to 23 March 2005 [Final]**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 17 August 2006*).
- 54 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Government response to the Commonwealth Ombudsman’s reports—Personal identifiers 067/06 to 069/06, dated 15 August 2006**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).
- 55 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Reports by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifiers 067/06 to 069/06**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 17 August 2006*).

## Orders of the Day

- 1 **Anti-Genocide Bill 1999 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)  
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*).  
(*This bill may be considered together with the Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2003 [2004] during the second reading debate, order of 13 October 2005.*)
- 5 **Defence Amendment (Parliamentary approval for Australian involvement in overseas conflicts) Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senators Bartlett and 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*).  
(*This bill may be considered together with the Constitution Alteration (Electors' Initiative, Fixed Term Parliaments and Qualification of Members) 2000 [2004] during the second reading debate, order of 13 October 2005.*)
- 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*)  
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*)  
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*)  
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 20 **Sexuality and Gender Identity Discrimination Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)  
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 21 **State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)  
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*)—(*Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob 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*)—(*Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bob 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*).
- 32 **Spyware Bill 2005**—(*Senate bill*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*12 May 2005*).
- 33 **Family and Community Services—Welfare reform**  
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Wong—That the Senate notes the Howard Government's cuts to the incomes of the most vulnerable families in Australia, its introduction of a parents' dole and a disability dole, and its failure to effectively tackle the need for real welfare reform (*12 May 2005*).

- 34 **Migration Amendment (Act of Compassion) Bill 2005**  
**Migration Amendment (Mandatory Detention) Bill 2005**—(*Senate bills*)—  
 (*Senator Nettle and the Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Nettle, in continuation, 16 June 2005*).
- 35 **National Animal Welfare Bill 2005**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 20 June 2005*).
- 36 **Taxation Laws Amendment (Scholarships) Bill 2005**—(*Senate bill*)—  
 (*Senator Stott Despoja*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 21 June 2005*).
- 37 **Transparent Advertising and Notification of Pregnancy Counselling Services Bill 2005**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 23 June 2005*).
- 38 **Truth in Food Labelling Bill 2003 [2005]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown*)  
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp), in continuation, 15 September 2005*) (*restored pursuant to resolution of 11 August 2005*).
- 39 **Employment—Skills shortages—Training policies**  
 Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator George Campbell—That the Senate notes that:
- (a) the Howard Government's training policies since 1996 have contributed to Australia's current skills shortages in the traditional trades; and
  - (b) the Government's inaction in addressing this national skills crisis is hurting Australian businesses, families, young people and the economy (*Senator Moore, in continuation, 11 August 2005*).
- 40 **Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Ministerial responsibility**  
 Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate expresses its deep concern that the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (Senator Vanstone) has failed to take responsibility for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs despite the ongoing revelations and rising financial and human cost of the portfolio mismanagement (*18 August 2005*).
- 41 **36th Presiding Officers and Clerks Conference, APIA, Samoa, 11 to 15 July 2005 and ancillary meetings—Report by Deputy President Senator John Hogg and Deputy Speaker the Honourable Ian Causley MP, dated August 2005**  
 Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ferguson—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ferguson, in continuation, 6 September 2005*).



**42 Parliament—Senate—Processes and procedures**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate condemns the Government's arrogant abuse of its Senate majority in subverting the Senate's processes and procedures (*Minister for Ageing (Senator Santoro), in continuation, 8 September 2005*).

**43 Enhancements to the Australian Defence Force military justice system, 5 October 2005—Ministerial statement**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bishop—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Hogg, in continuation, 5 October 2005*).

**44 Australian electoral system**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate opposes attempts by the Government to restrict the franchise and reduce the transparency of the Australian electoral system (*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz), in continuation, 6 October 2005*).

**45 Parliamentary Charter of Rights and Freedoms Bill 2001 [2005]—(Senate bill)**

Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 9 November 2005*).

**46 Law and Justice—Australia's border security**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O'Brien—That the Senate notes the incompetence of the Howard Government in its failure to protect Australia's border security, quarantine and environmental integrity and its fishery resource in northern Australia and northern Australian waters (*Senator Ronaldson, in continuation, 10 November 2005*).

**48 Community Affairs References Committee—Children in institutional care—States and territories—Response—Letters to the President of the Senate, responding to the resolutions of the Senate of 29 December 2005, from the—  
Minister for Family and Community Services (Northern Territory) (Ms Lawrie), dated 9 January 2006  
Premier of Queensland (Mr Beattie), dated 22 December 2005  
Premier of Victoria (Mr Bracks), dated 23 December 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Murray—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Murray, in continuation, 7 February 2006*).

**49 Administration—Government accountability**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O'Brien—That the Senate notes that:

- (a) over a decade in office the Howard Government has established a new low for government integrity and accountability; and
- (b) the Howard Government's record is littered with scandals involving rorts, waste and incompetence (*2 March 2006*).

**50 Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 30 March 2006*).

**51 Family and Community Services—Child care**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Lundy—That the Senate condemns the Howard Government for ignoring in the Budget the urgent needs of parents struggling with the cost, availability and quality of child care, noting:

- (a) the incompetence of the Howard Government in allocating \$60 million for child care places that will never be delivered given that there are already 100 000 unallocated places due mainly to the shortage of child care professionals;
- (b) the failure to bring forward the 30 per cent rebate on out-of-pocket child care expenses despite criticism of the rebate from the Government's own backbench and the fact that child care fees are rising far in excess of other goods and services; and
- (c) that parents who cannot find child care, cannot work, adding to the skills shortage (*Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp), in continuation, 11 May 2006*).

**52 Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Zone Excision Repeal) (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2006**

**Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Zone Excision Repeal) Bill 2006—(Senate bills)—(Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 15 June 2006*).

**53 Same-Sex Marriages Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senators Stott Despoja and Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 15 June 2006*).

**54 Migration Legislation Amendment (Appropriate Access to Detention Centres) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 19 June 2006*).

**55 Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Amendment (Disallowance Power of the Commonwealth) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown))**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bob Brown, in continuation, 19 June 2006*).

**56 Migration Legislation Amendment (Temporary Protection Visas Repeal) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 22 June 2006*).

**57 Privacy (Extension to Political Acts and Practices) Amendment Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Stott Despoja)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 22 June 2006*).

**58 Australian Defence Force commitment to southern Iraq—Ministerial statement**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown), in continuation, 22 June 2006*).

**59 Australian Defence Force commitment to Afghanistan—Ministerial statement**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 9 August 2006*).

**60 Family and Community Services—Housing affordability**

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

- (a) condemns the Howard Government for its failure to address the widely acknowledge affordability crisis in Australia's rental and home ownership markets; and
- (b) calls on the Howard Government to show leadership on this critical issue by working with state, territory and local governments, industry, business and the not-for-profit sector to develop a national housing strategy.

*And on the amendment moved by Senator Bartlett—Omit paragraph (a), substitute:*

“(a) condemns the Howard Government and the state and territory Labor governments for their failure to address the widely acknowledged affordability crisis in Australia's rental and home ownership markets; and” (*Senator Sherry, in continuation, 10 August 2006*).

**61 Migration Legislation Amendment (Provisions Relating to Character and Conduct) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 14 August 2006*).

**62 Migration Legislation Amendment (Return to Procedural Fairness) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).

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## BUSINESS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

### On 9 September 2006

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

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

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment Bill 2006. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

### Next day of sitting (11 September 2006)

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

*Notice given 19 June 2006*

- 1 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Watson):** To move—That the Migration Amendment Regulations 2006 (No. 1), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2006 No. 10 and made under the *Migration Act 1958*, be disallowed.

*Two sitting days remain, including today, to resolve the motion or the instrument will be deemed to have been disallowed.*

**Notice of intention to withdraw at the giving of notices on 7 September 2006**  
(*Notice given 6 September 2006*)

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

1 **Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Migration Amendment (Visa Integrity) Bill 2006. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

#### Government Business—Order of the Day

- 1 **Migration Amendment (Visa Integrity) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*21 June 2006*).

#### General Business—Notice of Motion

*Notice given 4 September 2006*

- 508 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) acknowledges the comments by President Karzai, on 8 March 2006, that ‘From fear of terrorism, from threats of the enemies of Afghanistan, today as we speak, some 100,000 Afghan children who went to school last year, and the year before last, do not go to school’;
- (b) notes the report by Human Rights Watch, *Lessons in Terror: Attacks on Education in Afghanistan*, which reports that:
  - (i) attacks against schools, teachers and students in Afghanistan have risen markedly in late 2005 and the first half of 2006, with more attacks having been reported in the first half of 2006 than in all of 2005, including at least 17 assassinations of teachers and education officials, and more than 204 attacks on teachers, students and schools which have led to hundreds of schools being shut down or destroyed,
  - (ii) the majority of primary-school-age girls in Afghanistan remain out of school and, at the secondary level, gross enrolment rates were only 5 per cent for girls in 2004, compared with 20 per cent for boys, and

- (iii) attacks on education have a disproportionate effect on the education of girls as some attacks are motivated by ideological opposition to girls' education specifically, and parents often have a lower threshold for pulling their daughters out of school than boys, given greater social restrictions on girls' movements and legitimate concerns about sexual harassment and violence; and
- (c) calls on the Federal Government to use access to education as a key benchmark to measure the success of Afghan and international efforts to bring security to Afghanistan, and in particular gender equality in access to education.

### **Four sitting days after today (14 September 2006)**

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

*Notice given 22 June 2006*

- 1 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Watson):** To move—That the Broadcasting Services (Anti-Terrorism Requirements for Subscription Television Narrowcasting Services) Standard 2006, made under subsection 125(2) of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*, be disallowed.

*Five sitting days remain, including today, to resolve the motion or the instrument will be deemed to have been disallowed.*

### **On 14 September 2006**

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

- 1 **Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

### **On 4 October 2006**

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

- 1 **Economics Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 4) Bill 2006. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

### **On 9 October 2006**

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

- 1 **Economics Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on petrol pricing in Australia.

### On the first day of the spring sittings (2) 2006 (9 October 2006)

#### Government Business—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment (Antarctic Seals and Other Measures) Bill 2006**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (9 August 2006).
- 2 **Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment Bill 2006**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (16 August 2006).
- \*3 **Archives Amendment Bill 2006**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Ageing, Senator Santoro*)  
Second reading—Adjourned debate (6 September 2006).

### Seven sitting days after today (10 October 2006)

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

*Notice given 10 August 2006*

- 1 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Watson):** To move—That the Broadcasting Services (Anti-terrorism Requirements for Open Narrowcasting Television Services) Standard 2006, made under subsection 125(2) of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*, be disallowed.  
*Eight sitting days remain, including today, to resolve the motion or the instrument will be deemed to have been disallowed.*

### On 18 October 2006

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

- 1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee**  
Report to be presented on Pacific region seasonal contract labour.

### On 19 October 2006

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

- 1 **Community Affairs References Committee**  
Report to be presented on gynaecological cancer in Australia.
- 2 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee**  
Report to be presented on Australia's future oil supply.
- 3 **Finance and Public Administration References Committee**  
Report to be presented on the transparency and accountability of Commonwealth public funding and expenditure.

**On 30 November 2006**

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**  
Report to be presented on Australia's national parks.
- 2 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee**  
Report to be presented on water policy initiatives.

**By the last sitting week of 2006 (4 to 7 December 2006)**

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Community Affairs References Committee**  
Report to be presented on funding and operation of the Commonwealth-State/Territory Disability Agreement.

**By the last sitting day in 2006 (7 December 2006)**

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**  
Report to be presented on naval shipbuilding in Australia.
- 2 **Legal and Constitutional References Committee**  
Report to be presented on Indigenous workers whose paid labour was controlled by Government.

**On 7 December 2006**

Business of the Senate—Notice of Motion

*Notice given 29 March 2006*

- 1 **Senator Carr:** To move—That—
  - (a) the Senate recognises that secure and affordable housing provides a platform for social inclusion, good mental and physical health and participation in employment, education and training; and
  - (b) the following matter be referred to the Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 29 November 2006:  
An examination of the housing needs of low and middle income households across Australia, whether those needs are being met and options for improving outcomes, including:
    - (i) the capacity of the Commonwealth Government to influence the price and availability of housing,
    - (ii) the effectiveness and efficiency of existing forms of direct government rental housing assistance in alleviating housing stress and ensuring that Australians have access to affordable, secure and appropriately located housing, with particular reference to:

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

### **By the first sitting day in 2007**

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

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

Report to be presented on Australia's Indigenous visual arts and craft sector.

### **On the tenth sitting day of 2007**

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

**\*1 Legislation Committees**

Reports to be presented on annual reports tabled by 31 October 2006.

### **By the last sitting day in June 2007**

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

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

Report to be presented on workforce challenges in the Australian transport sector.

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## BILLS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

### Bills currently referred†

#### **Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment Bill 2006‡**

Referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee (*referred 16 August 2006; reporting date: 9 September 2006*).

#### **Migration Amendment (Visa Integrity) Bill 2006‡**

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (*referred 9 August 2006; reporting date: 11 September 2006*).

### Provisions of bills currently referred†

#### **Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005‡**

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (*referred 7 September 2005; reporting date varied 11 October 2005; reporting date varied 7 February 2006; reporting date: 14 September 2006*).

#### **Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 4) Bill 2006‡**

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred 16 August 2006; interim report presented 31 August 2006; reporting date varied 4 September 2006; reporting date: 4 October 2006*).

†Further information about the progress of these bills may be found in the Senate Daily Bills Update at [www.aph.gov.au/parlinfo/billsnet/billsupd.pdf](http://www.aph.gov.au/parlinfo/billsnet/billsupd.pdf).

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

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## BILLS DISCHARGED, LAID ASIDE OR NEGATIVED

### Government Bills

#### **Superannuation Laws Amendment (Abolition of Surcharge) Bill 2005**

Second reading negatived, 15 June 2005.

Restored to *Notice Paper* pursuant to resolution of 10 August 2005 and passed.

#### **Workplace Relations Amendment (Better Bargaining) Bill 2005**

Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 30 March 2006.

#### **Workplace Relations Amendment (Extended Prohibition of Compulsory Union Fees) Bill 2005**

Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 30 March 2006.

**Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004**Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 30 March 2006.**Workplace Relations Amendment (Small Business Employment Protection) Bill 2005**Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 30 March 2006.

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## QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

*Questions remaining unanswered*

Question Nos, as shown, from 29 to 2321 remain unanswered for 30 or more days (see standing order 74(5)).

*Notice given 16 November 2004*

- 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.
- 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.

*Notice given 17 November 2004*

- 68 **Senator Bob 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.

*Notice given 19 November 2004*

- 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.

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.

*Notice given 23 December 2004*

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.

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.

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.

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 March 2005*

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.

*Notice given 17 March 2005*

**Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 469-474)—With reference to Gunns' proposed pulp mill at Bell Bay in Tasmania:

- (1) From January 2002 to date, what communications have there been between the Minister, the Minister's staff or department and Gunns Ltd relating to the proposed pulp mill, and in each case: (a) what was the date of the communication; (b) what was the nature of the communication; (c) who was involved in the communication; and (d) what was the purpose and content of the communication.
- (2) (a) What conditions apply to the Government's offer of \$5 million assistance for the pulp mill; and (b) when is the money likely to be made available.

469 Minister representing the Prime Minister

*Notice given 18 March 2005*

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

- (1) Further to questions on notice nos 447 and 464, on how many occasions since August 2004 has Air Vice Marshal (AVM) Beck, Director of the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG), visited Turkey.
- (2) For each of AVM Beck's visits: (a) what was the itinerary of each visit; (b) what was the cost of each visit; (c) what meetings did he have with Turkish officials; and (d) on each occasion, with whom did he speak.
- (3) When was AVM Beck first provided with information from Turkish officials concerning road works at Gallipoli.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm if AVM Beck consulted with the Outer Area Office of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) in Maidenhead, United Kingdom, or the out station at Canakkale, Turkey.
- (5) What, if any, consultation was there with tour operators in Australia, Istanbul or Canakkale.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that the planning procedures for these road works were the same as those for the construction of the Peace Park; if not, why not.
- (7) When was AVM Beck first provided with prepared options and draft plans, either as impressions or as formal drawings.
- (8) How many options were provided, and what, if any, feedback was given.
- (9) Did the options include stopping the road works short of Anzac Cove, or an alternative route to landward; if so, why were they not pursued.
- (10) Can the Minister confirm precisely which sections of the road were subject to these consultations.
- (11) What information, by way of drawings, photographs, or graphic images were provided by AVM Beck for Turkish consideration.
- (12) Currently, what is the width of each section of the road, and what is the width of each new section.

- (13) (a) Have other officers visited Turkey to assist AVM Beck, if so who; and (b) what has been the total cost of their travel.
- (14) Has OAWG established an office at Canakkale; if so: (a) what was the cost; (b) for how long; and (c) by whom was it staffed.
- (15) (a) What technical advice has been sought from consultants in connection with the road plans; (b) for what purpose; (c) from whom was the information sought; and (d) what was the cost.
- (16) What expressions of concern were made by AVM Beck to Turkish officials on the extent of the earth works and the disfigurement of the cliff face.
- (17) (a) What measures were considered to prevent erosion; and (b) what volume of material is planned to be placed in the sea or on the beach.
- (18) Did the plans provide for environmental regeneration and protection.
- (19) Did Australia provide technical advice on any part of the construction including drainage, erosion protection, traffic management, replanting or visitor control and if so, who provided that advice.
- (20) (a) Apart from the road construction, what other broader planning was undertaken prior to this project to examine the effect of tourism on the whole Gallipoli site; (b) what strategic planning has been undertaken; and (c) what input has been provided by the Government.
- (21) Over the past 5 years: (a) what consultancy or expert advice has been sought with respect to the preservation of heritage values on the entire Gallipoli site; (b) what are the details of each consultancy or advice; and (c) what are the costs.
- (22) At any stage, did AVM Beck object to the scope of the Turkish plans and were those concerns conveyed to the Minister; if so: (a) when and in what form was that concern expressed to the Minister; and (b) what was the Minister's response.
- (23) (a) Did AVM Beck object to the Turkish plans; (b) was a request made for amendments, or for work to be suspended; if so: (i) when were these requests made, and (ii) what were the responses.
- (24) Can the Minister confirm the number of occasions, and the dates, of these discussions held with the Embassy of Turkey in Canberra on this project, and which departments were represented.
- (25) Did the Minister and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade receive representations from the Government of Turkey in Canberra or Ankara, on the detailed planning for this project; if so, can this information be provided.
- (26) In each of the options considered; (a) what variations were there with respect to parking at all sites; (b) which of the variations were requested by Australia; (c) which of the variations were objected to by Australia; and (d) what was the outcome.
- (27) As part of the works now under way, what parking capacity is being provided for buses and cars, and at what sites.
- (28) How many cubic metres of soil are being removed from the sites, and how is it being disposed of.
- (29) On how many occasions has AVM Beck briefed the Minister since August 2004.
- (30) Has the Department of Environment and Heritage been consulted, at any stage, on any options; if so, what was its response.



- (31) Was the Australian War Memorial (AWM) involved in any of the planning process, and in particular, what advice was sought and provided on likely burial sites of those missing from 1915 in the areas affected by the roads.
- (32) What information was provided by the CWGC on the likely burial sites of missing Australians, and what were the terms of that advice.
- (33) What other capital works were subject to consultations by AVM Beck, for which facilities, and where.
- (34) Did Australia offer any capital support for any of the works discussed; if so, what was the cost and what were the purposes.
- (35) With reference to the entertainment to be provided during the ANZAC Day period at Gallipoli 2005, which entertainers other than Mr John Farnham were considered or contacted, and were Mr Guy Sebastian and Ms Casey Chambers included on those lists.
- (36) (a) Who contacted Mr John Farnham; (b) over what period did discussions continue on his engagement; (c) what were the terms of the proposed engagement; and (d) what was the estimated cost of his services.
- (37) (a) On whose direction was the proposal for Mr John Farnham's engagement cancelled; (b) did this direction require cancellation of any agreement or contract; if so: (i) was there a cancellation fee, and (ii) what was the cost of that cancellation fee.
- (38) (a) What process was instituted to select the contractors providing the sound and light show; (b) was it an open or selective tender process; and (c) why were Australian providers not considered and selected.
- (39) How many ministerial representations have been received by the Minister to 30 March 2005 on the matter of entertainment at Gallipoli and the road works.
- (40) What is the cost of the contract for the sound and light show, and what is the name of the contractor(s) selected.
- (41) How was the string quartet selected, who are they, and what is the cost.
- (42) How many Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel will be in attendance from Australia and other locations, and at what cost.
- (43) How many persons in the following categories will be in attendance: (a) officials from Australia (b) officials from Turkey; (c) elected representatives; and (d) members of royalty.
- (44) How many will be in the official party, and of those, how many will be funded by Australia and at what cost.
- (45) How many veterans have been included in the official party, who are they, and what is the cost of their travel.
- (46) How many officials with security responsibilities will be in attendance from Australia, and from which agencies.

*Notice given 3 May 2005*

583 **Senator George Campbell:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the Commonwealth Fleet Management Agreement:

- (1) Can a break-down be provided of all vehicles owned or leased by the Commonwealth Government under the Fleet Management Agreement, including: (a) the total number of vehicles; (b) vehicle type (e.g. sedan, wagon etc); and (c) user (e.g. department, authority etc).
- (2) Can a copy be provided of the Fleet Management Agreement.
- (3) Under the Fleet Management Agreement, does the Commonwealth have any say over the type of vehicles that are used.
- (4) Can full details be provided of any vehicles owned or leased by the Commonwealth which are not covered by the Fleet Management Agreement.

*Notice given 4 May 2005*

**Senator Evans:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 585-615)—With reference to the department and/or its agencies:

- (1) For each financial year from 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date: (a) how many consultants were engaged by the department and/or its agencies to conduct surveys of community attitudes to departmental programs and what was the total cost; and (b) for each consultancy: (i) what was the cost, (ii) who was the consultant, and (iii) was this consultant selected by tender; if so, was the tender select or open; if not, why not.
- (2) Were any of the surveys released publicly; if so, in each case, when was the material released; if not, in each case, what was the basis for not releasing the material publicly.

588 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

590 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

597 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

601 Minister representing the Special Minister of State

**Senator Evans:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 647-677)—For each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date, can the following information be provided for the department and/or its agencies:

- (1) What were the base and top level salaries of Australian Public Service (APS) level 1 to 6 officers and equivalent staff employed.
- (2) What were the base and top level salaries of APS Executive level and Senior Executive Service officers and equivalent staff employed.
- (3) Are APS officers eligible for performance or other bonuses; if so: (a) to what levels are these bonuses applied; (b) are these applied on an annual basis; (c) what conditions are placed on the qualification for these bonuses; and (d) how many bonuses were paid at each level, and what was their dollar value for the periods specified above.
- (4) (a) How many senior officers have been supplied with motor vehicles; and (b) what has been the cost to date.

- (5) (a) How many senior officers have been supplied with mobile phones; and (b) what has been the cost to date.
- (6) How many management retreats or training programs have staff attended.
- (7) How many management retreats or training programs have been held off-site.
- (8) In the case of each off-site management retreat or training program: (a) where was the event held; and (b) what was the cost of: (i) accommodation, (ii) food, (iii) alcohol, (iv) transport, and (v) other costs incurred.
- (9) How many official domestic trips have been undertaken by staff and what was the cost of this domestic travel, and in each case: (a) what was the destination; (b) what was the purpose of the travel; and (c) what was the cost of the travel, including a breakdown of: (i) accommodation, (ii) food, (iii) alcohol, (iv) transport, and (v) other costs incurred.
- (10) How many official overseas trips have been undertaken by staff and what was the cost of this travel, and in each case: (a) what was the destination; (b) what was the purpose of the travel; and (c) what was the cost of the travel, including a breakdown of: (i) accommodation, (ii) food, (iii) alcohol, (iv) transport, and (v) other costs incurred.
- (11) (a) What was the total cost of air charters used; and (b) on how many occasions was aircraft chartered, and in each case, what was the name of the charter company that provided the service and the respective costs.

650 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

652 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

**Senator Evans:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 678-708)—

- (1) In relation to all overseas travel where expenses were met by the Minister's portfolios, for each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date what was the total cost of travel and related expenses in relation to: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's family; and (c) the Minister's staff.
- (2) In relation to all air charters engaged and paid for by the Minister and/or the Minister's office and/or the department and its agencies, for each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date: (a) on how many occasions did the Minister or his/her office or department and/or agency charter aircraft, and in each case, what was the name of the charter company that provided the service and the related respective costs; and (b) what was the total cost.

678 Minister representing the Prime Minister

694 Minister for the Environment and Heritage

708 Minister representing the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues

**Senator Evans:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 710-740)—For each financial year since 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date:

- (1) (a) What overseas travel was undertaken by the Minister; (b) what was the purpose of the Minister's visit; (c) when did the Minister depart Australia; (d) who travelled with the Minister; and (e) when did the Minister return to Australia.
- (2) (a) Who did the Minister meet during the visit; and (b) what were the times and dates of each meeting.

- (3) (a) On how many of these trips was the Minister accompanied by a business delegation; and (b) can details be provided of any delegation accompanying the Minister.
- (4) Who met the cost of travel and other expenses associated with the trip.
- (5) What total travel and associated expenses, if any, were met by the department in relation to: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's family; (c) the Minister's staff; and (d) departmental and/or agency staff.
- (6) What were the costs per expenditure item for: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's family; and (c) the Minister's staff, including but not necessarily limited to: (i) fares, (ii) allowances, (iii) accommodation, (iv) hospitality, (v) insurance, and (vi) other costs.
- (7) What were the costs per expenditure item for each departmental and/or agency officer, including but not necessarily limited to: (a) fares; (b) allowances; (c) accommodation; (d) hospitality; (e) insurance; and (f) other costs.
- (8) (a) What was the total cost of air charters used by the Minister or his/her office or department; and (b) on how many occasions did the Minister or his/her office or department and/or agency charter aircraft, and in each case, what was the name of the charter company that provided the service and the respective costs.

710 Minister representing the Prime Minister

**Senator Evans:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 741-771)—For each financial year from 2000-01 to 2002-03 can the following information relating to advertising be provided:

- (1) (a) What advertising campaigns were commenced; and (b) for what programs.
- (2) In relation to each campaign: (a) what was its total cost, including a breakdown of advertising costs for: (i) television placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) mail outs with brochures, and (v) research on advertising; and (b) what was the commencement and cessation date for each aspect of the campaign placement.
- (3) For each campaign: (a) on which television stations did the advertising campaign screen; (b) on which radio stations did the advertising campaign feature; and (c) in which newspapers did the advertising campaign feature.
- (4) Which: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies, were engaged for the campaign.
- (5) In the event of a mail out, what database was used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (6) (a) What appropriations did 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) in which financial year will these appropriations be made; (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.

- (7) Was a request 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.
- (8) Did the Minister for Finance and Administration issue a drawing right as referred to in paragraph (7); if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (9) 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.

754 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Tourism

767 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism

**Senator Evans:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 833-863)—With reference to the department and/or its agencies:

- (1) For each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date, can a list be provided of customer service telephone lines, including: (a) the telephone number of each customer service line; (b) whether the number is toll free and open 24 hours; (c) which output area is responsible for the customer service line; and (d) where this call centre is located.
- (2) For each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date, what was the cost of maintaining the customer service lines.
- (3) For each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date, can a breakdown be provided of all direct and indirect costs, including: (a) staff costs; (b) infrastructure costs (including maintenance); (c) telephone costs; (d) departmental costs; and (e) any other costs.
- (4) How many calls have been received, by year, in each year of the customer service line's operation.

853 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services

*Notice given 24 June 2005*

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 982-1011)—For each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05, has the Minister, the department or any agency or statutory authority for which the Minister is responsible, made grants or other payments to business organisations and/or associations, including but not necessarily limited to peak employer groups; if so, can information be provided for each grant or other payment including: (a) the name and address of the recipient organisation; (b) the quantum and purpose of the payment; (c) the name of the program under which the grant or other payment was funded; (d) who approved the grant or other payment; and (e) whether the grant or payment was successfully acquitted; if so, when; if not, can details be provided, including action taken to recover the grant or other payment.

991 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

1000 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

*Notice given 21 July 2005*

1037 **Senator Forshaw:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the current and proposed advertising campaign on the Government's proposed changes to workplace laws:

- (1) For the 2005-06 and 2006-07 financial years, what is the total budget for the campaign.
- (2) For each of the financial years in (1), can information be provided on the budgeted advertising costs, including: (a) television; (b) radio; (c) newspapers; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (3) Which creative agencies have been used in the campaign or are contracted for future involvement.
- (4) Which research agencies have been used in the campaign or are contracted for future involvement.
- (5) How were the creative agencies and research agencies selected for the campaign.
- (6) During the campaign to date, what research reports have been supplied to the department by the creative agencies and research agencies.
- (7) To date, what payments have been made to each agency used in the campaign.
- (8) If there is to be a mail out to taxpayers as part of this campaign: (a) to how many households and businesses will information be sent; and (b) what databases will be used to select the addresses.
- (9) (a) What appropriations have the department been using to pay for the advertising campaign; and (b) from what appropriations will future expenditures be drawn.

*Notice given 18 August 2005*

1102 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the Industrial Relations advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2004-05 and 2005-06: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (i) television (TV) placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) printing and mail outs, and (v) research.
- (2) When did the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) Over what period will the TV advertisements run.
- (4) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies, have been engaged in the campaign.
- (5) Is a mail out planned; if so: (a) to whom will the mail out be targeted; and (b) what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (6) (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 2004-05 or 2005-06 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.
- (7) 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.

- (8) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in (7) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (9) 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.

*Notice given 29 August 2005*

1112 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the reduction of the Government vehicle fleet by 1 500 vehicles since 2001:

- (1) How was this reduction achieved.
- (2) Are efforts being made to achieve further reductions; if so, what are these efforts.

*Notice given 14 September 2005*

1222 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) With reference to the Investing in Our Schools Program, to date, how many schools in the Northern Territory have applied for funding under this program.
- (2) Can a list be provided of the schools identified in (1) above, including a breakdown by government and non-government schools.
- (3) Can a list be provided of the successful applications, including: (a) the name of the school; (b) the project details; and (c) the amount of funding.
- (4) Are the schools which applied unsuccessfully in round one reconsidered in any further rounds or are their applications spent.
- (5) With reference to the Parent School Participation Initiative program, to date, how many schools in the Northern Territory have applied for funding under this program.
- (6) Can a list be provided of the schools identified in (5) above, including a breakdown by government and non-government schools.
- (7) Can a list be provided of the successful applications, including: (a) the name of the school; (b) the project details; and (c) the date and amount of the funding.
- (8) For each of the successful cases, what is the amount of funding received by the schools in the past year under the former Aboriginal Student Support and Parent Awareness scheme.
- (9) Are the schools which have been unsuccessful to date reconsidered in any further rounds or are their applications spent.

*Notice given 15 September 2005*

1224 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—With reference to an article in the *Northern Territory News*, dated 14 July 2005, page 4, in which it was alleged that, over the next 5 years, funding for fisheries protection patrols in the southern ocean will be \$217 million, while for the northern fishery it will be only \$91.4 million, and that the figure for the northern area includes expenditure on the Darwin Detention Centre; and also to the

response of the Minister that the Government spent a lot more in the north when all costs were taken into account, but at that time was unable to provide a breakdown of those costs:

- (1) For each of the northern and southern fisheries areas, can the Minister provide a breakdown of the costs by specific programs in relation to the following: (a) running Australian Customs Service (ACS) boats in fisheries, including vessel operations and crew costs; (b) navy patrol boats in fisheries protection; (c) running the *Ocean Viking* in the southern ocean; (d) running Coastwatch, for: (i) planes, and (ii) crew costs; (e) maintaining and operating any detention centres used for illegal fishers; and (f) any other costs attributable to fisheries protection (e.g. Australian Fisheries Management Offices).
- (2) For each of the northern and southern fisheries areas, how many illegal fishing boats have been sighted and recorded for the years 2004 and 2005 to date.
- (3) How many have been apprehended.
- (4) What was the type and quantity of the catch they were carrying.
- (5) (a) How many crew did they have in total; and (b) where were the crew detained.
- (6) How many of these boats were fitted with the more sophisticated equipment.
- (7) How many illegal fishing boats have been reported as having actually landed and where did this occur.
- (8) Given that it has been claimed (*Northern Territory News*, dated 13 July 2005) that illegal fishers are coming ashore on northern islands and that caches of shark fin have been found by the authorities, can the Minister confirm these claims; if so, how many such incidents have been reported and where.
- (9) With reference to the Minister's press release of 10 May 2005 (DAFF05/087M) which stated that Australian Fisheries Management Association would be funded with \$1.1 million for a system to positively identify detained fishers to ensure that repeat offenders can be identified: (a) what is this system; and (b) has it been established yet.
- (10) (a) How many boats, ACS or navy, are permanently on patrol in the southern ocean; and (b) how many boats are on patrol in the northern area.
- (11) Can a breakdown be provided of the locations of Australian Fisheries Management Offices around the country.
- (12) With reference to an article on page 1 of the *Northern Territory News*, dated 14 June 2005, in which it was alleged that Chinese mafia were funding illegal fishermen in the top end: (a) is the Minister aware of such stories; and (b) what is being done to follow up and investigate them.
- (13) If evidence of foreign business in illegal fishing exists, from which country or countries does it come.
- (14) With reference to an editorial in the *Northern Territory News*, dated 7 July 2005, in which it was claimed that illegal fishers and some commercial fishermen are plundering Australian waters for sharks, but that while Australian commercial fishermen are legally allowed to sell any by-product, such as shark fin, it is alleged that some are actively fishing for shark, given that it is difficult to distinguish between by-product and



actively caught shark: is the Minister aware of these allegations; if so, what is being done to investigate them.

1232 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) For each of the years 1996 to 2005 to date, how many visas have been cancelled because the holder was deemed to be a threat to national security.
- (2) Can details be provided on the nationality, visa class and visa number of the persons who have had their visas cancelled due to national security reasons, or subsequent security assessments, and the reason those assessments were undertaken.
- (3) Of those persons identified in (2) above: (a) how many had permanent residency; and (b) what were their nationalities.
- (4) For each person identified in (2) above, what was the time between the cancellation of the visa due to security reasons and the exclusion of that person from Australia.
- (5) Can a list be provided of the circumstances in which a person can be subject to a security assessment after being allowed entry into Australia.
- (6) In the situations mentioned in (5) above, is the person informed of why the visa has been cancelled; if so, at what time does this occur and in what format is the information provided; if not, why not.
- (7) What avenues of appeal are available against such a cancellation, both internally in the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) and externally; if there are no avenues of appeal available, why not; if there are avenues of appeal available: (a) what are they; (b) how are they used; and (c) for the years 1996 to 2005 to date, what has been the outcome of the appeals.
- (8) For each of the years 1996 to 2005 to date, how many visas have been refused because the applicant was deemed a threat to national security.
- (9) Can details be provided on the nationality, visa class and number of persons who have had visas refused due to national security reasons, or subsequent security assessments, and the reason those assessments were undertaken.
- (10) Has the department received any correspondence, e-mail, cable or telephone call from any government agency of the United States of America regarding Mr Scott Parkin in respect of subject matter that was likely to alter his security assessment; if so: (a) on what date was the information received; (b) from which agency was the information received; and (c) what was the format in which the information was received (i.e. telephone call, written letter, etc.).
- (11) Was the information used in the security assessment of Mr Parkin.
- (12) Were there any discrepancies between the information Mr Parkin supplied on his inbound passenger card to the facts known and by the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, DIMIA and the Australian Federal Police.

*Notice given 26 September 2005*

**Senator Marshall:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1242-1243)—

- (1) For the 2005 calendar year to date, can the names be provided of all legal firms employed by the department to undertake work for the Government on the development or drafting of workplace relations legislation.

- (2) For each of the firms listed in the answer to (1) above, can the following information be provided: (a) when did the contract commence and when will it end; (b) what service is the legal firm providing to the Government; (c) has the legal firm seconded staff to the department; if so: (i) how many staff members have been seconded, and (ii) for how long are the staff members seconded; (d) has the legal firm seconded staff to the Minister's office; if so: (i) how many staff members have been seconded, and (ii) for how long are the staff members seconded; (e) what is the value of the contract; and (f) was there a public tendering process for the contract; if so: (i) when was the process advertised and in which publications, (ii) what details were provided in the tendering advertising and documentation, and (iii) can a copy of the tendering documents and relevant advertising be provided.

1243 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

*Notice given 5 October 2005*

1283 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Does the department issue best-practice guidelines relating to the development of software.
- (2) Are guidelines changed if: (a) the system is developed entirely for the use of the department or agency; and (b) the system is developed for the public to access a service provided by a department or agency.
- (3) For both instances in (2) above, what is best practice in terms of the development of software and platform and operating system dependency.
- (4) Can a copy of the guidelines be provided.

*Notice given 6 October 2005*

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1295-1296)—Is the Minister aware of a proposal to build a memorial to the Cootamundra Aboriginal Girls' Training Centre on land at Hovell Street, Cootamundra, controlled by the Australian Rail Track Corporation; if so: (a) when and how did the Minister become aware of the proposal; (b) when and from whom has the Minister or the department received representations in relation to the proposal; (c) what representations relating to the proposal has the Minister made to: (i) the Minister for Finance and Administration, and (ii) the Minister for Transport and Regional Services; (d) what was the nature and the outcome of each representation; (e) if a representation was made in writing, can a copy of the representation be provided; if not, why not; and (f) if records of a representation were made, can a copy of such records be provided; if not, why not.

1296 Minister representing the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Indigenous Affairs

*Notice given 10 October 2005*

1300 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the commitment made by the Minister in October 2004 for a departmental review into SV40 contamination of polio vaccine used in the 1950s and 1960s and its possible links with cancer:

- (1) Is this review in progress.
- (2) Who is conducting this review.

- (3) What are the terms of reference for this review.
- (4) (a) When does the Minister expect to receive a report of the findings; and  
(b) will these results be made public.

*Notice given 13 October 2005*

- 1308 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Technical Education—With reference to the statement made by the Parliamentary Secretary, Senator Colbeck (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2005, p. 9) that, ‘Business plans submitted by Australian technical college authorities involving any large advertising amounts would be monitored in any case. However, if an ATC does need to spend more than \$100 000 on advertising to recruit quality staff and to attract students and employers, this amendment will have the affect of delaying the Australian technical college’s ability to do its work’:
- (1) (a) How will ATC business plans be monitored; (b) what will be the reporting mechanism of that monitoring; and (c) when will it occur.
  - (2) How will the notification of, or accounting for, the standard information required to undertake such a project, such as its purpose and nature, the intended audience, who authorised it, its cost etc., in other words all the standard information required to undertake the project, delay the project.

*Notice given 30 November 2005*

- 1404 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—What is the estimated number of taxpayers within each tax threshold income range for the tax thresholds from 1 July 2005, and tax thresholds to apply from 1 July 2006.
- 1406 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—For the past 5 financial years: (a) what is the amount of exit tax collected on superannuation; and (b) from how many persons has it been collected.

*Notice given 1 December 2005*

- 1411 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) How many rescues of suspected illegal entry vessels was Coastwatch involved in between 1 January 1999 and 31 December 2001; (b) what were the codenames of those suspected illegal entry vessels; and (c) how many passengers were aboard those vessels.
  - (2) (a) What action was taken by Coastwatch on 27 March and 28 March 2001 in relation to the rescue at sea of the suspected illegal entry vessel codenamed Gelantipy; and (b) what records are held by Coastwatch in relation to the rescue at sea of this vessel.

*Notice given 8 December 2005*

- 1443 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—For each of the financial years 2002-03 to 2004-05 to date:
- (1) How many Suspected Illegal Entry Vessels (SIEV) have been detected in Australian waters.
  - (2) How many SIEV were first detected by: (a) Australian Customs Service (ACS); (b) Australian Fisheries Management Authority; (c) other federal agencies; (d) state or local government; and (e) other non-government agencies.

- (3) For each SIEV: (a) on what date was the entry detected; (b) how many SIEVs were detected in each entry; (c) how did ACS detect the SIEV (i.e. Coastwatch aerial surveillance, reports from another government agency, reports from an individual, any other manner); (d) where was the SIEV detected; (e) did ACS or Coastwatch intercept the SIEV; (f) on what date was the SIEV intercepted; (g) were any other agencies involved in the interception of the SIEV; if not, why not; and if not, was another government agency able to intercept the SIEV; (h) was the SIEV impounded or turned around; (i) what was the number of persons on the SIEV; (j) what was the number of persons detained from the SIEV; (k) what was the number of persons on each SIEV who have had criminal charges brought against them and what were the number and nature of the charges; (l) how many of those charges resulted in a prosecution; (m) how many prosecutions resulted in a successful conviction and what was the sentence; (n) if the SIEV was impounded: (i) has it been since released, (ii) has it been destroyed, or (iii) is it still impounded; (o) if it was released, to whom; and (p) if it was not impounded, what was done with the SIEV after it had been intercepted.

*Notice given 5 January 2006*

- 1462 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—Are banks with an Australian banking licence permitted to hold data or records on accounts in associated banks or subsidiaries domiciled in known tax havens.

*Notice given 18 January 2006*

- 1484 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the Secretary of the Department of Transport and Regional Services, Mr Michael Taylor:

- (1) When was Mr Taylor appointed as Secretary of the Department of Transport and Regional Services.
- (2) Did the Prime Minister approve Mr Taylor's conditions of employment including: (a) a \$680 payment per fortnight to cover 'temporary' accommodation arrangements in Canberra; and (b) payments up to \$6 600 per annum for 'reunion travel' including airfares and taxi fares.
- (3) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06 to date, what quantum of 'temporary' accommodation payments were paid to Mr Taylor.
- (4) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06 to date, disaggregated to show airfares and taxi fares, what quantum of 'reunion travel' payments were paid to Mr Taylor.
- (5) When was Mr Taylor appointed as Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- (6) Did Mr Taylor enjoy equivalent conditions of employment during his tenure as Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; if so, for each of the financial years 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05, what quantum of: (a) 'temporary' accommodation payments; and (b) 'reunion travel' payments, were paid to Mr Taylor.
- (7) Which other secretaries, if any, are in receipt of 'temporary' accommodation payments and 'reunion travel' payments as a condition of employment.

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1487-1516)—

- (1) What programs and/or grants administered by the department provide assistance to the people living in the federal electorate of Bass.
- (2) When did the delivery of these programs and/or grants commence.
- (3) For each of the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05, what funding was provided through these programs and/or grants for the people of Bass.
- (4) For the 2005-06 financial year, what funding has been appropriated for these programs and/or grants.
- (5) For the 2005-06 financial year, what funding has been approved under these programs and/or grants to assist organisations and individuals in the electorate of Bass.

1497 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

1507 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services

1510 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1517-1546)—For each financial year since 2001-02, what grants or payments has the Minister's department, or have agencies for which the Minister is responsible, made to City View Christian Church Inc. (formerly known as Crusade Centre Inc.) based in Launceston, Tasmania.

1523 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

1537 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services

1538 Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer

1540 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

*Notice given 23 January 2006*

1559 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to a visit to Australia by Bill Lowther, a non-executive director of British Nuclear Fuels Limited: Did the Prime Minister, or anyone from the Prime Minister's office, meet with Bill Lowther; if so: (a) what was the nature of the meeting or meetings; (b) who attended any such meeting or meetings; and (c) when did any such meetings occur.

*Notice given 15 February 2006*

1589 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Could the Government have extradited Abu Quassey from Indonesia to face charges over SIEV X under the Australia-Indonesia extradition treaty; if not, why not; if so, why did the Government not press for his extradition.
- (2) Could the Government have extradited anyone else from Indonesia to face charges over SIEV X under the Australia-Indonesia extradition treaty; if not, why not; if so, why did the Government not press for their extradition.
- (3) Could the Government have extradited Abu Quassey from Indonesia to face charges over SIEV X independently of the Australia-Indonesia extradition treaty; if not, why not; if so, why did the Government not press for his extradition.

- (4) Could the Government have extradited anyone else from Indonesia to face charges over SIEV X independently of the Australia-Indonesia extradition treaty; if not, why not; if so, why did the Government not press for their extradition.
- (5) Could the Government have extradited Abu Quassey from Egypt to face charges over SIEV X despite the fact that Australia has no extradition treaty with Egypt; if not, why not; if so, why did the Government not press for his extradition.
- (6) Has anyone been prosecuted in Indonesia in relation to the sinking of SIEV X; if so, can details of the outcome of any such prosecutions be provided.
- (7) Has anyone been prosecuted in any other country in relation to the sinking of SIEV X; if so, can details of the outcome of any such prosecutions be provided.

*Notice given 16 February 2006*

1591 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is the Minister or his department in receipt of nominations for National Heritage or World Heritage listing for the Burrup Peninsula or Dampier Rock Art Province; if so: (a) how many nominations; (b) from which parties; and (c) on what dates.
- (2) Has the Minister or his department received any urgent listing nominations; if so, what is the status of those nominations.
- (3) Has the Minister or his department received any appeals against the National Heritage listing for the Burrup Peninsula or Dampier Rock Art Province; if so, how many and from whom.
- (4) If the Minister or his department has received appeals against the listing, will the details of those appeals be released.
- (5) If the Minister has received appeals against the listing, are those appeals available to the nominees and by what process.
- (6) Has the Minister or his department had any discussions or correspondence with agencies or the Government of Western Australia in relation to their views on the National Heritage listing of the Burrup Peninsula or Dampier Rock Art Province; if so, can an outline of those discussions be provided.
- (7) Has the Minister or his department had any discussions or correspondence with agencies or the Government of Western Australia in relation to their views on the World Heritage listing of the Burrup Peninsula or Dampier Rock Art Province; if so, can an outline of those discussions be provided.
- (8) Has the Minister or his department commissioned any reports into the heritage or other values of the Burrup Peninsula or Dampier Rock Art Province; if so: (a) what are they; (b) how many have been concluded; (c) how many are outstanding; and (d) can any completed reports be released.
- (9) Does the Minister acknowledge that the heritage values of the area are of global significance.

*Notice given 21 March 2006*

1636 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) How much funding was provided for the 2005-06 financial year to each division of General Practice for Mental Health.
- (2) Have these amounts increased each year over the past five financial years; if so, by how much.
- (3) What formula does the department use to determine how much each division receives.

*Notice given 22 March 2006*

1641 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the article ‘Australians chased by anti-Mafia investigators’, in the *Age* of 22 March 2006, that four Australians are allegedly under investigation by Italian authorities for organised crime-related activities:

- (1) Has that matter been referred to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP); if so: (a) by whom or by which agency was it referred to the CDPP and on what date was it referred; (b) what is the current status of the brief; and (c) was it returned on the basis of insufficient evidence and the case closed; if not, on what basis was prosecution of the case rejected.
- (2) Regarding the offer of an Italian ‘undercover operative’ to testify in Australia, was the testimony a part of the abovementioned brief; if not: (a) why not; (b) did the CDPP assess this testimony separately; and (c) why was the offer of an Italian operative to testify in Australia rejected.

*Notice given 27 March 2006*

**Senator Allison:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1656-1657)—

- (1) What amount of money has the Government provided to the Jean Hailes Foundation since 2000, including the 1999-2000 financial year.
- (2) Can the Government confirm that its funding to the Jean Hailes Foundation for professional development for clinicians and community education primarily focused on the health and wellbeing of women aged between 35 and 65 years is due to expire at the end of June 2006.
- (3) Does the Government intend providing the Jean Hailes Foundation with more funding after this date; if so, what will be the amount of that funding and over what period of time; if not: (a) why not; and (b) will an equivalent sum of money be provided to another organisation to continue professional development for clinicians and community education on the health and wellbeing of women aged between 35 and 65 years.

1656 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

1657 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

1660 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of reports that the organs of executed prisoners in China are removed without their knowledge or consent and used for transplant purposes.

- (2) What information does the Minister have on the validity of these reports.
- (3) Has the Government investigated whether any Australian citizens have received organ transplants from executed prisoners in China; if so, what were the findings from this investigation; if not, why not.
- (4) Has the Government investigated whether Australians are involved in overseas commercial organ transplant activities; if so, what were the findings from this investigation; if not, why not.
- (5) What current laws regulate the involvement of Australians in commercial organ transplant activities in Australia and overseas.

1664 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Technical Education—

- (1) On what date did the Minister decide to review the Government's contracts with the National Centre for Vocational Education Research Ltd (NCVER) for research and statistical collection.
- (2) On what dates, and for what purposes, has the Minister met with representatives of the NCVER Ltd since 1 July 2005 and who attended each meeting.
- (3) (a) At which of these meetings did the Minister express concern over the current operations of the NCVER; and (b) what was the nature and basis of the Minister's concerns.
- (4) At which of these meetings did the Minister raise the issue of the review of the NCVER.
- (5) When was NCVER Ltd informed of the Government's decision to review these contracts.
- (6) (a) On what date is the review due to report; and (b) when will the report and recommendations be made public.

*Notice given 29 March 2006*

1670 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the abandoned vessel identified as *Jian Seng*:

- (1) On what date was the vessel first sighted in Australian waters.
- (2) Who first sighted the vessel.
- (3) Who reported it to the Australian Customs Service and/or another agency.
- (4) On what date was it reported.
- (5) What was the location of the vessel when first sighted.
- (6) What activity was the vessel engaged in at the time of this first sighting.
- (7) Was the vessel under tow.
- (8) Was the vessel drifting.
- (9) Were any people on board the vessel.
- (10) Was the vessel in the vicinity of other vessels; if so, what is the identity of these vessels.
- (11) On what date was the: (a) Australian Customs Service; (b) Minister's office; and (c) the Minister, informed of this sighting.
- (12) On what date did Customs undertake an aerial inspection of the vessel.
- (13) What prompted this aerial inspection.



- (14) If it was a further sighting: (a) who made the report; (b) what was the location of the vessel at the time of this sighting; and (c) what activity was the vessel engaged in at the time of this inspection.
- (15) Was the vessel drifting.
- (16) Was the vessel in the vicinity of other vessels.
- (17) What was the location of the vessel at the time of the aerial inspection.
- (18) What activity was the vessel engaged in at the time of this inspection.
- (19) Was the vessel in the vicinity of other vessels; if so, what is the identity of these vessels
- (20) Was the vessel under tow.
- (21) On what date was a Customs vessel dispatched to intercept the vessel.
- (22) From which port was the Customs vessel dispatched.
- (23) What prompted the dispatch of the Customs vessel.
- (24) If it was a further sighting: (a) who made the report; (b) what was the location of the vessel at the time of this sighting; and (c) what activity was the vessel engaged in at the time of this inspection.
- (25) Was the vessel drifting.
- (26) Was the vessel in the vicinity of other vessels.
- (27) On what date did the Customs vessel intercept the vessel.
- (28) On what date was the vessel boarded.
- (29) What was the reason for the delayed boarding.
- (30) How was the vessel identified.
- (31) What volume of rice was found on board.
- (32) What other goods were found.
- (33) Did officials of any other agency board the vessel with Customs.
- (34) With reference to the statement by a Customs spokesperson that 'it appears to have been adrift for some time before we boarded it': how was it ascertained that the vessel had been adrift for some time.
- (35) How long had the vessel been adrift before it was boarded.
- (36) On what dates was: (a) the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) (b) the Office of Transport Security; and (c) Maritime Safety Queensland, informed the vessel was drifting in Australian waters.
- (37) On what date were other vessels in the area alerted about the hazard represented by the unmanned and unlit vessel.
- (38) On what date was responsibility for the vessel passed to AMSA.
- (39) What disaggregated costs have been borne by the department and its agencies in relation to the identification and management of the vessel.

*Notice given 30 March 2006*

1676 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) What projects are currently receiving federal funding for learning disability.
- (2) What initiatives have been taken by the Government since 1996 to assist children with learning disabilities in schools.

- (3) Does the Government consider that the needs of an estimated 2 in 10 children with an identified learning disability or problem are currently being met.
- (4) Why did the former Minister, Dr Nelson, indicate to ACLB Ltd (Australian Children's Literary Board), the not-for-profit organisation that runs educational and artistic programs for children with learning disabilities, that he supported its work but that the Government educational policy does not allow for it to be federally-funded.

*Notice given 6 April 2006*

1682 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Shared Responsibility Agreement (SRA) evaluation process:

- (1) Who are the consultants that have been selected to conduct evaluations in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (2) What are the criteria against which the SRAs will be assessed.
- (3) (a) Will each SRA be assessed to determine whether both the community and Government have delivered their obligations; and (b) how will this be assessed.
- (4) Will the evaluations involve an assessment of quantitative data or be more qualitative in nature
- (5) How many evaluations do you expect will be completed in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (6) How many final evaluation reports has the Office of Indigenous Policy and Coordination received to date.
- (7) Can copies be provided of any evaluation reports completed to date.
- (8) Have the relevant communities been provided with copies of the report.
- (9) What are the names of the locations of SRAs that have been evaluated to date.
- (10) How many SRAs have been identified through the evaluation process, to date, as involving unmet obligations, either by the community or Government.

*Notice given 21 April 2006*

1698 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—Can a copy of the report into the review of the In-Home Care Program be provided; if not, why not.

**Senator Allison:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1703-1704)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the United Kingdom (UK) study of 'Sex and relationship education for 13-16 year olds: Evidence from England' conducted by the RIPPLE Study Team and reported in *Sex Education*, Volume 6, No. 1, February 2006.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the UK Government has, in recent years, focused on the need to improve sex and relationship education (SRE) in schools in order to reduce the rates of teenage pregnancies and the number of young people contracting sexually-transmitted infections (STIs).
- (3) Given the similar rates of teenage pregnancy and STIs in Australia, does the Minister share the UK Government's policy objective on this issue.

- (4) Is the Minister aware that UK studies have thus far shown that:
  - (a) often little time is allocated for the delivery of SRE, it is delivered too late for many students and tends to have an overly biological focus;
  - (b) SRE has failed to address affective issues around emotions and relationships, attitudes or skills development;
  - (c) lack of time available for planning and delivery of SRE; and
  - (d) lack of teachers' confidence and commitment, embarrassment and lack of training, and difficulties with implementing and monitoring a cross-curricular approach.
- (5) Does the Minister consider that these may also be issues in Australia.
- (6) When was the last time a study was conducted into SRE in Australian schools.
- (7) What plans does the Minister have to:
  - (a) commission research into SRE;
  - (b) discuss teenage pregnancy, STIs and/or SRE with state and territory health and education ministers; and
  - (c) reduce the current rates of teenage pregnancies and teenage STIs.

1704 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

*Notice given 2 May 2006*

1716 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—  
With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1164 (Senate *Hansard*, 29 March 2006, p. 192), in particular paragraph 2(b), which indicates that 'post operational psychological screening' takes place:

- (1) In each of the past 5 years, how many personnel have completed operational duty.
- (2) How many of these had psychological screening.
- (3) Did this screening specifically seek to discover post operational stress related symptoms or signs.
- (4) (a) How many post operational personnel were suffering such symptoms or signs; and (b) what does follow-up indicate.

*Notice given 4 May 2006*

**Senator Allison:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1719-1720)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the recent letter in the *Australian Doctor* magazine that reports that some medical practices are refusing to perform pap smears.
- (2) What information is available on the prevalence of medical practitioners or medical practices refusing to provide services to patients requesting them, including the nature of the services.
- (3) What information is available on the reasons that medical practitioners or medical practices may be refusing to provide services to patients requesting them.
- (4) Does the Government intend to investigate why some medical practitioners or medical practices may be refusing to perform particular services; if not, why not.
- (5) What are the legal requirements for medical practices and individual medical practitioners with regard to providing access to medical services.

- (6) What processes, if any, does the Government require medical practitioners receiving government funds to put in place to ensure that their patients have access to comprehensive medical care.

1720 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

*Notice given 9 May 2006*

1750 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) On what dates in 2002 and 2003 did: (a) the Prime Minister; and (b) the Prime Minister's office, meet with representatives of the Grains Council of Australia.
- (2) For each meeting, can the following details be provided: (a) who attended; (b) the capacity in which they attended; and (c) where the meeting was conducted.
- (3) If officers from the department did not attend and/or official minutes of the meeting were not recorded, why not.
- (4) In each case, were briefing notes provided by the department prior to the meeting; if so, who requested the briefing notes; if no briefing notes were requested, why not.

*Notice given 10 May 2006*

1770 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) What information is a business or person required to provide to the Australian Custom Service (ACS) for the damages claim arising out of the implementation of the Integrated Cargo System.
- (2) Who is eligible to claim damages under this scheme.
- (3) What is the criteria for damages.
- (4) How many separate claims has the ACS received for compensation.
- (5) How much in total has been claimed so far.
- (6) How are the claims being assessed.
- (7) Are the claims being assessed by an independent authority or are they being assessed by ACS.
- (8) If the claims are not being assessed by ACS, who are they being assessed by and how was this body chosen.
- (9) If the claims are being assessed by ACS, what body within ACS is undertaking the assessment.
- (10) (a) Of the claims received so far, how many of them have been processed; and (b) of those processed: (i) how many have been approved, (ii) how many have been partially approved, and (iii) how many have been disallowed.
- (11) (a) What appeal mechanisms are there for a claim which has been disallowed or only partially allowed; and (b) in how many cases have claimants availed themselves of those mechanisms.
- (12) How much compensation has been approved so far.
- (13) How much of the compensation that has been approved has been released.
- (14) What is the average waiting time between the date on which the ACS receives a claim form and the date on which it releases compensation.

*Notice given 22 May 2006*

- 1804 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—  
With reference to the announcement of 3 May 2006 regarding changes to the Working Holiday Visa scheme that allows workers in the forestry industry to apply for a 12-month extension to their visas: On what basis has it been determined that forestry worker is an occupation in short supply.

*Notice given 25 May 2006*

- Senator Allison:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1805-1806)—
- (1) Is the Minister aware that, following the recent Cyclone Monica, many buildings in the community of Maningrida have been badly damaged.
  - (2) Is the Minister aware that many of these buildings, including the school, contain asbestos.
  - (3) What information does the Government have on the risks to the community of Maningrida due to exposure to asbestos dust.
  - (4) What has the Federal Government done (or what does it intend to do) to protect the health of those people in the community, including the children who have returned to the school, who are now exposed to asbestos dust.
- 1806 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 1809 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the overseas travel by the Secretary of the department, Mr Michael Taylor, in May 2006:
- (1) On what date did Mr Taylor advise the Minister he intended to be absent during the May 2006 Senate Budget Estimates hearings.
  - (2) On what date did the Minister approve Mr Taylor's absence.
  - (3) On what date did Mr Taylor depart Australia.
  - (4) What date does Mr Taylor return to Australia.
  - (5) Can a detailed itinerary of Mr Taylor's trip be provided; if not, why not.
  - (6) For each meeting, when was Mr Taylor's attendance confirmed with his hosts.
  - (7) What was the total cost of airfares, disaggregated by sector.
  - (8) In relation to accommodation: (a) what accommodation was used; (b) what nights did he stay at each hotel; and (c) what did each hotel cost.
  - (9) What other expenses were incurred including: (a) gifts; (b) hospitality; (c) meals; (d) land transport; (e) travel insurance; and (f) other expenses not listed above.
  - (10) What was the total cost of Mr Taylor's overseas visit.
  - (11) (a) Which officers accompanied Mr Taylor on this trip, and for which periods; and (b) what was the total cost incurred in relation to the participation of each of these officers.

1810 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) Did the Minister, as reported recently, threaten to withdraw funding from Queensland schools if State legislation governing the teaching of religion was changed; if so, does the Government intend tying schools funding to the provision of religious education.
- (2) Can a copy of the Government's policy and guidelines for religious education in schools be provided; if not, why not.
- (3) Is it Government policy that *all* children should participate in religious education.
- (4) Does the Government intend to implement measures to maintain or increase the number of children participating in religious education.
- (5) What does the Government consider to be the appropriate amount of time, per school term, that should be spent on a child's religious education.
- (6) Does the Government consider that there should be a limit, if any, on the amount of religious education a student should receive.
- (7) Does the Government support the placing of hurdles in front of parents who do not wish their children to participate in religious education.
- (8) The Minister's press release, dated 22 May 2006, 'Religion in Queensland State Schools', states that 'political correctness has gone too far when religious education at school now permits almost any belief system to be taught...': What religions, denominations and belief systems does the Government oppose being taught in schools.
- (9) What quality control mechanisms does the Government have in place to ensure that religious education is non-discriminatory, respectful and equitably applied to all religions and denominations in both government and non-government schools.
- (10) Does the Government support 'opt out' rather than 'opt in' systems for all elements of education; if not, what subjects does the Government believe should be 'opt out'.

1811 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) For each financial year from 2000-01 to 2005-06, what was the revenue foregone by the decision in 2001 to reduce and then freeze indexation of fuel excise for: (a) diesel; and (b) petrol.
- (2) If these revenues vary markedly from the 2001 Budget Papers, can an explanation be provided.

1814 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) What is the total amount expended to date on the Automotive Competitiveness and Investment Scheme.
- (2) Can a breakdown be provided of the companies in receipt of funds under the scheme.
- (3) What will be the cost of the scheme in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (4) What is the budget for the scheme in the following financial years: (a) 2006-07; (b) 2007-08; (c) 2008-09; and (d) 2009-10.

- (5) How much of the cost, to date and in budget projections to 2009-10, has been targeted specifically at the local production of: (a) hybrid petrol-electric vehicles; (b) compact vehicles; (c) vehicles meeting specific fuel efficiency standards; and (d) buses or urban passenger trains.
- (6) What is the value of funding, on the scheme, to date and in the budget projections to 2009-10, expended on cars with six or more cylinders.

1815 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—Given that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has stated that it was keen to pursue promoters of mass marketed tax effective projects: did the ATO refer any of the promoters of these projects who should have lodged a prospectus under corporations law, but did not, to the Australian Securities and Investment Commission for action.

*Notice given 2 June 2006*

1868 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to section 289(2) of the *Navigation Act 1912*, concerning the payment of Australian wages to seafarers employed on a ship engaged in any part of the coastal trade: what evidence of payment do Customs officers seek from the masters of ships seeking clearance under the Customs Act for an international voyage from a port in Australia.

*Notice given 6 June 2006*

1881 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the suspension of Air Paradise services in November 2005:

- (1) How many people in Australia who purchased Air Paradise tickets from travel agents but did not travel due to the suspension of the service also paid the Passenger Movement Charge (PMC) at the time of purchase.
- (2) Was this PMC remitted to the Australian Customs Service; if so, what was the total amount remitted.
- (3) Have all persons who paid the PMC but did not travel due to the suspension of the service received a full refund; if not: (a) why not; and (b) what quantum remains not refunded.

1882 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—In relation to the Minister's letter to the *Canberra Times*, published on 2 June 2006, can the following details be provided:

- (1) A list of the 216 research projects associated with solar energy funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC) over the past 4 years, including the title of each and the amount of funding.
- (2) A list of research projects relating to fossil fuels and nuclear power funded by the ARC over the past 4 years, including the title of each and the amount of funding.
- (3) A list of the programs and institutions funded by the Government to undertake fossil fuel and nuclear research and development, including the name of the program or institution, the amount of Commonwealth funding, and the time frame.

**Senator Milne:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1883-1911)—Did the Minister host a post-budget function after the release of the 2006-2007 Commonwealth Budget on 9 May 2006; if so:

- (a) where was the function held;

- (b) who was invited to the function;
- (c) who attended the function;
- (d) what was the cost of hosting the function;
- (e) was the cost charged to the Commonwealth; if not, to whom was it charged;
- (f) was a ticket price charged; if so, what was the ticket price;
- (g) if no ticket price was charged, was a donation requested;
- (h) how much revenue was collected by way of tickets charged or donations received; and
- (i) to whom was the revenue paid.

- 1883 Minister representing the Prime Minister
- 1884 Minister representing the Treasurer
- 1885 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 1886 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 1887 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services
- 1888 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 1889 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 1890 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
- 1891 Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs
- 1893 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
- 1894 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
- 1895 Minister for the Environment and Heritage
- 1896 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 1897 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 1898 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
- 1899 Minister for Justice and Customs
- 1900 Minister for the Arts and Sport
- 1901 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services
- 1902 Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation
- 1903 Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Technical Education
- 1904 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism
- 1905 Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads
- 1906 Minister representing the Minister for Community Services
- 1908 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
- 1909 Minister representing the Special Minister of State
- 1910 Minister for Ageing
- 1911 Minister representing the Deputy Prime Minister

*Notice given 8 June 2006*

- 1919 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
  - (1) Can details be provided of office holders of The Nationals, a political party registered under the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*.



- (2) Can details also be provided of any changes to office holders in the 2005-06 financial year, to date.

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1932-1936)—

- (1) Can details be provided of any occasions since October 1996 on which departments or agencies for which the Minister is responsible have engaged or otherwise sought to rely on the opinions or advice of clairvoyants.
- (2) For each occasion, can details be provided of the circumstances and any associated payments.

1934 Minister representing the Attorney-General

1936 Minister for Justice and Customs

1938 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Can details be provided of all Commonwealth-funded state funerals since October 1996.
- (2) For each state funeral, can details be provided of the itemised cost to the Commonwealth.

1939 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) Can details be provided of all Centrelink offices closed since October 1996, including the date of closure, street address, post code and electorate.
- (2) Can details be provided of all Centrelink offices downgraded since October 1996, including the date of downgrading, street address, post code and electorate.

1941 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) Can details be provided of all Child Support Agency offices closed since October 1996, including the date of closure, street address, post code and electorate.
- (2) Can details be provided of all Child Support Agency offices downgraded since October 1996, including the date of downgrading, street address, post code and electorate.

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1944-1962)—

- (1) Since October 1996, on how many occasions has a conclusive certificate been issued in relation to departments or agencies within the Minister's portfolio exempting a document or documents from disclosure under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI).
- (2) For each occasion: (a) what was the date; (b) what was the department or agency of which the FOI request was made; (c) what officer made the decision; (d) what was the document or documents excluded from disclosure pursuant to the certificate; and (e) was an appeal made against the decision in the Administrative Appeals Tribunal; if so, what was the case name and its outcome.

1944 Minister representing the Prime Minister

1954 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

1957 Minister for the Environment and Heritage

1959 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

1961 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1964-1982)—With reference to the Compensation for Detriment Caused by Defective Administration Scheme: for each department and agency for which the Minister is responsible, what is the total payment made under this scheme for each financial year since October 1996, by department and agency.

1966 Minister representing the Treasurer

1968 Minister for Finance and Administration

1974 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

1977 Minister for the Environment and Heritage

1979 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

1981 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1985-2003)—What is the quantum of payments made as settlements to claims for monetary compensation by the departments and agencies for which the Minister is responsible that are consistent with Legal Services Directions issued under section 55ZF of the *Judiciary Act 1903*, by financial year, since the first Legal Services Directions were issued.

1985 Minister representing the Prime Minister

1986 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

1987 Minister representing the Treasurer

1988 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

1989 Minister for Finance and Administration

1992 Minister representing the Attorney-General

1993 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

1994 Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs

1995 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

1998 Minister for the Environment and Heritage

2000 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

2002 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services

*Notice given 13 June 2006*

2005 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) (a) How often does the Medicare Benefits Consultative Committee (MBCC) meet each year; and (b) are there regularly scheduled meeting dates and times.
- (2) For the past 10 years: (a) how many submissions has the MBCC received each year; and (b) how many related to changes to the level of the fee set for Medicare items.
- (3) Can a copy of submissions and MBCC review results be provided for the past 10 years; if not, why not.

- (4) What is the timeframe for the review of a Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) item.
- (5) (a) How does the Government's policy, which reviews MBS items conducted under the auspices of the MBCC on a cost neutral basis, operate; and (b) does this mean that the rebate level for a procedure would never be able to be increased unless a rebate for another procedure were decreased.
- (6) What role does the Minister play in determining changes to the MBS.
- (7) For the past 10 years, how many of the submissions to the MBCC resulted in recommendations to the Minister for increases in the level of the Medicare rebate for a particular procedure.
- (8) What percentage of these recommendations has been accepted by the Minister.
- (9) How does this compare with the percentage of recommendations for increases in the level of the Medicare rebate for a particular procedure that were accepted prior to 1996.

2006 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the article 'Weight Management and the challenges to Australian Pharmacy' in *Australian Pharmacist*, Volume 24, No. 3, of March 2005, which reported that in 2002 only 8.7 per cent of pharmacists had staff trained in weight management:

- (1) Has the number of pharmacies with staff trained in weight management increased since 2002.
- (2) How many pharmacies have weight measuring devices.
- (3) How many pharmacies with weight measuring devices have staff who are trained in how to measure, monitor and interpret the results.
- (4) Has the Government implemented any measures to encourage or support training of pharmacists in weight management.
- (5) What is the expected increase in the use of Xenical given the recent National Drugs and Poisons Scheduling Committee decision to allow direct to consumer advertising of Xenical.
- (6) Has the Government undertaken any modelling of the potential increase to Government expenditure on Xenical and Orlistat through the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme; if so, what were the results; if not, why not.

2012 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to a number of complaints received by Senator Brown in relation to the switch from AM to FM band radio in Northern Tasmania and given that since the switch ABC radio cannot be properly received in areas west of Doctors' Rocks and in Ulverstone and Mawbanna: what is being done to rectify this loss of reception in these communities.

*Notice given 15 June 2006*

2018 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—With reference to the Minister's overseas travel, since being appointed to the Senate, can the following details be provided:

- (1) What was the purpose of each trip.

- (2) (a) Was the Minister accompanied on any trip by a family member, relative, friend or other person; and (b) what was the cost to the taxpayer, if applicable, of this person's travel, accommodation and any other charges incurred that were met by the taxpayer.
- (3) On what dates and for what duration was each trip.
- (4) For each visit: (a) what was the destination; (b) what hotels and other paid accommodation were stayed in; (c) what was overall cost to the taxpayer; and (d) can a copy of the report on the trip be provided.

2024 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the announcement on 13 June 2006 that Airservices Australia has signed a cooperation agreement for commercial business development with German air navigation service provider DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung: can the following details be provided for the DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung contract and all other contracts entered into by Airservices Australia (either directly or through a subsidiary body) to provide products or services outside of Australia: (a) parties to the contract; (b) description of tender process; (c) date the contract was signed; (d) term of the contract, including date of commencement; (e) projected income, including revisions, by financial year; (f) actual income, by financial year.

2026 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For each of the following financial years: (1) 2003-04; (2) 2004-05; and (3) 2005-06, how many staff in the department have been or are currently in receipt of remuneration packages in the following bands: (a) \$150 000 – \$249 999; (b) \$250 000 – \$349 999; (c) \$350 000 – \$449 999; (d) \$450 000 – \$499 999; (e) \$500 000 – \$549 999; (f) \$550 000 – \$599 999; (g) \$600 000 – \$649 999; (h) \$650 000 – \$699 000; and (i) \$700 000 and above.

2029 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) With reference to evidence given by the Department of Defence in relation to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) investigation into the alleged assault of Lt Commander Robin Fahy: (a) when was that complaint made; (b) by whom was it made; (c) who first received the complaint; (e) what record was made of the complaint; and (f) what investigation was made into the complaint, and by whom.
- (2) (a) Who made the decision to refer the complaint to the AFP; (b) on what date was the decision made; and (c) what record exists of that referral.
- (3) On how many occasions has the AFP interviewed members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) on this matter, and on what dates.
- (4) Has the AFP interviewed members of Delta Squadron and other classmates of Lt Commander Fahy; if so (a) how many; and (b) with what outcome.
- (5) What action, if any, was taken by the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) as a result of the complaint and the referral to the AFP.
- (6) Has the AFP sought and obtained any documents from defence and/or the ADFA; if so: (a) what documents were sought; and (b) which have been provided.
- (7) If access to documents has been refused by defence, on what grounds was refusal made.
- (8) (a) In how many files are papers held relating to the assault and the specific complaint; (b) in whose possession are they; and (c) has the Chief of Navy or his staff ever had access to them.

- (9) Which ADF and ADFA officers have been managing the relationship with the AFP on its investigation since the inquiry's inception
- (10) (a) What support was given to the AFP by the ADF during their investigation; and (b) how many officers and others have made written statements to the AFP.
- (11) In addition to the AFP inquiry, what investigation has been conducted by the ADF, ADFA or the department into the complaint.
- (12) Was the assault subject of the complaint part of the Grey inquiry into behaviour of cadets at ADFA at the same time; if so, what further investigations were undertaken.
- (13) Has departmental comment or evidence on the complaint of assault at the ADFA ever been sought by the Defence Ombudsman; if so: (a) when; and (b) what advice and material was provided to the Ombudsman.

2030 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—With reference to an article in the *Australian* of 15 June 2006, entitled 'Delay to payout on chopper disaster':

- (1) Can the Minister advise whether the Commonwealth is legally required to demand that compensation be returned if an award of damages is made against a third party.
- (2) To what extent, if any, would the damages payment by the United States (US) company affect any pension that is being received by the widows of the Black Hawk helicopter crew.
- (3) Has the multi-million dollar US out-of-court settlement been delayed as reported in the *Australian*; if so (a) over what timeframe has the payout been delayed; and (b) is this the result of any decision or action taken by the Australian Government; if so, why.
- (4) When does the Commonwealth expect to make a decision in relation to repayments of compensation or cessation of pensions.

**Senator Hutchins:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2032-2033)—With reference to the coronial inquest into the death of journalist Mr Brian Peters in East Timor in October 1975, and testimony by investigating officers of the New South Wales Homicide Squad to that inquest that cooperation has not been forthcoming from the Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of any requests for mutual assistance for New South Wales Homicide Squad investigating officers to travel to East Timor and interview witnesses and conduct an examination of remains.
- (2) What steps are being taken to facilitate these requests.
- (3) Why has there been a delay in the facilitation of these requests.
- (4) What mutual assistance agreements exist between East Timor and Australia.
- (5) If no formal agreements exist, what other mechanisms are available to facilitate mutual assistance.

2033 Minister for Justice and Customs

*Notice given 16 June 2006*

2051 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Since the 1999-2000 financial year, by year, how many internal audits of functions performed by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) have been undertaken.
- (2) In each case: (a) who initiated the audit; (b) when did the audit commence; (c) who undertook the audit; (d) when was the audit completed; and (e) what was the result of the audit.
- (3) If external consultants were engaged: (a) what was the name of the consultant; (b) what was the cost; and (c) was the consultancy gained through a select or open tender process.
- (4) Since the 1999-2000 financial year, by year, how many external audits of functions performed by AQIS have been undertaken.
- (5) In each case: (a) who initiated the audit; (b) when did the audit commence; (c) who undertook the audit; (d) when was the audit completed; and (e) what was the result of the audit.
- (6) If external consultants were engaged: (a) what was the name of the consultant; (b) what was the cost; and (c) was the consultancy gained through a select or open tender process.

2064 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What is meant by 'the commonsense test in litigation'.
- (2) Does this commonsense test include a cost-benefit analysis.
- (3) Do all cases involving the department pass the commonsense test in litigation.
- (4) To date since 2001, what is the total amount spent by the department on litigation involving HMAS *Melbourne*.

2068 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—Can details be provided of the Prime Minister's visit to the United States of America, Canada and Ireland in May 2006 including: (a) the date of departure from Australia; (b) a detailed itinerary including all official meetings; (c) details of departmental officers, including name and role, who accompanied the Prime Minister; (d) details of personal staff, including name and role, who accompanied the Prime Minister; (e) details of family members who accompanied the Prime Minister; (f) details of other persons, including name and role, who accompanied the Prime Minister; and (g) the date of return to Australia.

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2069-2070)—

- (1) Can details be provided of all costs associated with the Prime Minister's visit to the United States of America, Canada and Ireland in May 2006, disaggregated to show costs including: (a) transport; (b) accommodation; (c) food; (d) beverages; (e) security; and (f) other specified costs.
- (2) Can details be provided of costs associated with all: (a) personal staff; (b) departmental staff; (c) family members; and (d) other persons who accompanied the Prime Minister on this visit.

2069 Minister representing the Prime Minister

- 2071 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the Prime Minister's visit to the United States of America, Canada and Ireland in May 2006: Can details be provided of the accommodation for each night, including:
- (a) the name and address of the accommodation;
  - (b) the number of rooms or suites booked for: (i) the Prime Minister, and (ii) other members of the Prime Minister's party;
  - (c) the cost of accommodation for: (i) the Prime Minister, and (ii) other members of the Prime Minister's party; and
  - (d) the cost of: (i) food, (ii) beverages, and (iii) other specified items, for: (A) the Prime Minister, and (B) other members of the Prime Minister's party.
- 2078 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—
- (1) What costs would be incurred and what ramifications are there if the administration of the Medicare Levy surcharge was adjusted to ensure that it affects or is calculated for same sex couple on the same basis as mixed sex couples.
  - (2) In view of the Prime Minister's statements in favour of ending discriminatory provisions, does the government intend to address this deficiency.

*Notice given 19 June 2006*

- 2080 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Technical Education—With reference to the Australian Government's Australian Technical Colleges located in each of the following regions: (1) Central Coast Region (Gosford); (2) Hunter Region; (3) Illawarra Region; (4) Port Macquarie Region; (5) Western Sydney Region; (5) Darwin Region; (6) Gladstone Region; (7) Gold Coast Region; (8) North Brisbane Region; (9) North Queensland (Townsville) Region; (10) Adelaide North Region; (11) Adelaide South Region; (12) Spencer Gulf and Outback (Port Augusta/Whyalla) Region; (13) Northern Tasmania Region; (14) Gippsland (Bairnsdale/Sale) Region; (15) Bendigo Region; (16) Eastern Melbourne Region; (17) Geelong Region; (18) Sunshine Region; (19) Warrnambool Region; (20) Perth South Region; and (21) Pilbara Region: can the following be provided:
- (a) details of board members, including name, role and current employment;
  - (b) the street address of the college;
  - (c) details of the quantum of rental paid and ownership of building used for the college;
  - (d) details of any renovations undertaken, including costs and name of the contractor; and
  - (e) details of any company appointed to audit college financial accounts or to assist with financial management.
- 2098 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) How many young women: (a) under the age of 16 years; and (b) from 16 to 18 years, have claimed the Maternity Payment since its introduction.
  - (2) Has there been an increase in teenage pregnancies since the introduction of the Maternity Payment.

- 2100 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—Can the following details be provided for each of the calendar years: (a) 2000; (b) 2001; (c) 2002; (d) 2003; (e) 2004; and (f) 2005:
- (1) The average age of a resident on admission to a residential aged care facility in: (a) low care; and (b) high care.
  - (2) The average length of stay in a residential aged care facility in: (a) low care; and (b) high care.
  - (3) The average age of people at the point of receiving: (a) CACPs (Conditional Adjustment Payment); (b) EACH (Extended Aged Care at Home); and (c) EACHD (Extended Aged Care at Home with Dementia).
  - (4) The average period of time that people receive: (a) CACPs; (b) EACH; and (c) EACHD.

*Notice given 20 June 2006*

- 2104 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to Budget Paper No. 1 2006-2007, p. 6-30: What is the amount of projected asset sales related expenses for each of the financial years from 2006-07 to 2009-10 for both the sale of Telstra and the sale of Medibank Private, contained in the contingency reserve.
- 2105 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) For each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, how many flights into or out of Sydney Airport were outside of legislated curfew hours.
  - (2) For each of the above financial years, can details be provided for each week where legislated quotas were exceeded and the reason why the quota was exceeded.
  - (3) For each of these occurrences, how many instances may be classified as emergencies as defined by section 19 of the *Sydney Airport Curfew Act 1995*.
  - (4) Can details be provided of when and why the Secretary of the department has used the powers under section 12 of the Act to approve take-off or landings outside curfew times.
  - (5) For each of the above financial years, can details be provided of any dispensations issued under section 20 of the Act.

*Notice given 22 June 2006*

- 2107 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the unauthorised leaking of government information by members of the Australian Public Service, can the Australian Federal Police (AFP) provide the following information broken down by year for each of the past 4 calendar years, including 2006:
- (1) How many leaks were referred to the AFP for investigation.
  - (2) Were any changes made to the AFP's organisational structures to specifically improve the handling of such referrals and any subsequent investigations; if so, can details be provided of the changes that were made.
  - (3) What resources were consumed to conduct the investigations, including money expended and staff hours.



- (4) How many staff were assigned to these investigations.
- (5) How many staff deal with these investigations on an on-going or permanent basis, broken down by: (a) sworn officers; and (b) staff other than sworn officers.
- (6) Were any external legal services used in relation to these investigations; if so, what was the name of each service provider and the value of the services purchased.
- (7) For each department and agency investigated, can the follow details be provided: (a) the name of the department and/or agency; and (b) the number of leaks from that department and/or agency referred for investigation.
- (8) How many investigations: (a) had been carried over from the previous year; (b) remained ongoing at year-end; (c) were concluded during the year; and (d) were referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions for prosecution during the year.

*Notice given 23 June 2006*

2111 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to arrangements for natural resource management (NRM) on Cape York Peninsula:

- (1) Who recommended Mrs Mary Woods as the eminent person to conduct a review of the Cape York Peninsula natural resources management plan and investment strategy, and to recommend a community advisory group to administer Natural Heritage Trust funds for Cape York.
- (2) Were the draft terms of reference, provided to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee at Budget estimates, updated or have they been adopted and agreed as final.
- (3) What qualifications and experience does Mrs Woods have in natural resource management.
- (4) (a) Who appointed Mrs Woods; and (b) when did her appointment become official.
- (5) Can a copy of Mrs Woods' contact of engagement be provided.
- (6) Did Mrs Woods give a list of names of a selection panel for the proposed Cape York Peninsula Community Advisory Group to the Minister, or to departmental officials or to the Ministerial Steering Committee.
- (7) (a) In the Minister's letter to Mrs Mary Woods did he state: 'The Ministers meeting in February was also provided with a proposal for establishing community delivery and engagement arrangements for the region. Given your experience in community natural resource management delivery, I would also appreciate your advice on the suitability of the proposed approach or any alternative approach'; and (b) what was the proposed approach.
- (8) (a) Did the Minister also state in Mrs Woods' terms of reference that she was to 'provide advice on the most suitable model for regional arrangements in the Cape York Peninsula including community advisory arrangements to support the delivery of trust investment in the region'; and (b)(i) what was the advice given, (ii) when was it given, (iii) to whom was it given, and (iv) was that advice adopted.

- (9) It is correct that the terms of reference for the eminent person, Mrs Woods, state that the person will be responsible for 'assisting with the development of a process to establish the Cape York Community Advisory Group and a transitional process for regional decision-making on natural resource management for Cape York Peninsula consistent with the rest of the state'.
- (10) Is it correct that every other NRM region has a representative board or advisory group selected on the basis of an exhaustive community consultation; if not, which regions do not have a community-based board or advisory group.
- (11) Is it correct that the contract for Mrs Woods, copied to departmental officials calls for her to provide advice on the 'most suitable model for regional arrangements in the Cape York Peninsula including community advisory arrangements to support the delivery of trust investment in the region'.
- (12) Can a copy be provided of the report prepared by the eminent person on the public consultation process for the Cape York Advisory Group and Regional Plan which was presented to the Federal and Queensland Governments in mid July 2005.
- (13) (a) Who commissioned that report; and (b) did the Minister, or his department or the Ministerial Steering Committee receive a copy; if so, when was it received.
- (14) Did the Minister, or his department or the Ministerial Committee approve the report and act on its recommendations.
- (15) Did the report include a list of names of people to comprise the Community Advisory Group.
- (16) Was this list compiled after community consultation on Cape York by Mrs Woods and her selection panel.
- (17) Did the Minister have a meeting with Mrs Woods in Canberra in July or August 2005; if so: (a) who attended that meeting and in what capacity; and (b) what was the purpose of the meeting.
- (18) (a) Did the Minister and/or Mr Entsch MP inform Mrs Woods that the list of names was unacceptable; and (b) did the Minister and/or Mr Entsch MP remove four names from that list and substitute them with people of their own choosing.
- (19) On what basis were those four people selected by the Minister and/or Mr Entsch MP.
- (20) Was the substitution of those four names made in accordance with the processes approved by the Ministerial Steering Committee; if so, how.
- (21) Was the Ministerial Steering Committee advised of the changes or substitutions; if so: (a) were those changes or substitutions approved; and (b) when was the committee advised.
- (22) Were the original names approved by the Queensland Government.
- (23) Did Mrs Woods object to the substitutions of names, and the way in which this was done outside the processes agreed by the community of Cape York Peninsula.

- (24) Did the Minister, who is responsible for NRM arrangements on Cape York, approve or authorise the public release of the amended list of names on the Community Advisory Group, which was published in the *Cooktown Local News* of 28 September 2005; if not: (a) on what basis was that list published; and (b) was it published in accord with the agreed processes.
- (25) Were the people on that list notified of their appointment prior to the list being published and did each of them agree to be on the Community Advisory Group.
- (26) (a) What natural resource management expertise or experience does the Cape York Peninsula Development Association (CYPDA) have; and (b) what expertise or experience does it have in NHT processes and reporting, specifically: (i) what environmental, Indigenous or economic development expertise or representation does it have, and (ii) what expertise in matters such as land and vegetation management, grazing and water quality does it have.
- (27) What knowledge does the CYPDA have of the target-setting and review process required in the NRM plan.
- (28) Is it correct that the terms of reference for the Cape York Community Advisory Group state that 'the term of appointment of the chairperson and members will cease on 30 June 2006', and that one of the proposed tasks was to establish an NRM board for Cape York.
- (29) What is the term of appointment of the CYPDA as an interim board.
- (30) Is the Minister aware of a unanimous decision by 28 community-wide representatives of Cape York on Thursday, 15 June 2006 to seek support to establish a Cape York Natural Resources Management Advisory Group to administer National Heritage Trust Funds.
- (31) Is the Minister aware of a letter to the *Cooktown Local News* of 26 April 2006, in which the writer says Mr Entsch MP has spun 'a web of half-truths and misinformation' concerning the selection of an NRM advisory board.
- (32) Is the Minister aware that this letter was written by Mrs Woods, the eminent person appointed by himself to select an advisory board for his approval and that it states the Minister was 'prepared to allow him (Mr Entsch) to kick the approved process into the weeds'.
- (33) Will the Minister agree to the unanimous view of Cape York community representatives and support them to establish an NRM board of their own.

2113 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the media report of 14 June 2006 on ABC Online that Job Network figures of 44 000 employment outcomes included 4 000 employment outcomes from Indigenous Employment centres and to the report that the department confirmed this to be true:

- (1) Can the accuracy of this media report be confirmed.
- (2) Is an Indigenous Employment Centre (IEC) regarded by the department to be a Job Network agency.
- (3) How are the structure and functions of IECs different to Job Network agencies.
- (4) At the present time, how many IECs exist.
- (5) Does the department intend to expand the number of IECs; if so, what steps are being taken for this expansion.

- (6) Does the department give preference to IECs over mainstream employment agencies when considering tenders for employment services in communities with a significant Indigenous population.

2114 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) How many additional aged care places for Indigenous Australians will be provided by the measure ‘Strengthening Indigenous Communities’ announced in the 2006-07 Budget.
- (2) Will those places be allocated as part of the general allocation round under the *Aged Care Act 1997*; if not, how will they be allocated.
- (3) Will those places be administered under the Act.
- (4) Do the various principles under the Act apply to these places; if not, why not.
- (5) Does the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency monitor the quality of care delivered through these places.

*Notice given 27 June 2006*

2116 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) (a) What is the take-up rate of university places for rural and remote students; and (b) how does this compare with those from metropolitan areas.
- (2) What is the Government doing to close the gap in access.
- (3) With reference to Mr Pat Farmer’s response, in July 2005, to a constituent’s letter that:

The Australian Government is committed to income support arrangements that are fair and equitable and any further policy changes to Youth Allowance would have to be considered in the context of further budget proposals.

When will further policy changes to Youth Allowance be made to deliver a ‘fair and equitable’ outcome for country students.

*Notice given 28 June 2006*

2118 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Airservices Australia contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands, between 1998 and 2003:

- (1) When and how did the Minister become aware of irregularities in contract payments made to the Government of the Solomon Islands.
- (2) Was there an Airservices Australia investigation into the administration of this contract; if so:
  - (a) who conducted this investigation;
  - (b) what did the investigation discover;
  - (c) what recommendations resulted from the investigation;
  - (d) were payments to the Government of the Solomon Islands discontinued after the investigation; if so, why were these payments discontinued; and
  - (e) have the financial procedures within Airservices Australia been amended or varied as a result of this investigation.

- (3) Has any action commenced, or will any be undertaken, to recover funds from the Government of the Solomon Islands.
- (4) When did the Minister initiate an investigation by the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) into the administration of this contract.
- (5) When is the ANAO investigation expected to be completed.
- (6) What are the reporting arrangements between Airservices Australia and the Government concerning Airservices Australia contracts.
- (7) Is Airservices Australia obliged to report contracts above a certain value; if so, what is the disclosure threshold.
- (8) What is the extent of departmental oversight of Airservices Australia contracts.
- (9) What section of the department is responsible for Airservices Australia.

*Notice given 7 July 2006*

2122 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the drug methamphetamine:

- (1) How has the use of this drug increased over the past 10 years.
- (2) What measures has the Commonwealth Government taken to prevent an increase in its use.
- (3) How many Australians have died from using this drug, by year, over the past 10 years.
- (4) What is the average age, sex and income of methamphetamine users.
- (5) What is the estimated street value of the drug used in Australia in the past year.
- (6) What are the differences in usage between capital cities and regional areas.

2124 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Can the following details be provided on the \$8 million program 'Promoting Global Democracy', listed as an expense measure for the department:
  - (a) what is the nature and purpose of the program;
  - (b) who is administering it;
  - (c) who is advising or providing any other form of assistance with its development or implementation, including their names and organisation;
  - (d) when was the program initiated;
  - (e) what activities will be undertaken under the program;
  - (f) (i) how will funding be allocated, (ii) who will decide how it is allocated, and (iii) what criteria will be used;
  - (g) how will the program be monitored and evaluated;
  - (h) has any money been committed or spent; if so, can details be provided;
  - (i) what are the reporting arrangements; and
  - (j) can copies be provided of all documents that outline the genesis, development and content of the program.

- (2) Can details be provided of all other publicly funded programs or expenditures that benefit federal parliamentary political parties or their members, directly or indirectly, apart from the standard entitlements available to members of parliament and, in each case: (a) what is the name of the program; (b) what amount is allocated for the 2006-07 financial year and each of the next 3 financial years; (c) what is the nature and purpose of the program; and (d) who will, or is eligible, to benefit.

2127 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to a statement by the Chief Executive Officer of Airservices Australia (AA) on 23 June 2006 that the Australian Federal Police (AFP) investigated the airspace management contract between AA and the Government of the Solomon Islands and failed to identify any information or activity that might constitute an offence:

- (1) What caused the AFP investigation.
- (2) On what date did the AFP investigation commence.
- (3) On what date did the AFP investigation conclude.
- (4) What was the scope of the AFP investigation.
- (5) Did the investigation consider whether actions by AA might constitute an offence against a law of the Commonwealth or a state or territory; if not, why not.
- (6) Did the investigation consider whether actions by AA might constitute an offence against a law of the Solomon Islands; if not, why not.
- (7) What was the outcome of the AFP investigation.
- (8) Did AA consult with the AFP and/or the Minister before revealing details of the AFP investigation on 23 June 2006.
- (9) Is the Minister aware of a report in the *Sunday Telegraph* of 2 July 2006, alleging that third party payments by Airservices Australia funded 'corrupt officials who directed the money to school fees for their children, cars for themselves and their wives and so-called 'consultancy fees' for companies owned by dodgy cronies'.
- (10) Has the AFP initiated a further investigation based on these serious allegations; if so, can details be provided; if not, why not.

2128 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Minister's statement on 23 June 2006 relating to Airservices Australia's administration of an airspace management contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands:

- (1) On what date did: (a) the Minister and/or his predecessor; and (b) the department, become aware of an Australian Federal Police (AFP) investigation into contract payments made by Airservices to 'third parties'.
- (2) How did: (a) the Minister and/or his predecessor; and (b) the department, become aware of the investigation.
- (3) How did: (a) Airservices Australia; and (b) the department, assist the AFP investigation.
- (4) On what date was: (a) the Minister and/or his predecessor; and (b) the department, provided with advice of the outcome of the AFP investigation and in what form was the advice provided.
- (5) On what basis did a spokesperson for the Minister advise the *Australian Financial Review* that the Airservices Australia payments constituted a technical breach of the contract rather than any illegality.

- 2129 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Minister's statement on 23 June 2006 relating to Airservices Australia's administration of an airspace management contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands:
- (1) What amount has Airservices Australia collected in fees on behalf of the Solomon Islands Government, by year.
  - (2) What amount has Airservices Australia remitted to the Solomon Islands Government, by year.
  - (3) What payments has Airservices Australia made to third parties, by year.
  - (4) Can the Minister identify the third party recipients and related payments; if not, why not.
  - (5) What income has Airservices Australia derived from the contract arrangements, by year.
- 2130 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Minister's statement on 23 June 2006 relating to Airservices Australia's administration of an airspace management contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands:
- (1) Is the Minister aware of a report in the *Sunday Telegraph* of 2 July 2006, alleging that third party payments by Airservices Australia funded 'corrupt officials who directed the money to school fees for their children, cars for themselves and their wives and so-called 'consultancy fees' for companies owned by dodgy cronies'.
  - (2) Has the Minister: (a) referred this serious allegation to the Auditor General; (b) sought a response from Airservices Australia; and (c) directed his department to undertake an investigation of these serious matters; if not, why not.
- 2131 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Minister's statement on 23 June 2006 relating to Airservices Australia's administration of an airspace management contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands: Can a copy of the contracts between Airservices Australia and the Government of the Solomon Islands for the provision of airspace management services be provided; if not, why not.
- 2132 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to a statement by the Chief Executive Officer of Airservices Australia on 23 June 2006 relating to Airservices Australia's administration of an airspace management contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands: Can the Minister outline how Airservices Australia's corporate governance procedures have 'significantly improved' following an internal investigation of contact payments to third parties.
- 2133 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Minister's statement on 23 June 2006 relating to Airservices Australia's administration of an airspace management contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands: How did Solomon Islands officials specifically request and approve payments to third parties by Airservices Australia.

- 2134 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Minister's statement on 23 June 2006 relating to Airservices Australia's administration of an airspace management contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands:
- (1) Has Airservices Australia sought legal advice on any potential liability arising from its decision to make contract payments to third parties; if so: (a) when did it seek advice; (b) from whom was advice sought; (c) when was the advice received; (d) what was the nature of the advice; and (e) what did it cost; if not, why not.
  - (2) Has the department sought any legal advice in this matter; if so: (a) when was advice sought; (b) from whom was advice sought; (c) when was the advice received; (d) what was the nature of the advice; and (e) what did it cost; if not, why not.
- 2135 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Minister's statement on 23 June 2006 relating to Airservices Australia's administration of an airspace management contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands:
- (1) On what date did: (a) the Minister and/or his predecessor; and (b) the department, become aware of the audit into civil aviation matters undertaken by the Auditor General of the Solomon Islands which considered, among other matters, the contract with Airservices Australia.
  - (2) How did: (a) Airservices Australia; and (b) the department, assist the Auditor General of the Solomon Islands in relation to the audit.
  - (3) On what date did the: (a) the Minister; and (b) the department, receive a copy of the report by the Auditor General of the Solomon Islands.
- 2136 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Minister's statement on 23 June 2006 relating to Airservices Australia's administration of an airspace management contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands:
- (1) On what date did Airservices Australia advise the Minister that payments 'not strictly in accordance with the contract' were made for 'air travel, airport maintenance, training, equipment purchases and consulting services'.
  - (2) Is the Minister aware of a report in the *Solomon Star* of 27 June 2006, in which the Auditor General of the Solomon Islands says a 'very significant amount' of the third party funding paid by Airservices Australia was used for 'very questionable purposes or for reasons we have not been able to identify'.
  - (3) Is the Minister aware that in this newspaper report the Auditor General of the Solomon Islands reveals that more than SBD \$1.6 million of revenue collected by Airservices Australia was directed to 'unidentified' third party payments.
  - (4) Can the Minister explain the inconsistency between his media statement outlining the nature of the third party payments and the revelation by the Auditor General of the Solomon Islands that much of the revenue collected by Airservices Australia was directed to 'unidentified' third party payments.



- (5) Does the Minister have access to information from Airservices Australia or other parties about the nature of these payment which has been withheld from the Auditor General of the Solomon Islands.
- (6) Has the Minister: (a) referred the comments by the Auditor General of the Solomon Islands to the Auditor General; (b) sought a response from Airservices Australia; and (c) directed his own department to undertake an investigation of these comments; if not, why not.

2137 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Government of the Solomon Islands:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of a report in the *Sunday Telegraph* of 2 July 2006, alleging that third party contract payments made by Airservices Australia funded 'corrupt officials who directed the money to school fees for their children, cars for themselves and their wives and so-called 'consultancy fees' for companies owned by dodgy cronies'.
- (2) Has the Minister or his department sought advice from: (a) Airservices Australia; and (b) the Government of the Solomon Islands, in relation to this serious allegation; if so, can details be provided, including the response of Airservices Australia and the Government of the Solomon Islands; if not, why not.

*Notice given 14 July 2006*

2152 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can the Minister outline the role of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Dangerous Goods/Cabin Safety Specialist.
- (2) Does the CASA Dangerous Goods/Cabin Safety Specialist represent CASA on the Australian Dangerous Goods Air Transport Council (ADGATC).
- (3) Can the Minister outline the composition and role of the ADGATC.
- (4) Does the CASA Dangerous Goods/Cabin Safety Specialist represent CASA on the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Dangerous Goods Panel.
- (5) Can the Minister outline the composition and role of this panel, including its role in the development of ICAO Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods By Air.
- (6) Does the CASA Dangerous Goods/Cabin Safety Specialist also represent CASA on ICAO Dangerous Goods Panel working groups, including working groups examining the carriage of dangerous goods by passengers and crew and cargo aircraft loading principles.
- (7) Can the Minister outline the composition and role of each of these working groups.
- (8) Does the CASA Dangerous Goods/Cabin Safety Specialist represent CASA on the Australian Dangerous Goods Competent Authorities Panel, the Radioactive Material Competent Authorities Working Group and Standards Australia committees.
- (9) Can the Minister outline the composition and role of each of these bodies.
- (10) Does the CASA Dangerous Goods/Cabin Safety Specialist perform the role of competent authority for the assessment of radioactive material packaging for air transport.

- (11) Is the CASA Dangerous Goods/Cabin Safety Specialist the project officer for the post-implementation review of Part 92 of the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations.
  - (12) Has the position of the current CASA Dangerous Goods/Cabin Safety Specialist been abolished as part of the CASA restructure announced in February 2006; if so, how will that decision affect the safety functions performed by the CASA Dangerous Goods/Cabin Safety Specialist, including but not necessarily limited to each of the functions identified above.
  - (13) Is: (a) the Minister; (b) the department; and (c) CASA, aware of concern by aviation industry stakeholders about the consequences of the decision to abolish this position.
  - (14) Has: (a) the Minister; (b) the department; and (c) CASA, received any formal representations from aviation industry stakeholders urging a review or reversal of the decision to abolish this position; if so, what action has: (a) the Minister; (b) the department; and (c) CASA, taken in response to those representations; if not action has been taken, why not.
- 2154 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service—With reference to the Ministerial Conversations Series hosted by the Australian Public Service Commission:
- (1) Can details be provided for each seminar since the inception of the series, including the date, duration location, speaker and number of attendees by department and agency.
  - (2) Can the Minister confirm that attendance at each seminar costs departments and agencies \$110 per officer.
  - (3) What related attendance fees has the Australian Public Service Commission collected from each department and agency.
  - (4) What costs has the Australian Public Service Commission incurred in relation to the Ministerial Conversations Series, disaggregated to show venue, food, beverages, speaker and other identified costs.
- 2155 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service—With reference to the Preparing to Appear Before Parliamentary Committees seminars hosted by the Australian Public Service Commission:
- (1) Can details be proved for each seminar since inception, including the date, duration, location, presenters (including external presenters) and number of attendees by department and agency.
  - (2) Can a copy of all related training materials be provided.
  - (3) Can the Minister confirm that attendance at each seminar costs departments and agencies \$1,700 per officer.
  - (4) What related attendance fees has the Australian Public Service Commission collected from each department and agency.
  - (5) For each seminar, what costs were incurred by the Australian Public Service Commission, disaggregated to show venue, food, beverages, external consultants and other identified costs.

2156 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service—With reference to the Parliamentary Committees – Managing the Politics, Perception and Risk sessions hosted by the Australian Public Service Commission:

- (1) Can details be provided for each session since inception, including the date, duration, location, presenters (including external presenters) and number of attendees by department and agency.
- (2) Can a copy of all related training materials be provided.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that attendance at each seminar costs departments and agencies \$230 per officer.
- (4) What related attendance fees has the Australian Public Service Commission collected from each department and agency.
- (5) For each session, what costs were incurred by the Australian Public Service Commission, disaggregated to show venue, food, beverages, external consultants and other identified costs.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that: (a) the Australian Public Service Commission advertised a session in the April 2006 issue of the *Public Sector Informant* advising prospective attendees that attendance would help them understand ‘how you need to prepare for a successful parliamentary committee appearance and what approach can be career-threatening’; and (b) the same description of the session is published on the Australian Public Service Commission website.
- (7) Can details be provided of the ‘career-threatening’ approaches covered in the session.
- (8) Can the Minister confirm the Australian Public Service Commission advertisement in the April 2006 issue of the *Public Sector Informant* also advised prospective attendees that attendance would help them gain an understanding of the ‘politics behind’ the parliamentary committee process.
- (9) Does section 10(1) of the *Public Service Act 1999* provide that ‘the APS is apolitical, performing its functions in an impartial and professional manner’.
- (10) What is the nature of the political advice provided to attendees at these sessions hosted by the Australian Public Service Commission.
- (11) What political expertise does the Australian Public Service Commission possess.
- (12) Can the Minister confirm the Australian Public Service Commission advertisement in the April 2006 issue of the *Public Sector Informant* also advised prospective attendees they would receive ‘insider tips on how to provide evidence’.
- (13) What ‘insider advice’ is offered by the Australian Public Service Commission at these sessions.
- (14) Can the Minister confirm the Australian Public Service Commission advertisement in the April 2006 issue of the *Public Sector Informant* also advised prospective attendees they would receive ‘advice on questions on notice’.
- (15) What advice does the Australian Public Service Commission provide at these sessions in relation to questions on notice.

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2157-2175)—

- (1) What Senate estimates training sessions have officers of the Minister's departments and agencies attended in the past 3 financial years, by year.
- (2) For each of the past 3 financial years: (a) how many officers participated in; and (b) what was the total cost of, training for Senate estimates, by department and agency and by financial year.
- (3) Where training has been provided by a private provider, what was the name of the provider and the associated cost.

2157 Minister representing the Prime Minister

2158 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

2159 Minister representing the Treasurer

2160 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

2161 Minister for Finance and Administration

2162 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2164 Minister representing the Attorney-General

2167 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

2169 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

2170 Minister for the Environment and Heritage

2173 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

2174 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services

2177 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Did Marnic Worldwide Pty Ltd send a facsimile request to the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) on 23 October 2004, seeking to amend competent authorities for certifying fish products from Indonesia.
- (2) Was that request sent to Biosecurity Australia by AQIS for advice; if so, on what date and in what form was that request from Marnic to AQIS communicated to Biosecurity Australia.
- (3) Did a senior assessing officer in the Biological Unit of AQIS advise Marnic by way of email that Biosecurity Australia would contact the Indonesian Government to confirm that the Indonesian departments listed as competent authorities on Marnic's import permit were correct.
- (4) What was the name of the officer who sent the above email to Marnic.
- (5) Was the above email sent by the AQIS officer to Marnic on 26 October 2004.
- (6) Did that email advise Marnic that once AQIS received advice from Biosecurity Australia about the amendments required by Marnic the permit would be updated and faxed to the company.
- (7) Was that advice to Marnic on 26 October 2004 based on communications with Biosecurity Australia; if so: (a) what was the form of those communications; (b) when did those communications take place; (c) who were the officers involved in those communications; and (d) how and where were those communications recorded; if not, on what basis was the advice to Marnic on 26 October 2004 given.

- (8) Did the report prepared by Mr Dalton following his investigation into a claim for detriment by Marnic caused by defective administration refer to an application by Marnic for non-accredited certifying bodies in Indonesia to be added to its import permit being lodged on 22 October 2004.
- (9) Was this the same request referred to in the email from AQIS to Marnic dated 26 October 2004; if so, why is the date of the communication from Marnic to AQIS in the above email identified as 23 October 2004 but the date for the same communication reported by Mr Dalton as 22 October.
- (10) If there were two communications between Marnic and AQIS in relation to a request to amend the company's permit: (a) what was the form of the second communication; (b) who in AQIS received the second communication; and (c) what action was taken following the receipt this second communication.

2183 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With reference to calls to the Employee Assistance Program for the period 30 June 2003 to 30 June 2006, by portfolio agency, by month: (a) how many calls were logged; and (b) what was this as a percentage of Full Time Equivalents by agency.
- (2) What was the cost of the program for each portfolio agency in the 2004, 2005 and 2006 financial years.

2184 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) For each financial year since 2003-04, on how many occasions has the Government permitted the vessel *POS Auckland* to operate on the Australian coastline under a single or continuous voyage permit.
- (2) On each occasion: (a) what type of permit was it issued; (b) what Australian ports did the vessel visit; and (c) what cargo (including high consequence dangerous goods) did it carry.

2185 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the vessel *POS Auckland* which was at the centre of a maritime security incident at the Port of Geelong in June 2006:

- (1) What was the number and nationality of the crew.
- (2) When did the vessel arrive at the Port of Geelong.
- (3) What was the nature and volume of cargo loaded or discharged at the Port of Geelong.
- (4) What was the vessel's proximity to the Shell refinery while moored.
- (5) When and at what time did the Minister and/or the department (including the Office of Transport Security) become aware of the incident aboard the vessel.
- (6) What was the source of information about the incident.
- (7) When and at what time did the master of the vessel raise the security level in response to a security threat aboard the vessel.
- (8) Can the Minister confirm the claim by Detective Senior Constable Damian McKeegan, published in the *Geelong Advertiser* on 19 June 2006, that the master raised the vessel to security level three.

- (9) Can the Minister confirm that level three is the highest security level under the International Ship and Port Facility Security Code.
- (10) Does raising the security level to three represent an exceptional measure that is applied only when there is credible information that a security incident is probable or imminent.
- (11) How did: (a) the Port of Geelong; and (b) the Government, respond to the raising of the security level.
- (12) When and at what time was the security level restored to level one.
- (13) Can the Minister confirm whether the security level was raised in response to the actions of a crew member.
- (14) What was the nationality of this crew member and what was his role aboard the vessel.
- (15) Did this crew member: (a) stab a fellow crew member; and/or (b) assault a fellow crew member with a hammer; and/or (c) lock himself in the engine room; and/or (d) open fuel valves in the engine room flooding it with diesel; and/or (e) threaten to blow up the ship.
- (16) When and at what time or times did these actions occur.
- (17) How did the Government respond to this incident.
- (18) When did the vessel depart the Port of Geelong.
- (19) (a) Which Australian ports did the vessel visit before and after the Port of Geelong; and (b) when.

2189 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) When was: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; (c) the department; and (d) the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) provided with the Single Vision Grains Australia report *Towards a single vision for Australian grain marketing* funded by taxpayers and grain growers through the GRDC.
- (2) Was: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; (c) the department; or (d) the GRDC, provided with a draft copy of the report; if so, when and who was the source.

2191 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to a report in the *Weekly Times* of 5 July 2006 about the release of the Single Vision Grains Australia (SVGA) report *Towards a single vision for Australian grain marketing*:

- (1) When, in August 2006, will the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) meet to review funding for SVGA.
- (2) Is the review a scheduled review; if so, can dates be provided of all such scheduled reviews of SVGA funding; if not, what is the basis of the review.
- (3) If the answer to this question on notice is not provided prior to the August 2006 review of SVGA funding, can details be provided of the outcome of the review.

2192 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Single Vision Grains Australia (SVGA) report *Towards a single vision for Australian grain marketing* funded by taxpayers and grain growers through the Grains Research and Development Corporation:

- (1) What process was used to select the industry organisations listed as ‘organisations we consulted’ on page 27 of the report.
  - (2) Can details be provided of the unidentified ‘smaller organisations’ that were also consulted.
  - (3) When was the Grains Council of Australia consulted by SVGA on the future of the single desk.
  - (4) Was the Wheat Growers Association consulted by the SVGA; if not, why not.
- 2193 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Single Vision Grains Australia (SVGA) report *Towards a single vision for Australian grain marketing* funded by taxpayers and grain growers through the Grains Research and Development Corporation:
- (1) Can the Minister confirm the claim on page 55 of the report that the Minister’s department was ‘updated on Single Vision Grains Australia activities during the course of the project’.
  - (2) Can details be provided of all occasions on which the SVGA ‘updated’ the Minister’s department on its activities.
- 2194 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Single Vision Grains Australia (SVGA) report *Towards a single vision for Australian grain marketing* funded by taxpayers and grain growers through the Grains Research and Development Corporation: Is the Minister aware of the report’s claim that: ‘The Wheat Export Authority does not use a “proper” methodology to evaluate single desk price premiums. It attempts to measure premiums by comparing prices for different grades of wheat with comparable prices received by other exporters. This is a flawed methodology’; if so, has the Minister asked the Wheat Export Authority (WEA) to respond to the claim it employs a ‘flawed methodology’ and how has the WEA responded.
- 2195 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—How many members of the so-called interim board of the Grains Research and Development Corporation-funded unincorporated venture Single Vision Grains Australia are grain growers.
- 2196 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Does the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC)-funded unincorporated venture Single Vision Grains Australia (SVGA) operate from offices at the corner of Loraine and Ricky Streets, Capalaba, Queensland.
  - (2) When did SVGA commence operation from these premises.
  - (3) Does the unincorporated venture SVGA own or lease these premises.
  - (4) If SVGA owns the premises when were the premises purchased and what was the purchase price.
  - (5) If SVGA leases the premises: (a) when was the lease signed; (b) what is the term of the lease; and (c) what is the value of the lease payments.
  - (6) Does the GRDC own or lease these premises.
  - (7) If the GRDC owns the premises when were the premises purchased and what was the purchase price.

(8) If the GRDC leases the premises: (a) when was the lease signed; (b) what is the term of the lease; and (c) what is the value of the lease payments.

(9) If another entity owns or leases the premises can details be provided.

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2200-2203)—

(1) Is the Minister or the department aware of a report published in the *Australian* of 8 December 2005 that the Government of Pakistan has launched an inquiry into alleged kickbacks paid to Pakistani officials by AWB Limited.

(2) Has: (a) the Government of Pakistan sought any assistance from the Australian Government in relation to its inquiry into alleged kickbacks paid by AWB Limited to Pakistani officials including officials of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock; or (b) the Australian Government offered the Government of Pakistan any assistance to enable it to investigate alleged kickbacks paid by AWB Limited to Pakistani officials including officials of the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock; if so, can the Minister advise how the Minister or any department or agency for which he is responsible has assisted the Government of Pakistan.

(3) Has the Minister or the department received any advice of the outcome of any investigation undertaken by the Government of Pakistan in relation to alleged kickbacks paid by AWB Limited to Pakistani officials; if so: (a) can any outcomes of any investigation be provided; and (b) if the Government of Pakistan has sought further action or assistance from the Australian Government, what action or assistance has been sought and how has the Australian Government responded.

2200 Minister for Justice and Customs

2201 Minister for Justice and Customs

2202 Minister for Justice and Customs

2203 Minister for Justice and Customs

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2208-2225)—

(1) What entitlement do partners or family members of senior officers of the department, or agencies for which the Minister is responsible, have to travel at government expense.

(2) If an entitlement exists, by department and/or agency: (a) what process is used to assess whether the travel costs of partners or family members are met by the Government; (b) who undertakes such an assessment; and (c) who approves funding for partner or family travel.

2208 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

2210 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

2211 Minister for Finance and Administration

2212 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2213 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

2214 Minister representing the Attorney-General

2215 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

2217 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

2218 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

2220 Minister for the Environment and Heritage



- 2222 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 2223 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
- 2224 Minister representing the Minister for Human Services

*Notice given 19 July 2006*

- 2230 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to Air Vice-Marshal Criss AM AFC (AVM Criss), who in August 2005 was paid compensation for defective administration, having submitted his claim in October 2002 at the recommendation of the then Chief of Defence Force, Admiral Barrie, following an earlier denial of his Redress of Grievance (ROG) by the Appointing Officer and Vice Chief of the Defence Force, Lieutenant General Mueller:
- (1) (a) Did the department, through its delegate, initially increase its original offer; (b) was that new offer further increased by agreement on a handshake to a third figure closer to that sought by AVM Criss; and (c) was that third agreed amount subsequently reduced to a lesser amount than that agreed at the conclusion of the mediation.
  - (2) Was the revised lesser amount in (1)(c) above contained in the delegate's 'final decision' letter to the claimant dated 20 July 2005.
  - (3) Prior to issuing the final unilateral decision in the letter of 20 July 2005 was AVM Criss informed by Defence legal staff in May 2005 that mediation was scheduled for one day, Thursday 2 June 2005, with Friday 3 June being set aside for further mediation just in case the matter was not concluded on the first day.
  - (4) At the commencement of the mediation did the Commonwealth's delegate declare that he attended with the full authority to commit the Commonwealth to a settlement, advising at the same time that any public apology statement would have to be cleared by the Secretary and the Chief of the Defence Force (CDF).
  - (5) Early on day one, did the Commonwealth's delegate increase the pre-mediation baseline settlement offer to a second amount approximately 8.5 per cent above the first baseline figure.
  - (6) Did the Commonwealth's delegate request a 4-week adjournment early in the afternoon of the second day after the claimant stated that the salary component of the offered compensation was not correctly calculated.
  - (7) After the adjournment had been agreed did the Commonwealth's delegate then table his evidence to the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee from three nights earlier, disclosing that he had never intended the two days of mediation to reach a settlement.
  - (8) When the mediation reconvened in Sydney 4 weeks later in the offices of the mediator, Justice Morling, did the Commonwealth's delegate once again confirm that he attended with the full authority to commit the Commonwealth to a financial settlement with the same constraints involving the CDF and Secretary for any public statement.
  - (9) Is it the case that, after additional discussion, the claimant put on the table his bottom line figure for compensation which was approximately 44 per cent higher than the second offer from the Commonwealth.

- (10) Did the Commonwealth's delegate make a counter offer forming a compromise sum midway between the second offer and the claimant's bid, which the claimant accepted.
- (11) Did the Commonwealth's delegate and the claimant shake hands on the accepted offer, and did the Commonwealth's delegate advise that the offer was subject to confirmation by the CDF and the Secretary, despite his earlier assertion that settlement authority rested with him.
- (12) In relation to that overruling of the delegate's agreed offer confirmed with a handshake, who directed the delegate not to honour the agreed mediated amount.
- (13) Did the incumbent Minister Assisting have any involvement in rejecting the mediated amount.
- (14) Why was the amount varied from the mediated agreed amount.
- (15) Why did the CDF and the Secretary issue a press release (CPA 209/05) on 22 August 2005 stating that mediation had concluded when no conclusion had been reached because the delegate reneged on the agreed settlement.
- (16) Do the Department of Finance and Administration guidelines at Attachment B to Finance Circular 2001/01 relating to compensation for detriment caused by defective administration (CDDA) state, *inter alia*:
- Paragraph 4 – 'Care should be taken to ensure that the principles of natural justice are applied...'
- Paragraph 19 – 'Each case must be decided on its own merits'.
- Paragraph 36 – 'The overarching principle to be used in determining the level of compensation is to restore the claimant to the position he or she would have been in had defective administration not occurred'.
- Paragraph 35 – 'Offers of compensation to claimants should be calculated on the basis of what is fair and reasonable in the circumstances and in consideration of the fact that the Commonwealth should not take advantage of its relative position of strength in an effort to minimise payment';
- if so, can the Minister explain or confirm:
- (a) why the member was only compensated for a loss of salary component previously determined in an ROG Defence Department rejected report dated 29 June 2001; and
- (b) if an incorrect reference was used as the basis for the compensation calculation used and, if so, (i) why, and (ii) was rectification made of any incorrect reference used, and if not, why not.
- (17) Was there supporting documentation tabled with the CDDA claim that clearly detailed that the member would have been in contention for the CAF selection process in June 2005; if so, what was the basis for the delegate's unilateral decision of using March 2003 as the selected separation date for the officer from the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).
- (18) Do the CDDA guidelines, at paragraph 39, relating to the payment of interest, state: '...where the agency's actions and /or notification for defective administration were unreasonably protracted ... interest on damages may be payable...'; if so, given that AVM Criss submitted his ROG in March 2001, and given that the Department of Defence compensated the member in August 2005 an amount recommended for

payment in a June 2001 report, and given that the member submitted his CDDA claim in October 2002, can the Minister explain why the member was denied the payment of interest on the money withheld by the department for over 4 years.

- (19) In relation to the Investigating Officer's Report into AVM Criss's ROG: (a) was that investigation undertaken by a retired rear admiral and a retired Supreme Court judge; (b) were excerpts quoted in the Blick report into the same matter; and (c) is the Blick report a document now in the public domain through the Sydney Morning Herald website.
- (20) (a) Why is the ROG report into the Criss complaint a protected document; (b) what is the legal basis of that protection; (c) what penalties apply to those who release its contents; and (d) if the report is quoted in the Blick report what is the need to continue to protect it from public scrutiny.
- (21) Is the purpose of continuing to protect the ROG report on AVM Criss from public scrutiny to protect past senior ADF officers who were found by the inquiry to have been negligent and complicit in a conspiracy to remove AVM Criss from office.
- (22) (a) What criticism was made in the ROG report of the actions and behaviour of senior officers involved in removing AVM Criss from office; (b) what recommendations were made about counselling them or disciplining them; and (c) what action, if any, was taken.
- (23) (a) What criticism was made in the Blick report of the actions and behaviour of senior officers involved in removing AVM Criss from office and his subsequent handling; and (b) what actions have been taken, if any, regarding their questionable conduct.
- (24) (a) In each of the past 5 years, how many ROG reports have been released publicly in full or in part; and (b) what was the reason for release in each case.
- (25) Does the Blick report quote the ROG inquiry into the grievance of AVM Criss as follows:

'The investigation officer's findings concerning the precise nature of AVM Criss's grievance were:

- i. *Air Marshal McCormack removed Air Vice-Marshal Criss from the position of Air Commander, Australia without abiding by any of the provisions of DI(AF)PERS 4-19;*
- ii. *The allegation that Air Marshal McCormack exceeded his authority by advising Air Vice-Marshal Criss he was going to be removed from the Air Force does not arise for determination. An intention was never implemented;*
- iii. *The serious double allegation that Air Marshal McCormack misrepresented his dealings with Air Vice-Marshal Criss subsequent to their 10 March 2000 meeting to protect his position (or stance) has not been distinctly made or, more particularly, clearly proved. The allegations are rejected; and*
- iv. *Air Marshal McCormack failed to provide an annual performance assessment on Air Vice-Marshal Criss in March 2000 in the form required by DI(G)PERS 37-1.'*

- (26) Does the Vice Chief of the Defence Force (VCDF) 38/01 letter and attached decisions matrix, dated 16 October 2001, by LTGEN Mueller, also quote from the ROG inquiry into the grievance of AVM Criss as follows:

**‘1.04 General Findings and Recommendations:**

- i. DI(AF)PERS 4-19 was wholly relevant to the issues raised in the Redress of Grievance by Air Vice-Marshal Criss
- ii. For all members of the RAAF, cases of accordance with DI(AF)PERS 4-19; but that in the case of Air Vice-Marshal Criss, the Chief of Air Force ignored these requirements
- iii. The way in which Air Vice-Marshal Criss was removed from the position of Air Commander, Australia denied him procedural fairness in the context of DI(AF)PERS 4-19
- iv. Air Marshal McCormack denied Air Vice-Marshal Criss the right to make representations or to be heard by failing to compile a Star Rank Appraisal and Development Report for his period of service as Air Commander, Australia; and by denying Air Vice-Marshal Criss the opportunity to read and make representations about the letter report on Air Vice-Marshal Criss submitted to the Chief of the Defence Force on 27 March 2000.
- v. The career prospects of Air Vice-Marshal Criss may have been damaged by the failures of his Program Managers to render Star Rank Officer Appraisal and Development Reports on him in accordance with DI(G)PERS 37-1.
- vi. The necessity to remove Air Vice-Marshal Criss from the position of Air Commander, Australia is not substantiated by the reasons advanced by the Chief of Air Force for his act in so doing.
- vii. Air Vice-Marshal Criss has no legal entitlement to apology by way of redress. It is not for this investigation to determine whether an apology should be tendered (either public or private) as this would seem to be a matter that involves questions of policy.
- viii. Any remedy of grievance for Air Vice-Marshal Criss and the particular reasons for it should be made public.
- ix. The Inquiry was unable to find that the act of removing Air Vice-Marshal Criss from the position of Air Commander, Australia actually denied him the chance of promotion to Three Star Rank
- x. An award of compensation is the appropriate means of redressing the wrong done to Air Vice-Marshal Criss. The amount should take account of the considerations in sub-sections 3.073 and 3.077, of this report.

**1.05 Findings and Recommendations concerning Removal from Command**

- i. Air Marshal McCormack made the decision at a meeting with the Minister for Defence on 3 March 2000 because he had, over time, lost confidence in Air Vice-Marshal Criss as a senior Air Force Commander in the sense explained in this report.

- ii. Air Marshal McCormack took the decision on dubious grounds and without taking proper account of his commendable performance as Air Component Commander in the Australian Theatre Command during the successful East Timor operations
- iii. Very little of the evidence or other information used in making the decision was disclosed to Air Vice-Marshal Criss and he was not afforded the opportunity to be heard in respect of the decision to remove him
- iv. Air Marshal McCormack abused his authority by failing to follow the requirements of DI(AF)PERS 4-19 and Air Vice-Marshal Criss was denied procedural fairness
- v. A substantial amount of compensation should be paid to redress this ground for grievance. The award of this compensation and the reasons for its (sic) should be made public.

**1.06 Finding concerning Exceeding Authority Removal from Air Force**

- i. In the terms asked in the question, this matter does not arise. Any alleged intention to remove Air Vice Marshal Criss from the Air Force under the MIER process or any other process was not implemented.

**1.07 Finding concerning Misrepresentation**

- i. The investigation does not accept that either or both allegations have been established.

**1.08 Findings and Recommendations concerning Performance Assessment**

- i. Air Vice-Marshal Criss has not received any formal performance assessment report in his current rank. Three informal performance assessment reports have been compiled but he received none of these from those who reported on him. He has subsequently been given a copy of one of these informal reports.
- ii. Notwithstanding the considerations in sub-section 3.043 and 3.044 of this report, including the entitlement of the complainant to receive a Star Rank Officer Appraisal and Development report for his period of service as an Air Vice-Marshal, no realistic purpose would be served by retrospectively producing a document for this period of service as Air Commander, Australia.
- iii. There is no reason why a Star Rank Officer Appraisal and Development Report on Air Vice-Marshal Criss should not be prepared by the Vice Chief of the Defence Force for his period of service since 8 May 2000.
- iv. The personal and professional consequences for the complaint (sic) of not receiving formal or informal performance assessment reports are that he has been denied the opportunity of making representations about these reports directly to those who wrote them; and he has been judged 'capable but not competitive' for promotion to Three Star Rank without those making the judgement having

available to them valid performance assessment reports on which to make such a judgement.’;

if so: (a) were any of the findings of the ROG not referred to in the above mainly supportive of AVM Criss’s complaints; and (b) were other recommendations of a procedural nature made in the ROG report.

- (27) Did the ROG report recommend the award of substantial compensation to AVM Criss to redress the wrong it obviously concluded that he had suffered.
- (28) Did the Blick report recommend that the ROG Inquiry Report be regarded as an annex to the Blick report; if so, why was that not done and who made that decision.
- (29) Did the Blick report reveal that a Defence Legal Service officer expressed concern to a colleague regarding the VCDF’s intention to rely on second-hand oral evidence from a legal officer when that same lawyer had put in writing that he was not of the view attributed to him in the verbal evidence.
- (30) Did that Defence Legal Service officer describe the VCDF’s actions as being ‘quite shonky’.
- (31) Does the Blick report reveal that in April 2002 CDF Barrie informed the Defence Legal Service that he was now of the view that he supported the Doolan/Abadee ROG findings; if so: (a) why did Defence continue to support the VCDF’s decision to overturn all the ROG findings that were in AVM Criss’s favour; (b) why was the member instructed to submit a claim for defective administration when the department had already conducted a comprehensive investigation and that the CDF had indicated that he now supports AVM Criss’s appeal against the incorrect decisions made by the Appointing Officer – VCDF – Lieutenant General Mueller; (c) is it not the case, as revealed by the Blick report, that by 24 April 2002 the department was in a position to admit that the AVM Criss ROG grievances were proven and that the member should have been immediately compensated; and (d) why was the member forced to submit a CDDA claim and wait a further three and half years to receive compensation.

2231 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to Air Vice-Marshal Criss AM AFC (AVM Criss) and the recent Defence Department’s unilaterally determined compensation amount, and given the advice at Paragraph 50 of the compensation for detriment caused by defective administration (CDDA) guidelines that, ‘Advice on the right of review by the Ombudsman should be provided to all claimants’:

- (1) Why, when AVM Criss specifically stated that he did not agree with the delegate’s final unilateral decision and that he would seek independent review on 17 areas of concern, did the Defence Force Ombudsman (DFO) refuse to investigate.
- (2) In light of the recent evidence by the DFO and his deputy to the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee that his organisation refers complaints back to the department if he believes that the same department has a robust investigating process, and in the light of the findings of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee in its report on military justice that the inquiry process is fatally flawed: (a) how is the DFO’s attitude defended; and (b) what does this mean for his so called independence.

- (3) Did the Senate committee report on military justice recommend the abolition of the DFO; if so, why did the Government not accept that recommendation.
- (4) Given the advice at Paragraph 51 of CDDA guidelines that 'In order to protect the interests of the Commonwealth, compensation under the scheme should only be paid where the claimant agrees in writing not to pursue legal action in relation to the circumstances of the claim', and given AVM Criss's strict compliance with this requirement, why did the DFO subsequently rule that because the member signed the release and indemnity the matter was closed and that he would not investigate the member's appeal against the CDDA delegate's unilateral decision.
- (5) Given that Defence Instruction (General) Personnel 34-1, paragraphs 26 and 27 and the Department of Finance and Administration's Attachment B to Finance Circular 2001/01 both give specific guidance on a serviceman's rights to appeal to the DFO, why was the basic and fundamental natural justice entitlement of an appeal to the DFO denied to AVM Criss by Professor McMillan and his deputy.
- (6) Given the DFO decision not to investigate AVM Criss's concern with regards to the decision of the Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force, as detailed in his written request to the DFO, how can any serviceman obtain an independent and impartial review of decisions taken by internal Defence Department bureaucrats on matters as serious as those raised by AVM Criss.
- (7) In light of recent DFO evidence before the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee, in which it was disclosed that the DFO can refuse to investigate a complainant's appeal despite the complainant following all due processes in bringing an unresolved CDDA matter before the DFO: (a) can details be provided of where Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel can go to obtain an independent review of an internal departmental unilateral decision; and (b) does the Prime Minister expect ADF personnel to fund their own civil law suits in an attempt to obtain military justice.

2233 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) How many maternity payments have been made to women to date in each of the following age groups: (a) 15 years or younger; (b) 16 years; (c) 17 years; (d); 18 years; and (e) 19 years.
- (2) For each of the calendar years 1996 to 2005, what is the rate and number of pregnancies in Australia.
- (3) How does Australia's rate of teenage pregnancy compare with other Organisation for Economic Co-operation and development (OECD) countries.
- (4) How does Australia's rate of teenage mothers engaged in education compare with other OECD countries.
- (5) For each of the calendar years 1996 to 2005, how many grandparents were primary carers of grandchildren.
- (6) What is the Government's position on teenage pregnancy.

- (7) Is there a Government Policy on teenage pregnancy; if so, can details be provided.
- (8) What, if any, measures are in place to reduce the number of teenage pregnancies in Australia.

2234 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) On what date did Austral Ships first apply for Temporary Business [subclass 457] Visas to bring foreign workers into Australia.
- (2) How many visas did Austral request.
- (3) (a) On how many subsequent occasions has Austral applied for 457 visas; and (b) on each occasion, how many visas were sought.
- (4) (a) What were the skills required by Austral in relation to the above visa applications; (b) how were the skill levels and qualifications of the foreign workers assessed as part of the application process; and (c) how were the skill levels confirmed by the Government prior to visas being issued.
- (5) Were the positions linked to the above applications first advertised in Australia; if so: (a) where were these positions advertised; (b) how were they advertised; and (c) on how many occasions were advertisements placed in the media.
- (6) Were the above positions advertised online; if so: (a) through which online services were they advertised; and (b) on how many occasions were these online advertisements placed.
- (7) Did Austral seek to find Australian workers to fill the above positions through other means; if so, what were the other methods used by the company to identify Australian workers to fill these positions.
- (8) How did the Government ensure that the above positions were properly advertised by Austral prior to the approval of the company's application for 457 visas.
- (9) Is there a minimum wage specified by the Government for the above 457 visa holders employed by Austral; if so: (a) what is the minimum wage; (b) is the minimum wage imposed on the company by way of regulation; (c) is the wage linked to an hourly rate of pay or a specified number of hours per week; and (d) how has the Government satisfied itself that the minimum rate is being paid to the above visa holders.

2235 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) When did the engineering company, United Group first apply for Temporary Business [subclass 457] Visas to bring foreign workers into Australia.
- (2) How many visas did United Group request.
- (3) (a) On how many subsequent occasions has United Group applied for 457 visas; and (b) on each occasion, how many visas were sought.
- (4) (a) What were the skills required by United Group in relation to the above visa applications; (b) how were the skill levels and qualifications of the foreign workers assessed as part of the application process; and (c) how were the skill levels confirmed by the Government prior to visas being issued.



- (5) Were the positions linked to the above applications first advertised in Australia; if so: (a) where were these positions advertised; (b) how were they advertised; and (c) on how many occasions were advertisements placed in the media.
- (6) Were the above positions advertised online; if so: (a) through which online services were they advertised; and (b) on how many occasions were these online advertisements placed.
- (7) Did United Group seek to find Australian workers to fill the above positions through other means; if so, what were the other methods used by the company to identify Australian workers to fill these positions.
- (8) How did the Government ensure that the positions were properly advertised by United Group prior to the approval of the company's application for 457 visas.
- (9) Is there a minimum wage specified by the Government for the above 457 visa holders employed by United Group; if so: (a) what is the minimum wage; (b) is the minimum wage imposed on the company by way of regulation; (c) is the wage linked to an hourly rate of pay or a specified number of hours per week; and (d) how has the Government satisfied itself that the minimum rate is being paid to the above visa holders.

2236 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Has Qantas applied for Temporary Business [subclass 457] Visas to bring foreign workers into Australia; if so, how many visas has Qantas requested.
- (2) (a) On how many occasions has Qantas applied for 457 visas; and (b) on each occasion, how many visas were sought.
- (3) (a) What were the skills required by Qantas in relation to the above visa applications; (b) how were the skill levels and qualifications of the foreign workers assessed as part of the application process; and (c) how were the skill levels confirmed by the Government prior to visas being issued.
- (4) Were the positions linked to the above applications first advertised in Australia; if so: (a) where were these positions advertised; (b) how were they advertised; and (c) on how many occasions were advertisements placed in the media.
- (5) Were these positions advertised online; if so: (a) through which online services were they advertised; and (b) on how many occasions were these online advertisements placed.
- (6) Did Qantas seek to find Australian workers to fill the above positions through other means; if so, what were the other methods used by the company to identify Australian workers to fill these positions.
- (7) How did the Government ensure that the positions were properly advertised by Qantas prior to the approval of the company's application for 457 visas.
- (8) Is there a minimum wage specified by the Government for the above 457 visa holders employed by Qantas; if so: (a) what is the minimum wage; (b) is the minimum wage imposed on the company by way of regulation; (c) is the wage linked to an hourly rate of pay or a specified number of hours per week; and (d) how has the Government satisfied itself that the minimum rate is being paid to the above visa holders.

2237 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) How many Long Stay Migrant [457] Visas have been issued to foreign workers employed in the red meat processing sector by: (a) month; (b) year; and (c) employer.
- (2) Has the Government set a minimum hourly rate for foreign workers holding 457 visas who are employed in the red meat processing sector in line with the Government's 'Work Choices' amendments to the *Workplace Relations Act 1997*; if not: (a) on what basis has the Government determined that the minimum pay rates provided for under the program should be inconsistent with the Work Choices amendments that apply to Australian workers in the red meat processing sector; (b) what is the minimum rate of pay that applies to these workers; (c) how was that rate determined; (d) to what hours of work does the minimum rate apply; and (e) how is the payment of the minimum rate enforced.
- (3) Does the Long Stay Migrant Visa Program provide for a reduction in the minimum rate of pay for 457 visa holders employed in regional centres; if so, is the reduction in the minimum rate for these workers set at a specific level or is the rate determined by the specific circumstances of an employer.
- (4) If the minimum rate of pay for 457 visa holders in regional centres is set at a specific level, is that rate specified by legislation, or some other form of legal authority; if not: (a) how is the rate set; and (b) how is compliance with the minimum rate enforced.
- (5) If the minimum rate of pay for 457 visa holders employed in regional centres is determined by the specific circumstances of an employer: (a) who determines what the rate of pay will be; (b) who monitors the payments to these workers to ensure that they are paid that rate; (c) what is the quantum of the discretion available to determine pay rates in these circumstances; and (e) how is the quantum determined.

2238 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) (a) When was the South Barkly Aboriginal Corporation in Tennant Creek informed that it would not receive funding for 2006; and (b) how was it informed, was it via telephone, in person or by letter.
- (2) (a) When were they formally told in writing; (b) who wrote this letter; and (c) who signed it.
- (3) (a) Who made the recommendation to defund this organisation; and (b) where are they based.
- (4) (a) Who approved this recommendation; and (b) where are they based.
- (5) What were the reasons for this decision.
- (6) Had there been complaints about the performance of the organisation; if so, what was the nature of these complaints.
- (7) Were there any problems with reporting or other governance issues; if so: (a) what was the nature of these complaints; (b) when were they made; and (c) to whom were they made.
- (8) What action was taken to advise the organisation of any problems and when.
- (9) For the years 2005 and 2006 to the date of defunding, listed by date and purpose: (a) what meetings did departmental officers have with the organisation; (b) who instigated these meetings; and (c) who attended.

- (10) Was the organisation's application for funding in 2006 adequate or was it lacking in some area.
- (11) Was the organisation informed of any problems with its application; if so: (a) when; (b) by whom; and (c) by what means.
- (12) Was the organisation given any assistance to remedy any shortcomings with its application; if so, what was the nature of this assistance and who provided it.
- (13) If the organisation was not informed or given assistance, why not.
- (14) Was the department aware of the fact that, shortly before the defunding decision, the organisation had a 2-day workshop with the Office of the Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations and had been given a clean bill of health.
- (15) For the 2005-06 financial year, what was the organisation's Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) budget.
- (16) For the 2006-07 financial year, what is the budget for the successful applicant, Alpururulam Community Government Council (CGC).
- (17) What were the factors that made Alpururulam CGC a more suitable applicant.
- (18) What reasons and evidence does the department have that Alpururulam CGC will be better able to deliver this service.
- (19) Is Alpururulam CGC completely compliant with the *Corporations Act 2001* and *Northern Territory Local Government Act 1994* (NT).
- (20) Can a list be provided, by date and purpose, specifying what meetings took place with Alpururulam CGC prior to the decision being made and who attended those meetings.
- (21) When, how and by whom was Alpururulam CGC told that it was the successful applicant.
- (22) Does Alpururulam CGC have adequate housing for the additional staff it will presumably need to take on a CDEP of more than 300 participants.
- (23) (a) What will happen to the many South Barkly Aboriginal Corporation's assets; and (b) to whom do they belong.
- (24) What legal steps need to be undertaken before, or even if, these assets might be used by the Alpururulam CGC to run the South Barkly CDEP.
- (25) What transitional arrangements has the department put in place to ensure that existing participants know what is going on, and get all or any monies owing to them.
- (26) What were these participants told, when, by whom and how.
- (27) What assistance have these participants been given to ensure a smooth transition with minimal disruption to their work and financial affairs.
- (28) (a) How many of these participants have been able to sign on to the new CDEP; and (b) how many are now without any paid work or social security.

*Notice given 21 July 2006*

2242 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the liquidation of the Sports' Aboriginal Corporation of Tasmania:

- (1) What responsibility, past and present, has the department had in relation to the corporation and/or its liquidation.

- (2) Did the department ever provide instructions or advice to the liquidator; if so, when and what did it pertain to.
- (3) Has the department received any correspondence from former employees of the corporation in relation to their unpaid entitlements; if so, in each case, what was: (a) the date of receipt; (b) the name of the author; and (c) the recipient of the correspondence.
- (4) What was the department's response in relation to this correspondence.
- (5) Has the department offered to provide any assistance; if so, what assistance has been provided to date.
- (6) When did the department first become aware of claims for unpaid entitlements from former employees of the corporation.
- (7) When did the Minister first become aware of claims for unpaid entitlements from former employees of the corporation.
- (8) What is the total amount claimed by former employees for unpaid entitlements and wages.
- (9) How much of that debt has been: (a) admitted by the liquidator; and (b) rejected by the liquidator.
- (10) Are all of these former employees classified as preferred creditors; if not, why.
- (11) How much of those entitlements and wages have been paid out to date.

2243 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With to reference to the Wadeye Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Trial:

- (1) What is the name of the consultant conducting the evaluation.
- (2) In a response by the department to a question on notice it was stated that at February 2006, the final report was awaiting approval by the Evaluation Reference Group:
  - (a) (i) who are the members of the Evaluation Reference Group, (ii) how many people are in this group, and (iii) how was this group selected;
  - (b) was the evaluation group provided with the full final report for its approval; and
  - (c) has the final report received approval from the Evaluation Reference Group.
- (3) The department has previously indicated that the final report would be submitted in May 2006: has the final evaluation report been submitted; if not, what is the reason for the delay.
- (4) Will the Minister authorise the public release of this final report; if so, can a copy be provided.
- (5) Can a copy be provided of the most recent assessment of the total cost of the consultancy.
- (6) (a) What has been the total amount of departmental expenses that have been incurred as a result of the Wadeye COAG trial for each financial year since it began to date; and (b) can an explanation be provided as to what those expenses include.

- (7) What is the amount of departmental travel costs incurred during each financial year over the course of the Wadeye COAG trial for departmental staff visiting the Wadeye community, including airfares, accommodation, travel allowance, car hire and any other related costs.

2244 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Cape York Council of Australian Governments (COAG) trial:

- (1) Has the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC) assumed responsibility as lead agency for the trial.
- (2) When did OIPC assume responsibility as lead agency for the trial.
- (3) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1562 (*Senate Hansard*, 27 March 2006, p. 208) which indicated that the evaluation of the trial had not begun as at 24 February 2006 and that a 'request for quote documentation is being finalised':
  - (a) can the Minister confirm whether a consultant has been appointed to evaluate this trial; if so, what is name the consultant; if not, can a reason for the delay be provided;
  - (b) has the evaluation begun; if not, when is the planned start date;
  - (c) will any community members have an opportunity to read or approve the draft report; if so, how and when will this happen;
  - (d) has a community 'evaluation reference group' been appointed; if so:
    - (i) who is on this group, (ii) how many people are in this group, and (iii) how were they selected;
  - (e) when is the expected date of submission for the final report;
  - (f) if the report has already been submitted, will the Minister make this report publicly available; if so, can a copy be provided; and
  - (g) what is the most recent assessment of the cost of this consultancy.
- (4) Since employment was a priority area in this trial, will any data on employment outcomes be used as part of this evaluation.
- (5) Has any baseline data on employment outcomes been collected for the Cape York region; if so, when was this data collected.
- (6) Does the department have any evidence of improved employment outcomes as a result of this trial; if so, can the relevant data being used as evidence be provided.
- (7) What is the amount of departmental travel costs incurred during each financial year over the course of the Cape York COAG trial for departmental staff visiting Cape York, including airfares, accommodation, travel allowance, car hire and any other related costs.

2245 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the evaluation of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Trial in East Kimberley:

- (1) Is the department the lead agency for this trial.
- (2) What were the objectives of the trial.
- (3) What has been the total amount of expenditure for each financial year over the course of the trial, specifying: (a) the amount of administered funds and departmental expenses for each financial year; and (b) what the administered funds were used for.

- (4) What is the amount of departmental travel costs incurred during each financial year over the course of the COAG trial for departmental staff visiting the East Kimberley, including airfares, accommodation, travel allowance, car hire and any other related costs.
- (5) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1562 (Senate *Hansard*, 27 March 2006, p. 208) provided by the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs which indicated that Quantum Consulting had begun the evaluation of the trial on 15 November 2005 and had already submitted a draft report, and a final report was planned to be submitted on 28 April 2006: on what date was the final report submitted.
- (6) Will the Minister make this evaluation report publicly available; if so, can a copy be provided.
- (7) Did any community members have an opportunity to read or approve the draft report; if so: (a) how and when did this happen; (b) which people were consulted; (c) how many were consulted; and (d) how were these people selected.
- (8) What is the most recent assessment of the cost of this consultancy.

2246 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the evaluation of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Trial in the Anangu-Pitjantjatjara Lands:

- (1) Is the department the lead agency for this trial.
- (2) What has been the total amount of expenditure for each financial year over the course of the trial, specifying: (a) the amount of administered funds and departmental expenses for each financial year; and (b) what the administered funds were used for.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that the consultant Urbis Keys Young was appointed to evaluate the trial beginning on 15 November 2005.
- (4) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1562 (Senate *Hansard*, 27 March 2006, p. 208) provided by the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs which indicated that the expected date for the submission of the final report was 6 March 2006: on what date was the final evaluation report submitted to the department.
- (5) Will the Minister make this report publicly available; if so, can a copy be provided.
- (6) Did any community members have an opportunity to read or approve the draft report; if so: (a) how and when did this happen; (b) which people were consulted; (c) how many were consulted; and (d) how were these people selected.
- (7) What is the most recent assessment of the cost of this consultancy.
- (8) Does the department have any evidence of improved employment outcomes as a result of this trial; if so, can the relevant data being used as evidence be provided.
- (9) What is the amount of departmental travel costs incurred during each financial year over the course of the trial for departmental staff visiting the Anangu-Pitjantjatjara lands, including airfares, accommodation, travel allowance, gapiire and any other related costs.

2247 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—In relation to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Trial in the Murdi Paaki region:

- (1) (a) Is the department the lead agency for this trial; and (b) are there any plans to pass on responsibility for the trial?
- (2) What has been the total amount of expenditure for each financial year over the course of the trial, specifying: (a) the amount of administered funds and departmental expenses for each financial year; and (b) what the administered funds were used for.
- (3) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1562 (Senate *Hansard*, 27 March 2006, p. 208) provided by the Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs which indicated that a Request for Quote process was planned for February 2006 and the expected date of submission of the final report was 19 May 2006:
  - (a) what is the name of the consultant that has been appointed to evaluate the trial;
  - (b) on what date did or will this evaluation begin;
  - (c) on what date did or will the final evaluation report be submitted to the department;
  - (d) will the Minister make this report publicly available; if so, can a copy be provided;
  - (e) did any community members have an opportunity to read or approve the draft report; if so: (i) how and when did this happen, (ii) which people were consulted, (iii) how many were consulted, and (iv) how were these people selected; and
  - (f) what is the most recent assessment of the cost of this consultancy.
- (4) What is the amount of departmental travel costs incurred during each financial year over the course of the trial for departmental staff visiting the Murdi Paaki region, including airfares, accommodation, travel allowance, car hire and any other related costs.

2248 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the evaluation of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Trial in Northeast Tasmania:

- (1) Is the department the lead agency for this trial.
- (2) What were the objectives of the trial.
- (3) What has been the total amount of expenditure for each financial year over the course of the trial, specifying: (a) the amount of administered funds and departmental expenses for each financial year; and (b) what the administered funds were used for.
- (4) What has been the amount of departmental travel costs incurred during each financial year over the course of the COAG trial for departmental staff visiting the trial site, including airfares, accommodation, travel allowance, car hire and any other related costs.
- (5) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1562 (Senate *Hansard*, 27 March 2006, p. 208) which indicated that assessment of consultancy proposals commenced in February 2006 and that the evaluation of the trial would begin in March 2006 and that the expected date of submission of the final report was in May 2006:

- (a) what was the name of the consultant appointed and what was the date of appointment;
  - (b) what is the start date for the evaluation; and
  - (c) what is the date of submission for the final report.
- (6) Will the Minister make this evaluation report publicly available; if so, can a copy be provided.
- (7) Did any community members have an opportunity to read or approve the draft report; if so: (a) how and when did this happen; (b) which people were consulted; (c) how many were consulted; and (d) how were these people selected.
- (8) What is the most recent assessment of the cost of this consultancy.

2249 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the evaluation of the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Trial in Shepparton:

- (1) Is the department the lead agency for this trial.
- (2) What were the objectives of the trial.
- (3) What has been the total amount of expenditure for each financial year over the course of the trial; specifying: (a) the amount of administered funds and departmental expenses for each financial year; and (b) what the administered funds were used for.
- (4) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1562 (*Senate Hansard*, 27 March 2006, p. 208) which indicated that Morgan Disney was selected to conduct an evaluation of the trial and that the evaluation would begin in February 2006, with the final report to be submitted on 19 May 2006:
  - (a) what is the name the consultant appointed and what was the date of appointment;
  - (b) what is the start date for the evaluation; and
  - (c) what is the date of submission for the final report.
- (5) Will the Minister make this evaluation report publicly available; if so, can a copy be provided.
- (6) Did any community members have an opportunity to read or approve the draft report; if so: (a) how and when did this happen; (b) which people were consulted; (c) how many were consulted; and (d) how were these people selected.
- (7) What is the most recent assessment of the cost of this consultancy.

*Notice given 24 July 2006*

2250 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the Office of Workplace Services (OWS) is undertaking, or has undertaken, an investigation into employment contracts between Teys Brothers Naracoorte and its employees.
- (2) When and how did the Prime Minister, his office and the department become aware of the above investigation.



- (3) What communications have taken place between the Prime Minister and/or his office and/or his department and the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations and/or the Minister's office and/or the Minister's department relating to the employment arrangements at Teys Brothers Naracoorte.
- (4) What was the nature of the above communication and when did these communications take place.
- (5) What communications have taken place between the Prime Minister, or his office, or his department, and the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs, or her office, or her department, relating to the employment arrangements at Teys Brothers Naracoorte.
- (6) What was the nature of the above communications and when did these communications take place.

2251 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can copies be provided of all compliance certificates issued to OZ-TRIKES (Australia) Pty Ltd for: (a) any vehicles manufactured by this company; if not, why not; and (b) accessories sold and fitted by this company including, but not limited to: (i) luggage racks, (ii) long-range fuel tanks, (iii) exhaust systems, (iv) body work, and (v) frames; if not, why not.

*Notice given 26 July 2006*

2252 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to military training assistance to the Iraqi Defence Forces:

- (1) Can a list be provided of the module and component parts of the military training packages currently being used to assist the Iraqi: (a) Army; (b) Navy; and (c) Air Force, highlighting the following for each service:
  - (i) packages for individual training,
  - (ii) packages for sub-unit and unit collective training,
  - (iii) the major training objectives for each of the packages for each service,
  - (iv) subject matter to be covered in individual training packages for each service,
  - (v) subject matter to be covered in sub-unit and unit training packages for each service,
  - (vi) duration of modules and/or components of the above packages for each service, and
  - (vii) number of instructors used for each of the packages for each service.
- (2) Are all of the training packages conducted in English.
- (3) (a) How were the military training packages developed; and (b) were they duplications of Australian Defence Force packages or separately developed to reflect Iraqi military requirements.
- (4) If the packages were separately developed, how was this done.
- (5) Who approved the training packages, both within: (a) the Australian system; and (b) the Iraqi system.
- (6) Was the Minister involved in the Australian approval process; if so, what was his role.
- (7) Are these training packages different from the training packages in use in Iraq, sponsored by the United States or the United Kingdom.

- (8) How much time is included for ethical training of Iraqi servicemen.
- (9) For each service package, how much training time is allotted to the teaching of:
  - (a) civil/military relations;
  - (b) aid to the civil power; and
  - (c) international and Geneva Conventions, such as:
    - i. Declaration Respecting Maritime Law (Certain Regulations for Sea Warfare), 1856
    - ii. Geneva Convention for the Amelioration of the Condition of the Wounded and Sick in Armed Forces in the Field, 1864
    - iii. International Conventions for Adapting to Maritime Warfare the Principles of The Geneva Convention of 1864, 1899
    - iv. International Convention Concerning the Law and Customs of War on Land [Hague IV], 1907
    - v. International Conventions Relative to the Treatment of Prisoners of War, 1929
    - vi. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, 1948
    - vii. Geneva Convention III: Treatment of Prisoners of War 1949
    - ix. United Nations Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 1984.

2253 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—  
With reference to military training for Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel before deployment to Iraq and to Afghanistan:

- (1) What compulsory training courses did ADF personnel undertake prior to deployment to Iraq and to Afghanistan.
- (2) What refresher training is undertaken for ADF personnel prior to deployment to Iraq and to Afghanistan.
- (3) Of the pre-deployment training, how much time is allocated to: (a) dissimilar cultures, in particular the history and culture of Iraq and Afghanistan, their peoples and religions; and (b) Australian obligations under international and Geneva Conventions.

2254 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—  
With reference to Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel embedded with United Kingdom (UK) and United States (US) military units in Iraq and in Afghanistan:

- (1) How many ADF personnel are currently embedded with US and UK forces in Iraq and in Afghanistan.
- (2) (a) What dissimilar cultural training is conducted by US and UK forces prior to deployment; and (b) do ADF embedded personnel undertake this training.
- (3) Do these embedded personnel provide periodic reports to the ADF chain of command.
- (4) Do these ADF personnel provide end of tour reports to the ADF chain of command.

- (5) (a) How many ADF embedded personnel have been involved in US operations in or near Fallujah in the past 2 years; (b) what reporting have these embedded personnel provided to the ADF chain of command and Defence headquarters in Canberra; (c) has this reporting resulted in further ADF investigations; (d) was the Minister alerted to this reporting and/or the results of any investigations; and (e) has this reporting resulted in discussions with Allied commands.

2258 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the issuing of single voyage permits under the Navigation Act:

- (1) How many ships, for each year since 2004, have traded on the Australian coast under a single voyage permit (SVP).
- (2) What type of SVP was issued (routine, urgent or any other, for example amended).
- (3) What was the permit number.
- (4) What date was the SVP approved.
- (5) What was the name and flag of the vessel.
- (6) What was the cargo type.
- (7) Who was the shipper.
- (8) What was the port of loading.
- (9) What was the port of discharge.
- (10) What was the estimated sailing date.
- (11) (a) What was the estimated tonnage (dry bulk); (b) estimated metric tonnes (liquid bulk); and (c) TEUs (twenty foot equivalent unit containers).

*Notice given 27 July 2006*

2259 **Senator Conroy:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the decision by Australia Post to discontinue its economy air parcel service from 4 September 2006.
- (2) Was the Minister consulted on this change.
- (3) Does the Minister support the abolition of the economy air parcel service.
- (4) Is the Minister concerned that the decision will substantially increase the costs of online retailers, particularly booksellers.
- (5) Is the Minister satisfied that Australia Post engaged in an adequate process of consultation before making the decision.
- (6) Will the Minister ask Australia Post to reconsider this decision; if not, will the Minister ask Australia Post to develop alternative arrangements to assist online retailers.

2260 **Senator Conroy:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—

- (1) Since 1996, how many inquiries have been established by the Government into the impact of 'red tape' on the small business sector.
- (2) What recommendations have been made to the Government following each of the above inquiries, by inquiry process and date.

- (3) In each case, was the recommendation accepted or rejected by the Government.
- (4) If the recommendation was rejected, what was the basis for its rejection.
- (5) If the recommendation was accepted and implemented: (a) when and how was it implemented; and (b) what outcomes can be attributed to its implementation.
- (6) If the recommendation was accepted and not implemented can the Minister explain why it was not implemented.

*Notice given 28 July 2006*

2262 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the current status of plans to add Western Australia's North West Coastal Highway, which connects three of the top six tonnage ports in Australia, including the nation's largest port at Dampier, to the AusLink National Network.
- (2) (a) When was the proposal to include the North West Coastal Highway in the AusLink National Network first raised; and (b) what is the current timeframe for a decision to be made.
- (3) (a) Which roads linking eastern-state capitals are already in the Auslink National Network but were not part of the previous National Highway system; and (b) what criteria were met for their inclusion.
- (4) For each of the financial years: (a) 2000-01; (b) 2001-02; (c) 2002-03; (d) 2003-04; (e) 2004-05; and (f) 2005-06, can the following information be provided on the National Highway/Auslink National Network: (i) roads that have received funding, (ii) the states that they link, and (iii) the funding allocated for each of the projects.

2263 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to a report in the *Northern Territory News* of 18 July 2006 entitled 'Army cops fire for its blasts':

- (1) (a) What was the cause of the 'loud explosions' at Robertson Barracks on or about 16 July 2006; (b) how many explosions occurred; (c) at what time did the first explosion occur; and (d) when did the last explosion occur.
- (2) Who authorised the use of explosives at the Barracks on or about 16 July 2006.
- (3) What procedures are in place for the use of explosives at Robertson Barracks.
- (4) (a) How often are explosives used in exercises conducted at Robertson Barracks; (b) what types of explosives are used; and (c) in what areas of the barracks site are explosives used.
- (5) Can a copy of the media release issued to the *Northern Territory News* be provided.
- (6) (a) What other methods are used to inform nearby residents of the use of explosives at Robertson Barracks; and (b) how much notice of such events is given to residents.

- 2264 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the legal proceedings involving claims by Mr Mark McMurtrie against the Commonwealth:
- (1) (a) What is the total cost to the Commonwealth of this litigation up until and including the appeal in the Supreme Court of New South Wales; and (b) what is included in this cost (including costs of external legal advice, any interlocutory proceedings and related departmental expenses).
  - (2) From which budget were most, if not all, of these litigation costs met and can relevant items in the budget papers be specified.
  - (3) When did the original legal proceedings begin.
  - (4) When was the Commonwealth notified of the appeal.
  - (5) Did the Commonwealth ever seek to negotiate an act of grace payment; if so, on what dates.
  - (6) Did the Commonwealth ever seek to resolve the dispute via litigation alternatives, like mediation or negotiation; if so, on what dates.
  - (7) Was the Commonwealth ever approached to mediate or negotiate a resolution by Mr McMurtrie; if so: (a) on what dates was the Commonwealth approached; and (b) what was the Commonwealth's response.
  - (8) Can the Minister confirm that Mr McMurtrie was self-represented for part of these proceedings; if so, which part of the proceedings was Mr McMurtrie self-represented.
  - (9) Does the Commonwealth have any special protocol for conduct in proceedings where the opponent is self-represented; if so, what does this protocol provide.
  - (10) What sections and departments of the Commonwealth were involved in this litigation, either through acting in the legal proceedings, providing advice or funding or administration.
- 2265 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—Can the following details be provided for each of the compensation payments made to Australian veterans since 1996: (a) the date of the payment; (b) the payment amount; (c) the nature of the compensable injury; (d) the legislative vehicle through which payment was effected; (e) whether the case was the subject of appeal and the out of that appeal; and (f) the cost of legal services associated with the case.

*Notice given 31 July 2006*

- 2268 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) What knowledge does the Government have of the use of directed energy weapons, including high energy microwave, lasers or the 'Active Denial System' by forces of the United States of America (US) in Iraq.
  - (2) Is the Government aware of claims, made in a documentary aired by Italian TV station RAI on 16 May 2006, that such directed energy weapons have been responsible for numerous deaths and casualties, specifically at the battle for Baghdad Airport in 2003.
  - (3) What information does the Government have about these casualties.

- (4) Did the US Government inform the Government that it was planning to use directed energy weapons; if so, what briefings did the Government receive about these weapons and the danger they posed to civilians and to Australian troops.
- (5) What does the Government know about the 'Project Sheriff' vehicles, which are equipped with a range of directed energy weapons, including the Active Denial System, or so-called 'Pain Ray'.
- (6) Are Australian troops involved in any way with the use of any of these weapons.
- (7) Is the Government aware that US Brigadier-General James Huggings, Chief of Staff for the Multi-National Corps-Iraq, has requested 14 'Project Sheriff' vehicles for deployment to Iraq.
- (8) What is the Government's position regarding the use of directed energy weapons.

2269 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that on 25 July 2006 a member of the House of Lords asked a written question of the British Government concerning its knowledge of any payments made by British Aerospace Regional Aircraft Limited to Ansett Transport Industries Operations Limited and East West Airline Operations Limited, under an agreement dated 3 September 1993, in connection with design flaws in the BAe 146 aircraft, allowing contamination of cabin air by oil and other fumes.
- (2) Is the Government aware of any payments pursuant to such an agreement:
  - (a) if so: (i) what is the quantum of these payments, (ii) what are the full terms of the agreement, and (iii) can a copy of the agreement be provided; and
  - (b) if not, will the Minister investigate this matter.

2270 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How many reports have been made to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) since 27 September 2002 relating to air contamination in BAe 146 aircraft.
- (2) In each case: (a) when was the report lodged; (b) who lodged the report; and (c) what action was taken by CASA in response.
- (3) Are all instances of suspected contamination reported to CASA.

2272 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue Service) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:

- (1) Does AusSAR maintain a quality management system with third party certification to ISO 9001 standard that requires regular audits of search and rescue operations to identify any corrective actions to maintain standard procedures and processes.
- (2) Has any audit been conducted of AusSAR compliance with standard procedures and processes in relation to the search for the *Malu Sara*; if so, can details be provided of the audit including its outcome.

- 2273 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What explanation can the Minister provide for failing to provide a chronology in the answer to question on notice no. 1872 concerning action taken by AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue Service) following receipt of advice at 2000 or 2011 hours on 14 October 2005 that the *Malu Sara* was lost in the Torres Strait and had activated its Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon.
  - (2) Is the Minister aware that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau report into the loss of the *Malu Sara* fails to provide a detailed chronology of AusSAR's actions.
  - (3) Can the Minister provide a chronology of all action taken by AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Malu Sara*; if not, why not.
- 2274 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue Service) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005: Can details be provided of the post-incident debrief including host agency/authority, date, venue and participants.
- 2275 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1871 concerning the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue Service) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:
- (1) Can the Minister confirm his advice that the AusSAR Rescue Coordination Centre was advised at 2011 hours on 14 October 2005 that the Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) on board the *Malu Sara* had been activated.
  - (2) Can an explanation be provided as to why pages 75 and 76 of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau report into the loss of the *Malu Sara* identify 2000 hours on 14 October 2005 as the time the AusSAR Rescue Coordination Centre was advised the EPIRB was activated.
- 2276 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue Service) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005: Can extracts be provided from AusSAR's internal procedures manual in force in October 2005 containing instructions on the transfer of responsibility for search and rescue coordination in circumstances where responsibility rests with AusSAR.
- 2277 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue Service) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:
- (1) Is the National Search and Rescue Manual the standard reference document for use by all Australian Search and Rescue authorities.
  - (2) Does the National Search and Rescue Manual promulgate the agreed methods of coordination through which search and rescue operations are conducted within Australia.

- (3) Does the National Search and Rescue Manual provide that a maritime search and rescue incident is considered imminent or actual when any of a number of conditions exist, including when: (a) an Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) has been activated; and (b) a surface vessel or craft is reported to be sinking or to have sunk.
- (4) Was the AusSAR Rescue Coordination Centre informed at 2000 or 2011 hours on 14 October 2005 that the *Malu Sara*'s EPIRB was activated.
- (5) Was the AusSAR Rescue Coordination Centre informed soon after 0215 hours on 15 October 2005 that the *Malu Sara* was taking on water and sinking rapidly.
- (6) Why did the AusSAR Rescue Coordination Centre not assume responsibility for the overall coordination of the search for the *Malu Sara* until 1930 hours on 15 October 2005, more than 23 hours after the activation of the vessel's EPIRB and more than 17 hours after the vessel was reported to be taking on water and sinking rapidly.

2278 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue Service) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:

- (1) Did a recorder maintain an accurate and up-to-date chronological record of the search and rescue action, together with other necessary records, messages and details of telephone calls and radio logs.
- (2) Who has custody of these records.
- (3) Where are these records held.

2279 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1870 concerning the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:

- (1) Does clause 14 of the Inter-Governmental Agreement on National Search and Rescue Response Arrangements provide that AusSAR when first becoming aware of a search and rescue incident shall take all necessary action until responsibility can be handed over to the relevant search and rescue authority under clauses 10 and 12 of the agreement.
- (2) Does clause 10 of the agreement provide that AusSAR has primary responsibility for coordinating search and rescue operations for persons on or from a ship other than a pleasure craft or fishing vessel in distress at sea.
- (3) Does the Minister maintain that the transfer of responsibility of the search was in accordance with clause 14 of the Inter-Governmental Agreement on National Search and Rescue Response Arrangements despite: (a) the lapse of more than 23 hours between the activation of the *Malu Sara*'s Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon and AusSAR's assumption of overall coordination of the search; and (b) the lapse of more than 17 hours between advice that the *Malu Sara* was taking on water and sinking fast and AusSAR's assumption of overall coordination of the search.



- 2280 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:
- (1) Has any formal review of AusSAR's role been undertaken; if so, can a copy of the report of the review be provided; if not, why not.
  - (2) If no formal review has been undertaken, why not.
- 2281 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1874 concerning the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:
- (1) Is it the case that under the requirements of the Inter-Governmental Agreement on National Search and Rescue Arrangements and the National Search and Rescue Manual the primary responsibility for coordinating search and rescue operations for vessels is dependent on the type of vessel, e.g. fishing vessel or pleasure craft, and in some cases the location of that vessel.
  - (2) Why does the Minister state that the status of the *Malu Sara* as a 'Commonwealth Ship' was irrelevant in relation to the coordination of the search operation for the vessel.
- 2282 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005: At 0215 hours on 15 October 2005 when the *Malu Sara* reported taking on water and sinking fast, was AusSAR in a position to immediately assume responsibility for overall coordination of the search if it had chosen to do so; if not, why not.
- 2284 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:
- (1) Was the helicopter VH-RHJ Bell 412 utilised during the search.
  - (2) Which agency tasked the helicopter.
  - (3) Where was the helicopter located when it was tasked to perform search activities.
  - (4) Can the Minister confirm the helicopter was not engaged in search activities until the afternoon of 15 October 2005.
  - (5) Can the Minister outline the helicopter's search activities including 'wheels up' and 'wheels down' details.
  - (6) What is the engine and search and rescue capability of the helicopter and the search and rescue capability of the crew.
  - (7) (a) Is the helicopter fitted with Forward Looking Infra Red (FLIR) and night vision equipment; and (b) does FLIR and night vision equipment provide night searching capability, in particular, the ability to visually ascertain the actual situation of a vessel reported to be sinking.
  - (8) Is the helicopter fitted with auto-hover capability; if so, are the crew trained and current in its use at night.

- (9) Was the helicopter and crew available in the early hours of 15 October 2005 for an emergency callout.
- (10) Why was the helicopter not tasked before the afternoon of 15 October 2005.
- (11) Can details be provided of all occasions on which AusSAR has tasked the helicopter to perform search and rescue activities in the Torres Strait.
- (12) Can details be provided of all occasions on which AusSAR has tasked the helicopter to engage in search and rescue training activities in the Torres Strait.
- (13) Is the helicopter on a 24-hour callout contract to another Commonwealth agency; if so, what are the contractual arrangements for callout and what is the contracted emergency response time.

2285 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to evidence by the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) to the Rural and Regional Affairs Legislation Committee on 19 February 2002 expressing concern over the lack of clear understanding surrounding the protocols relating to the handover of search and rescue coordination from state agencies to AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue): Can the Minister outline how AMSA has attempted to improve understanding of the protocols relating to the transfer of search and rescue coordination outlined in the National Search and Rescue Manual.

2286 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the submission by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) to the Rural and Regional Affairs Legislation Committee inquiry into the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the *Margaret J*: Can details be provided of all 'regular meetings' between AMSA and the Tasmania Police following the joint workshop in 2002 which discussed improved operational protocols relating to the transfer of responsibility of search coordination.

2287 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to evidence given by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) on 19 September 2002 to the Rural and Regional Affairs Legislation Committee inquiry into the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the *Margaret J*: Can details be provided, by state/territory, of the 'regular meetings to discuss issues of continuity' involving AMSA and state/territory search and rescue authorities.

2288 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1879 concerning the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm his advice that there is no transcript of communications to and from the AusSAR Rescue Coordination Centre relating to the search.
- (2) Will the Minister reconsider his decision to deny Senator O'Brien's request for a transcript of these communications.

- (3) Did the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) request the transcription of communications to and from the AusSAR Rescue Coordination Centre during its investigation into the loss the vessel; if so, why did the Minister refuse to authorise the preparation of the transcript; if not, how did the ATSB reach a conclusion about the conduct of AusSAR with respect to the search and rescue operation.
- (4) How did the Minister reach a conclusion about the conduct of AusSAR with respect to the search and rescue operation, as expressed in the answer to question on notice no. 1873, without recourse to a transcript of communications to and from the AusSAR Rescue Coordination Centre.

2289 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can details be provided of costs associated with the transcription of communications, including ministerial media conferences, for the financial years 2003-04 to 2006-07, by year, by department and agency in the Minister's portfolio.

2290 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1874, concerning the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:

- (1) Does the National Search and Rescue Manual provide that: 'The Commonwealth Government through the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, in accordance with Regulation 15 of Chapter V of SOLAS, accepts responsibility for the coordination of marine SAR for all classes of ships other than those for which the States/Territories and ADF are responsible. These responsibilities are exercised through AusSAR'.
- (2) Consistent with the coordination protocols outlined in the National Search and Rescue Manual, was the *Malu Sara* a class of ship for which the Commonwealth accepts responsibility for the coordination of marine search and rescue.
- (3) Does the National Search and Rescue Manual provide that the AusSAR Rescue Coordination Centre is staffed continuously and is responsible for 'coordinating marine SAR for all classes of ships other than those for which the States/Territories and ADF are responsible'.
- (4) Consistent with the coordination protocols outlined in the National Search and Rescue Manual, was the AusSAR Rescue Coordination Centre responsible for coordinating marine search and rescue for the *Malu Sara*.
- (5) Why did the AusSAR Rescue Coordination Centre not assume responsibility for coordination of the search for the *Malu Sara* until 1930 hours on 15 October 2005, more than 23 hours after AusSAR was notified that the vessel was lost and had activated its Emergency Positioning Indicating Radio Beacon.

2291 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1870, concerning the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that evidence given by the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on 31 May 2001 is correct, namely ‘the purpose of the [National] Search and Rescue Manual is so that various parties prior to an incident are aware of their respective responsibilities and jurisdictional roles’.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm advice in the submission by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee inquiry into AusSAR’s role in the unsuccessful search for the *Margaret J* that the Commonwealth has primary responsibility for search and rescue for vessels at sea other than fishing boats and pleasure craft.
- (3) Does the National Search and Rescue Manual provide that the allocation of search and rescue functions and responsibilities of states, territories and Commonwealth search and rescue (SAR) authorities is defined in Appendix B of the manual.
- (4) Does Appendix B of the National Search and Rescue Manual provide that AusSAR is responsible for coordinating SAR operations for persons on or from a ship other than a pleasure craft or fishing vessel in distress at sea.
- (5) Is it the case that the *Malu Sara* was not a pleasure craft or fishing vessel and therefore responsibility for coordination of the search for persons aboard the vessel was the responsibility of AusSAR.
- (6) Does the National Search and Rescue Manual provide that coordination of SAR operations shall be transferred to, and accepted by, the SAR authority that has overall coordination responsibility for the incident in accordance with Appendix B of the manual, immaterial of which SAR authorities are involved.
- (7) With reference to the National Search and Rescue Manual, why did AusSAR not accept responsibility for overall coordination of the search for the *Malu Sara* until more than 23 hours after the activation of the vessel’s Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon and more than 17 hours after the skipper advised that the vessel was taking on water and sinking fast.

2292 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the loss of the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005: Was the body of one of the persons aboard the *Malu Salu* that was found by Indonesian fishermen near Deelder Reef some time after the search was terminated wearing a life jacket; if not, was there any evidence to suggest a life jacket had been worn.

2293 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:

- (1) Who calculated the datum position(s) for the aerial search on the afternoon of 15 October 2005.
- (2) How was the datum(s) for the aerial search on the afternoon of 15 October 2005 calculated.
- (3) What was the position of the datum(s) for the aerial search on the afternoon of 15 October 2005 and for what time was this valid.

2294 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:

- (1) After the vessel reported that it was taking on water and sinking fast, what action was taken to alert other vessels in the area that may have been able to assist by means, including a Mayday relay, broadcasts on relevant frequencies, activation of automatic alarms and defence/customs communications systems.
- (2) If attempts to contact other vessels were made: (a) which communications systems were used; (b) which vessels were contacted; and (c) which vessels were able to assist.
- (3) If no attempts to contact other vessels were made, why not.

2295 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:

- (1) Was AusSAR aware prior to the search for the *Malu Sara* that telephone service providers could provide information to calculate a triangulated position for a satellite telephone; if so, was this information provided to the Queensland Mission coordinator prior to AusSAR assuming responsibility for overall coordination of the search.
- (2) How long does it take to obtain triangulation data from satellite telephone service providers and then to calculate a position.
- (3) What was the make and model of the satellite telephone aboard the *Malu Sara*.
- (4) What action has AusSAR taken in response to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau recommendation that search and rescue agencies consult with satellite and other mobile telephone service providers to determine under what circumstances useful information from satellite telephones and switch records could aid search and rescue operations.

*Notice given 2 August 2006*

2296 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Roche Australia intends to stop supplying pharmacies with Avastin for off-label treatment of wet macular degeneration, a common cause of blindness that affects 100 000 Australians, despite its success in Australia and the United States of America.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that this will leave only Lucentis, a new drug made by Roche that is 10 times more expensive and may not be available for up to 2 years while Roche goes through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme listing process.
- (3) What if anything does the Government intend to do to ensure the ongoing supply of Avastin.

*Notice given 3 August 2006*

2299 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can details be provided of action taken by the Government since September 2001 to strengthen flight deck door security, including mandating the installation of flight deck security doors.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that several air operators have expressed concern that due to the installation of mandated flight deck security doors access by cabin crew to the flight deck is precluded.
- (3) Has the Government been advised that the new arrangements have resulted in a serious degradation in air safety.
- (4) When did: (a) the Minister; (b) the department; and (c) the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), first become aware of these safety concerns.
- (5) How has: (a) the Minister; (b) the department; and (c) CASA, responded to these safety concerns.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) commenced a related aviation safety investigation in July 2005.
- (7) Can an outline of the scope of the investigation be provided.
- (8) Can the Minister advise why the investigation report has not been published.
- (9) If a draft report has been completed: (a) on what date was it completed; and (b) why has the report not been finalised.
- (10) When will the ATSB report be published.

*Notice given 4 August 2006*

**Senator Milne:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2301-2302)—

- (1) What are the quantities of Phosdrin insecticide supplied and sold in Tasmania since its registration.
- (2) In what year did the commercial supply and sale of Phosdrin insecticide commence in Tasmania.
- (3) What monitoring programs have been put in place regarding Phosdrin insecticide supplied and sold in Tasmania since its registration.
- (4) What is the known off-label use of Phosdrin insecticide supplied and sold in Tasmania since its registration.

2301 Minister for the Environment and Heritage

2302 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

2303 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) (a) How much of the 2005-06 Natural Resource Management (NRM) budget was allocated to projects; and (b) what were those projects.
- (2) How much of the 2005-06 NRM budget was spent on administration.
- (3) What was the budget for the 2005-06 Marine Species Recovery Protection (MSRP) Fund.
- (4) (a) How much of the 2005-06 MSRP Fund was allocated to projects; and (b) what were those projects.
- (5) How much of the 2005-06 MSRP Fund was spent on administration.

- (6) Why has no budget for the MSRP Fund been put forward for the 2006-07 financial year.
- (7) What are the criteria for the success of *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* listed species recovery plans.
- (8) Are there any Act-listed species recovery plans that are not costed; if not, why not.
- (9) Why are insufficient funds set aside to implement Act-listed species recovery plans.
- (10) How many of the 56 NRM regions have fully costed NRM plans in place.
- (11) Why does it take so long for the funding round to be announced each year for Act-listed species.
- (12) Why does it take so long to process the applications and approve funding.

2304 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to Air Vice-Marshal Criss AM AFC (AVM Criss), who according to Mr Bill Blick had all positive Investigating Officer (IO) 29 June 2001 Redress of Grievance (ROG) report outcomes overturned on 16 October 2001 by the then Vice Chief of the Defence Force (VCDF), Lieutenant General Mueller, acting as the Appointing Officer for the ROG:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that:
  - (a) the Inspector General of the Australian Defence Force (IGADF) recently made determinations into three areas of on-going concern to AVM Criss on 27 February 2006 and refused to take corrective action on any of the four issues raised by him relating to: (i) advice received regarding access to evidence during the early stages of the investigation into his redress of grievance, (ii) the refusal by the department, and particularly, the Appointing Officer, to amend the term of reference (TOR) during the course of the investigation, (iii) as a consequence of not amending the TOR, the failure to recognise the significance or relevance of additional written submissions made by AVM Criss to the investigating officers, and (iv) the various inappropriate actions and decisions of the VCDF in relation to his administration of the matter as the Appointing Officer for the ROG;
  - (b) AVM Criss initially appealed aspects of his concern with some aspects of the conduct of his ROG to the then Chief of the Defence Force (CDF) Admiral Barrie on 9 November 2001, 7 December 2001, 15 February 2002, 13 May 2002 and 19 June 2002, all to no avail;
  - (c) AVM Criss, having had his compensation for detriment caused by defective administration (CDDA) claim rejected by the first delegate (ASPS) and his appeal to the departmental Secretary denied, wrote to the Defence Force Ombudsman (DFO) on 20 May 2005 requesting that the DFO investigate his concerns with those aspects relating to the conduct of his ROG as listed above in sub-paragraph (a) and that the DFO refused to investigate;

- (d) AVM Criss in providing comment to the Deputy Secretary Corporate Services, Mr Henderson on 17 February 2005 regarding the Blick report once again listed his concerns with the conduct of some aspects of the conduct of his ROG and that those comments against paragraphs 120, 125, 126, 127 and 130 now form a part of the Blick report as a formal attachment dated 11 May 2005; and
  - (e) Mr Blick, in responding to AVM Criss's comments on the Blick report, acknowledged on 11 May 2005 that in relation to his concerns regarding some aspects of the conduct of his ROG investigation stated 'Others, however, particularly those relating to AVM Criss's grievances about the ROG inquiry process, would require further examination of departmental documents and, possibly, quite a bit more drafting.
- (2) Can the Minister further advise:
- (a) in relation to the ROG issues, if Mr Blick estimated that it would only take him 2 to 3 days to research the issues properly and do any necessary redrafting;
  - (b) if the department re-engaged Mr Blick to complete that work; if not, why not;
  - (c) whether AVM Criss wrote to the IGADF on 26 May 2005 requesting an investigation of his concerns relating to some aspects of the conduct of the ROG as previously listed;
  - (d) whether AVM Criss did not receive a response to his May e-mail to the IGADF and so e-mailed the IGADF again on 20 June 2005 and 26 July 2005 requesting a response to his 26 May 2005 request for an investigation and 'an update on progress to date and intent';
  - (e) whether the IGADF responded to AVM Criss on 27 July 2005;
  - (f) whether they met in Canberra on 12 August 2005 and, at that meeting, whether AVM Criss provided the IGADF with additional information after their meeting on 12 August 2005;
  - (f) whether the IGADF wrote to AVM Criss, IG ADF CF/32/05 dated 19 August 2005 and *inter alia* stated: (i) 'I confirm that I will review those matters that you raised with the DFO, namely access to evidence, error in TOR and additional submissions', and (ii) 'In addition, having regard to the points you raised about Mr Blick's observations as to the legal advice received by the Vice Chief of the Defence Force, I will consider the relationship between that advice and the outcome of his consideration of your application for redress of grievance';
  - (g) whether AVM Criss, after receiving the 27 February 2006 letter from the IGADF advising that Defence was going to do nothing further and wishing him well with his future life, again wrote to the DFO on 14 March 2006 and *inter alia* requested Professor McMillan to investigate the decisions of the IGADF, and that the DFO in his letter 2006-104122, dated 4 April 2006, declined to investigate AVM Criss's concerns with the actions and decisions of the IGADF.



- (3) Can the Minister further confirm that in his letter to AVM Criss of 27 February 2006 the IGADF *inter alia* confirmed that:
- (a) the advice provided by Defence Legal staff during the conduct of the ROG regarding the complainants access to evidence was correct but in doing so that the IGADF did not acknowledge that initially incorrect advice was provided by Defence Legal staff and the correct advice was only provided after AVM Criss had finished giving his evidence to the investigating officers;
  - (b) the IGADF acknowledged ‘that the TOR for the investigation into your ROG did not allow the IO to address all of the instances of alleged misrepresentation by Air Marshal McCormack that were included in your ROG. I also acknowledge that you attempted to have the TOR amended to include provision for this’;
  - (c) ‘I accept that there was a factual error contained in the TOR, which could have been avoided had your request for the TOR to be amended not been overlooked’; and
  - (d) ‘the IO took into account all of the information that was provided in the additional submissions’; if so, given that the IGADF failed to make the connection with his previous admission by not realising that if the TOR prevented the IO from looking at the correct dates for the alleged grievance relating to misrepresentation of facts by the Chief of Air Force (CAF), were not the additional submissions irrelevant to the IO and not appropriate to his investigation, and therefore should have not been taken into consideration as they would have been had the TOR been amended, as it is now acknowledged they should have been.
- (4) Can the Minister also confirm that in the same IG letter to AVM Criss dated 27 February 2006 it was stated:
- (a) ‘Legal advice is simply that and VCDF was not obliged to accept all, or any, of the legal advice provided to him’;
  - (b) ‘he [Lieutenant General Mueller] also drew upon his own considerable experience and knowledge of the dynamics of high command’;
  - (c) ‘I might say that it seems to be a commonly held, if erroneous, view that non-compliance with any DI will potentially [be] found an offence under the Defence Force Discipline Act’;
  - (d) advice received from the Australian Government Solicitor was that ‘the broad language of the DIs does not make it clear that a failure to comply would make the relevant officer guilty of a Service offence’;
  - (e) ‘other factors also influenced the VCDF’s position at the time, not the least of which appeared to be the CDF’s view that the VCDF’s reporting obligation did not pose an impediment to his role as the ROG decision maker because the requirement for a report had otherwise been met informally’;
  - (f) ‘there is no indication, for example, of bad faith, negligence or improper motive which otherwise might have enlivened disciplinary liability under any of the military law provisions to which you have referred’;
  - (g) ‘I agree that many aspects of the management of your case overall left a lot to be desired and note that this has been acknowledged in settlements reached between you and the Department’; and

- (h) ‘There may well have been judgements made that were poor or even possibly wrong, but it does not follow that this, without more, will necessarily constitute offences against military law’.
- (5) If the quotations in paragraph (4) above are confirmed, is it now acknowledged by the department that the TOR relating to the CAF allegedly misrepresenting facts should have been amended during the conduct of the investigation to correctly reflect the complainant’s concerns.
- (6) Did AVM Criss repeatedly request the amendment of the TOR, and did he question this during or after the conduct of the investigation into his ROG, on multiple occasions with former CDF Barrie, personally face-to-face with VCDF Mueller, in written and telephone conversations with Defence Legal, Commodore Smith, in his original CDDA claim, in his appeals to the Secretary of the department, Mr Smith, in feedback on the Blick report to the department, twice to the DFO and finally successfully (without any corrective action being taken) to the IGADF.
- (7) Given that the IGADF now agrees that the TOR should have been amended, will the Minister now correctly address the complainant’s original grievance from 28 March 2001.
- (8) Given that the DFO has recently refused to investigate the IGADF 27 February 2006 decisions, despite the IGADF now acknowledging that the TOR for the Criss ROG should have been amended during the conduct of the inquiry, can the Minister explain why an independent investigator should not now be appointed, after the TOR has been correctly amended to reflect the member’s longstanding and unaddressed grievance, to look at the evidence on file and make a determination in relation to the very serious stated grievance of the CAF misrepresenting the truth to protect his position or stance.
- (9) Is the IGADF’s recent confidential determination re-validating the actions and decisions of VCDF, now inconsistent with the findings in the independent Blick report; if so, given that the DFO has refused to investigate the matter due to his acceptance of the department’s process, which of the IGADF outcome or the Blick outcome is preferred, and which was accepted by the DFO as sufficient for his purposes.
- (10) If the IGADF has now determined that the VCDF’s decision to overturn the IO’s report in areas favourable to AVM Criss was justified and open to him to decide, and given that the department has recently paid compensation to AVM Criss using the same ROG report as the basis to determine the quantum of that compensation paid, can the Minister now confirm if the member has been inappropriately compensated, or has the IGADF incorrectly found that VCDF acted appropriately.
- (11) Did the Blick report find that internal Defence Legal staff expressed the written opinion that ‘if the Report or its acceptance and implementation is challenged, the process will look quite shonky’; if so, how did the IGADF determine in February 2006 that VCDF’s actions in late 2001 were not ‘shonky’.
- (12) Will the Minister explain how the IGADF can now support the VCDF 2001 assertion that a special bond should exist between two and three star officers and therefore Defence Instructions do not apply at that rank level, when highly specialised legal opinion advised that the Defence Instructions do apply to all rank levels and that everyone is entitled to natural justice as afforded of Air Force personnel by that Defence Instruction.

- (13) Did the evidence available to the IOs indicate that that it was CAF's failure or refusal to communicate that caused AVM Criss to be unaware of any concern his superior officer had with his level of performance, and did the IO report find accordingly; if so, why did the IGADF in February 2006 re-validate the decision by VCDF that the fault lay with AVM Criss.
- (14) Did Mr Blick estimate that it would only take him 3 days to investigate AVM Criss's ongoing concern with the conduct of his ROG; if so, why did Defence Legal not re-engage Mr Blick as he offered, and was it concerned that it would appear that it took the department and the DFO more than a year and still not finalised the matter.
- (15) Why does the department engage highly qualified investigating offices and highly qualified and expensive legal advisers if an Appointing Officer is free to decide whatever he wants, when making his determination into a redress of grievance as is now alleged by the IGADF.
- (16) If the IGADF determination is now accepted by the Minister, can the Minister explain how a retired Supreme Court Judge and a retired Rear Admiral can listen to hours of evidence, ask hundreds of questions and observe personal responses and behaviours in the ROG, and yet are effectively overruled by the IGADF.
- (17) Does the Minister accept the advice given to AVM Criss by the IGADF that an informal performance report withheld from AVM Criss by both CDF Barrie and VCDF Mueller does not mean that VCDF should have excused himself from being the Appointing Officer for the Criss ROG, particularly given that the IO's report was critical of the VCDF's actions in this regard, and that one of the complainant's grievances related to decisions taken by the CDF before he even received the informal reports.
- (18) (a) Did the Solicitor-General provide advice to the IGADF in relation to the enforceability of Defence Instructions; and (b) if the Minister supports that advice, what action does he propose to take regarding the multitude of convictions against past members of the ADF who have been found guilty and fined and or discharged for non-compliance.
- (19) Given the IGADF's admission that 'There may well have been judgements made that were poor or even possibly wrong, but it does not follow that this, without more, will necessarily constitute offences against military law', how can the men and women of the ADF obtain protection from similar failings by very senior Defence and civilian bureaucrats inside the department in the future.
- (20) In apparently determining that 'he [LTGEN Mueller] also drew upon his own considerable experience and knowledge of the dynamics of high command', can the Minister explain how the IGADF determined this when the Defence Instruction under question was an Air Force specific instruction, and one that did not apply to Army or Navy personnel.
- (21) If it is the IGADF's view that 'it seems to be a commonly held, if erroneous, view that non-compliance with any DI will potentially [be] found an offence under the Defence Force Discipline Act', will the Minister advise what steps he proposes to take to remedy this unsatisfactory position.

*Notice given 7 August 2006*

- 2305 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the role of AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue) in the unsuccessful search for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005: Can details be provided of all the resolved positions and times for *Malu Sara's* Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) as recorded and calculated by AusSAR's satellite equipment from the time the vessel's EPIRB was first detected until it was deactivated.
- 2306 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) report on the loss of the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005:
- (1) Why does the report claim, at page 28, that the vessel's situation had only become 'one of distress' at 1036 hours on 15 October 2005 when the *Malu Sara's* Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) was found floating free with no sign of the vessel in the area.
  - (2) Why was the situation not 'one of distress' at 0215 hours when the *Malu Sara* was reported to be taking on water and sinking fast.
  - (3) Can an explanation be provided as to why the ATSB report claims, at page 28, that following the discovery of the floating EPIRB an 'expanding square search' was conducted, while the answer to question 16 (Australian Maritime Safety Authority), taken on notice during the May 2006 Budget estimates hearings of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee, appears to indicate a sector search and not an expanding square search.
  - (4) Can details be provided on what type of search was actually flown by the helicopter on the morning of 15 October 2005, including: (a) the coordinates of the legs flown by the helicopter; (b) the initial track flown by the helicopter; (c) the tracking spacing/mean track spacing for the search; (d) the angular displacement of the legs; (e) the number of legs flown; (f) the position of the start/centre point; and (g) the distance out from the centre point that was searched.
  - (5) Can a map be provided displaying the legs flown.
- 2307 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the claim on page 29 of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) report on the loss of the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* that it was not until late morning on 15 October 2005 that it became 'increasingly likely that *Malu Sara* had sunk and the people aboard were in the water':
- (1) Why was it not likely the vessel had sunk and people aboard were in the water soon after 0215 hours on 15 October 2005 when the vessel was reported to be taking on water and sinking fast.
  - (2) On what premise was the search being conducted up until the time that it became likely the *Malu Sara* had sunk which, according to the ATSB, was not until late morning on 15 October 2005.
  - (3) What was the justification for this premise.
  - (4) How did this premise affect the conduct of the search.

- (5) Can details be provided of the target(s) of the search: (a) until the time that it became likely the *Malu Sara* had sunk; and (b) after the time that it became likely the *Malu Sara* had sunk, which, according to the ATSB, was not until late morning on the 15 October 2005.

2308 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can details be provided of the number of aircraft movements at Bankstown Airport for each calendar year since 2000.
- (2) How does Airservices Australia define 'aircraft movements'.
- (3) Has Airservices Australia amended the definition of 'aircraft movement' since 2000; if so, how has this amendment impacted on analysis of trend data for Bankstown Airport.
- (4) Has Airservices Australia altered or adjusted the methodology of analysing aircraft movements since 2000; if so, how has this change of methodology impacted on analysis of trend data for Bankstown Airport.

2309 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the statement at page 76 in the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) report on the loss of the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs vessel the *Malu Sara* in October 2005, that: 'The Australian Maritime Safety Authority's Rescue Coordination Centre is based in Canberra. It is staffed by officers with marine or aviation backgrounds. In marine emergencies necessitating a SAR response in coastal waters, the local police undertake the initial response coordination. The RCC provide search advice based on analysis of wind drift, currents and tidal flows, EPIRB positions and when requested coordinate search craft, usually aircraft':

- (1) What is the basis of this claim.
- (2) Does the National Search and Rescue Manual provide, in relation to the responsible rescue coordination centre, that 'the first agency to become aware of a distress situation is obliged to respond until the appropriate SAR authority with overall coordination responsibility is in a position to assume that responsibility. It is imperative that the appropriate SAR authority is notified as soon as possible'.
- (3) Is it the case that in relation to the *Malu Sara* the first agency to become aware of the distress situation was the Queensland Police and that the appropriate search and rescue authority with overall coordination responsibility was AusSAR (Australian Search and Rescue).
- (4) How is the claim in the ATSB report that 'in marine emergencies necessitating a SAR response in coastal waters, the local police undertake the initial response coordination and the RCC provide search advice based on analysis of wind drift, currents and tidal flows, EPIRB positions and when requested coordinate search craft, usually aircraft' consistent with the relevant National Search and Rescue Manual protocol.
- (5) Did the ATSB receive a briefing on the National Search and Rescue Manual during the investigation of the loss of the *Malu Sara* and the preparation of its transport safety report; if so, who provided that briefing; if no briefing was received, why not.

- (6) Was the ATSB's conclusions in relation to the coordination of the search for the *Malu Sara*, including its endorsement of AusSAR's performance, informed by the National Search and Rescue Manual: (a) if so: (i) why does the ATSB report not make reference to the National Search and Rescue Manual, and (ii) why are findings in the ATSB report inconsistent with material provisions of the National Search and Rescue Manual; and (b) if not, why not.

2310 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Airports (Control of On-Airport Activities) Regulations 1997, can the following details be provided:

- (1) By financial year from 2003-04 how many persons have been appointed as authorised persons under Regulation 114 and 121.
- (2) How many of these persons are: (a) employees of the Department; or (b) Protective Service officers or Special Protective Service officers of the Australian Federal Police; or (c) employees of an airport-operator company, or of a contractor to an airport-operator company.
- (3) Has the responsibility of the departmental secretary, provided under Regulation 114 and/or 121 to appoint an authorised person, been delegated in accordance with Regulation 156 to any other person or position; if so, to whom.
- (4) What is the extent of powers exercised by authorised persons in relation to Part 4 of the regulations.
- (5) Do authorised persons have the power to demand production of a state government issued driver's licence.
- (6) Are authorised persons, categorised under Regulation 114(c) or 121(c), in the course of their duties required to carry or produce identification to establish bona fides; if so, is there a required form of statement that advises the extent of the powers exercised by the holder and what is that wording; if not, why not.
- (7) Do authorised persons, categorised under Regulation 114(c) or 121(c), have the power to arrest or detain vehicle drivers.
- (8) Do formal processes exist to resolve allegations of misuse of powers or complaints concerning conduct of authorised persons: (a) if so, since the 2003-04 financial year to date: (i) how many complaints have been received, (ii) what was the nature of the complaints, (iii) how are complaints investigated, and (iv) which complaints were upheld; and (b) if a formal process does not exist, why not.

*Notice given 8 August 2006*

2311 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the proposed shopping development at Hobart Airport:

- (1) Was the land use put to tender; if so, when and with what result.
- (2) When was the Government first approached by the developer and who was approached, and how.
- (3) What are the terms and conditions of the property arrangement with the Government and is the contract publicly available; if not, why not.
- (4) Has an environment, social and economic impact study been done; if not, why not.

- (5) What will be the impact of the development upon the Hobart central business district including the number of jobs lost and loss of business.

2313 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Did Dr Peter Shergold, the Secretary of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, deliver a speech at the National Press Club on 17 November 2004 in which he pledged to call in the police on each and every occasion government material was leaked.
- (2) Is the Prime Minister aware of an article in *The Daily Telegraph* of 26 July 2006 which reported details of an examination by the Office of Workplace Services of the circumstances of workers that have appeared in Australian Council of Trade Unions advertisements.
- (3) On what date did Dr Shergold seek the assistance of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) to investigate the leak of this information.
- (4) What assistance has the AFP provided.
- (5) If Dr Shergold did not seek the assistance of the AFP in relation to this leak was it because: (a) the leak was authorised; if so, by whom; and (b) the leak was authorised but serves the interests of the Government.
- (6) If Dr Shergold did not seek the assistance of the AFP in relation to this leak can a reason be provided as to why no AFP assistance was sought on this occasion.

2314 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—Has the Prime Minister sought advice from: (a) the department; and/or (b) the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations; and/or (c) the Office of Workplace Services; and/or (d) any other sources about the circumstances of any workers that have appeared in Australian Council of Trade Unions advertisements opposing the Government's industrial relations legislation; if so:

- (a) can details be provided including the date(s) advice was sought and the date(s), source(s) and the form(s) of any advice received in response to the request; and
- (b) is the Minister aware of whether the information he received was different in form or substance to that which was provided to the workers who appeared in the advertisements.

2315 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—Has the Minister sought advice from: (a) the department; and/or (b) the Office of Workplace Services; and/or (c) any other sources about the circumstances of any workers that have appeared in Australian Council of Trade Unions advertisements opposing the Government's industrial relations legislation; if so:

- (a) can details be provided including the date(s) advice was sought and the date(s), source(s) and the form(s) of any advice received in response to the request; and
- (b) is the Minister aware of whether the information he received was different in form or substance to that which was provided to the workers who appeared in the advertisements.

2316 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Trade—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1866:

- (1) Has the Minister reviewed the Hansard which records his answer to a question without notice from the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives on 30 May 2006 concerning the Grains Research and Development Corporation-funded work by Single Vision on alternatives to the 'single desk' for wheat exports.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that his answer to the question from the Leader of the Opposition does not disclose the date on which he became aware of this work by Single Vision.
- (3) On what date did the Minister become aware of the Grains Research and Development Corporation-funded work by Single Vision on alternatives to the 'single desk' for wheat exports.
- (4) How did the Minister become aware.

2317 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1605:

- (1) On what date did the Minister receive written advice from Telstra in response to her request on 20 February 2006 seeking details of Telstra's plan to remove 5 000 payphones between February and September 2006.
- (2) Can a copy of that written advice be provided; if not, why not.

2318 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Do the engines on the wing or the auxiliary power units of BAe 146 aircraft that have operated or are operating in Australia contain parts or components that contain beryllium, including parts and components manufactured by sub-contractors; if so, can details be provided of those parts or components that contain beryllium.

2321 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the article in *The Daily Telegraph* of 26 July 2006 revealing details of the examination by the Office of Workplace Services (OWS) into the circumstances of workers that have appeared in the Australian Council of Trade Unions advertisements:

- (1) Did the Minister, and/or his office, leak or authorise the leak of information about the OWS investigation.
- (2) Did Mr Nicholas Wilson, the Director of the OWS, and/or his staff, leak or authorise the leak of information about the OWS investigation.
- (3) Did Mr Peter Boxall, the departmental Secretary, and/or his staff, leak or authorise the leak of information about the OWS investigation.
- (4) If the Minister cannot identify the person or persons responsible, has the Minister:
  - (a) sought advice from Mr Nicholas Wilson about the source of the leak:
    - (i) if so: (A) on what date and in what form was that advice sought, (B) on what date and in what form was that advice received, and (C) can a copy of that advice be provided; if not, why not, and
    - (ii) if not, why not;



- (b) sought advice from Mr Peter Boxall about the source of the leak:
    - (i) if so: (A) on what date and in what form was that advice sought, (B) on what date and in what form was that advice received, and (C) can a copy of that advice be provided; if not, why not, and
    - (ii) if not, why not;
  - (c) sought the assistance of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) to investigate the source of the leak:
    - (i) if so: (i) has the AFP interviewed the Minister and/or his staff; if so, can details be provided, (ii) has the AFP interviewed officers of the department; if so, can details be provided, (iii) has the AFP interviewed Mr Nicholas Wilson and/or his staff; if so, can details be provided, and (iv) has the AFP provided any other assistance; if so, can details be provided, and
    - (ii) if not, why not; and
  - (d) taken other action to investigate the source of the leak; if so, can details be provided.
- (5) If the Minister cannot identify the source of the leak but has taken no action to investigate this matter, why not.

*Notice given 9 August 2006*

2322 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to: (a) the requirement under the Prime Minister's *A Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* dated December 1998 that ministers attending Cabinet or Cabinet committee meetings declare private interests that give rise or are likely to give rise to a conflict with their public duties; (b) the requirement under the *Cabinet Handbook* dated March 2004 that ministers should take into account the interests of family members and all interests of their own when considering whether to make a declaration of interest; and (c) the Prime Minister's admonition to ministers to adhere to 'the spirit as well as the letter' of the *Cabinet Handbook*:

- (1) Did the Treasurer declare the Qantas gift of a business class upgrade for his three children on a flight between Los Angeles and Melbourne preceding Cabinet and/or Cabinet committee consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route: (a) if so: (i) on what date was the declaration made and recorded by Cabinet officers, and (ii) did the meeting excuse the Treasurer from the discussion or explicitly agree to his taking part; and (b) if not: (i) why not, and (ii) what action has the Prime Minister taken with respect to the breach of his ministerial code of conduct.
- (2) Did the Treasurer declare any other matters including complimentary airline lounge memberships, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue, Singapore Airlines and/or other Australian and international airlines; if so: (a) what was the nature of the declaration; (b) on what date was it made; and (c) was the Treasurer excused from discussion or explicitly permitted to take part.

- (3) Did the Minister for Health and Ageing declare the Qantas gift of a business class upgrade for himself and his wife on a flight between Sydney and London preceding the Cabinet and/or Cabinet committee consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route: (a) if so: (i) on what date was the declaration made and recorded by Cabinet officers, and (ii) did the meeting excuse the Minister from the discussion or explicitly agree to his taking part; and (b) if not: (i) why not, and (ii) what action has the Prime minister taken with respect to the breach of his ministerial code of conduct.
- (4) Did the Minister for Health and Ageing declare any other matters including complimentary airline lounge memberships, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue, Singapore Airlines and/or other Australian and international airlines; if so: (a) what was the nature of the declaration; (b) on what date was it made; and (c) was the minister excused from discussion or explicitly permitted to take part.
- (5) Which other Cabinet ministers declared complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue, Singapore Airlines and/or other Australian and international airlines preceding Cabinet and/or Cabinet committee consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route.
- (6) In each case please identify the minister and provide details of: (a) the declaration; (b) the date it was made; and (c) whether the minister was excused from discussion or explicitly permitted to take part.
- (7) With reference to chapter 9 of *APS Values and Code of Conduct in Practice: A Guide to Official Conduct for APS Employees and Agency Heads* dated 2005 relating to avoiding and managing conflict of interest: (a) does the department maintain up-to-date registers of pecuniary interests and/or gifts related to agency heads, members of the Senior Executive Service (SES) and those acting in SES positions; (b) did the Prime Minister and the Secretary of his department ensure that details were up-to-date with respect to officers responsible for the provision of advice in relation to the Government's review of international air services policy; and (c) did relevant declarations include complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines.
- (8) With reference to the requirement under the Prime Minister's *A Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* that ministerial staff should not accept gifts, sponsored travel or hospitality if acceptance could give rise to a conflict of interest or the appearance of such a conflict: has any member of the Prime Minister's staff accepted complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines since the commencement of the Government's consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route; if so, were those interests immediately declared and recorded in a written register; and if, in any case, such interests have not been immediately declared and recorded, why not.

2323 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to chapter 9 of *APS Values and Code of Conduct in Practice: A Guide to Official Conduct for APS Employees and Agency Heads* dated 2005 relating to avoiding and managing conflict of interest:

- (1) Does the department maintain up-to-date registers of pecuniary interests and/or gifts related to agency heads, members of the Senior Executive Service (SES) and those acting in SES positions.
- (2) Did the Minister and the Secretary of the department ensure that details were up-to-date with respect to officers responsible for the provision of advice in relation to the Government's review of international air services policy.
- (3) Did relevant declarations include complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines.
- (4) With reference to the requirement under the Prime Minister's *A Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* dated December 1998 that ministerial staff should not accept gifts, sponsored travel or hospitality if acceptance could give rise to a conflict of interest or the appearance of such a conflict: has any member of the Minister's staff accepted complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines since the commencement of the Government's consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route; if so, were those interests immediately declared and recorded in a written register; and if, in any case, such interests have not been immediately declared and recorded, why not.

2324 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—With reference to chapter 9 of *APS Values and Code of Conduct in Practice: A Guide to Official Conduct for APS Employees and Agency Heads* dated 2005 relating to avoiding and managing conflict of interest:

- (1) Does the department maintain up-to-date registers of pecuniary interests and/or gifts related to agency heads, members of the Senior Executive Service (SES) and those acting in SES positions.
- (2) Did the Treasurer and the Secretary of the department ensure that details were up-to-date with respect to officers responsible for the provision of advice in relation to the Government's review of international air services policy.
- (3) Did relevant declarations include complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines.
- (4) With reference to the requirement under the Prime Minister's *A Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* dated December 1998 that ministerial staff should not accept gifts, sponsored travel or hospitality if acceptance could give rise to a conflict of interest or the appearance of such a conflict: has any member of the Treasurer's staff accepted complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines since the commencement of the Government's consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route; if so, were those interests immediately declared and recorded in a written register; and if, in any case, such interests have not been immediately declared and recorded, why not.

2325 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to chapter 9 of *APS Values and Code of Conduct in Practice: A Guide to Official Conduct for APS Employees and Agency Heads* dated 2005 relating to avoiding and managing conflict of interest:

- (1) Does the department maintain up-to-date registers of pecuniary interests and/or gifts related to agency heads, members of the Senior Executive Service (SES) and those acting in SES positions.
- (2) Did the Minister and the Secretary of the department ensure that details were up-to-date with respect to officers responsible for the provision of advice in relation to the Government's review of international air services policy.
- (3) Did relevant declarations include complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines.
- (4) With reference to the requirement under the Prime Minister's *A Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* dated December 1998 that ministerial staff should not accept gifts, sponsored travel or hospitality if acceptance could give rise to a conflict of interest or the appearance of such a conflict: has any member of the Minister's staff accepted complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines since the commencement of the Government's consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route; if so, were those interests immediately declared and recorded in a written register; and if, in any case, such interests have not been immediately declared and recorded, why not.

2326 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06:

- (1) How many flight movements occurred at Sydney Airport on a monthly basis.
- (2) Have there been any changes to flight paths; if so: (a) on what dates did these changes occur; (b) have these changes been maintained; and (c) what, if any, consultations were undertaken by the Department with residents affected by the change of flight path.
- (3) How many noise complaints have been received by the Department or any portfolio agency on a monthly basis.

2327 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the Instrument Landing System (ILS) at Sydney Airport failed on 4 August 2006; if so: (a) when did the Minister become aware of the failure; (b) what was the reason for the failure; (c) for what period was the ILS out of service; (d) which flights were on approach at the time of the failure; (e) what action was taken to ensure the safety of any aircraft in transit at the time of the failure; (f) did the failure cause delays at Sydney Airport or throughout the network; (g) has Airservices Australia made any form of financial compensation (including waiver of fees) available to any airlines as a result of this incident; and (h) what remedial action has been taken by Airservices Australia to ensure that this failure does not occur again.
- (2) Can details be provided of any other reported ILS failures for the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06.

## Notice given 10 August 2006

- 2328 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to recommendation 13 of the Australian National Audit Office report no. 18 of 2004-05, *Regulation of non-prescription medicinal products: Department of Health and Ageing and Therapeutic Goods Administration* that the department arrange independent assessment of recent key enforcement actions to draw lessons for the future when making decisions potentially affecting public health and safety:
- (1) Has such an independent review been conducted; if so, who conducted the review.
  - (2) What were the findings.
  - (3) Can a copy of the independent review be provided.
- 2329 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—Can details be provided of each compensation payment made to Australian veterans of nuclear tests since 1996, including: (a) the date; (b) the amount; (c) the nature of compensable injury; (d) the legislative vehicle through which payment was effected; (e) whether or not the case was the subject of appeal and the outcome of that appeal; and (f) the cost of legal services associated with the case.
- 2330 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) What is the overall mean level of Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS) debt in Australia
  - (2) What is the mean level of HECS debt for those who have completed their courses in Australia.
  - (3) What is the average HECS debt for those who have completed their courses in Australia.
- 2331 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to Rosedale Neighbourhood House (RNH), a not-for-profit community organisation in Gippsland Victoria:
- (1) Why has RNH waited for over a month for telephone lines to be installed for phone, fax and Internet/e-mail access when all necessary telephone lines/boxes infrastructure was correctly installed.
  - (2) Will RNH be eligible for compensation for this delay.
  - (3) What is the current status of the RNH telecommunications service.
  - (4) Is the experience of RNH representative of Telstra's service levels to regional areas; if not, what is the average connection time in regional areas.
- 2332 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) How many medical school graduates are there annually.
  - (2) How many intern places and vocational training places currently exist for medical school graduates.
  - (3) Given that there will be a 120 per cent increase in the number of medical school graduates in Australia between the years 2000 and 2012, how many intern positions will be required to meet the need for training places in hospitals for these graduates by the year 2012.

- (4) What processes are in place to ensure that these training places will be available.
- (5) How much funding is provided for medical training in the Australian Health Care Agreements.
- (6) Is Federal Government funding to the states/territories for medical training tied to performance benchmarks: if so, what are these benchmarks; if not, why not.
- (7) If more medical schools are approved, what processes will be put in place to ensure that there are adequate training places for the additional graduates.

2333 **Senator Hurley:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that as of 1 May 2006, the Hon. Andrew Robb MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs: (a) was served by eight personal staff; (b) had a personal staff allocation which exceeded the personal staff allocation of all other parliamentary secretaries; and (c) has a personal staff allocation which exceeds the personal staff allocation of the Minister for Arts and Sport, the Minister for Community Services and the Special Minister of State.
- (2) Can an outline be provided of the process that led to the allocation of eight personal staff positions to Mr Robb.
- (3) Has the number of staff or classification of Mr Robb's personal staff changed since 1 May 2006; if so, can details be provided.
- (4) (a) What are the permanent work locations of Mr Robb's current personal staff members; and (b) are any of the permanent work locations within Parliament House; if so, can each office location be provided.

*Notice given 11 August 2006*

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2334-2353)—With reference to the portfolio appropriation for the 2005-06 financial year; can the following information be provided:

- (1) The quantum of any underspend or overspend in the administered appropriation by output or program.
- (2) The quantum of any underspend or overspend in the departmental appropriation by output or program.
- (3) By output or program, what was the reason for any underspend or overspend.

2334 Minister representing the Prime Minister

2335 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

2336 Minister representing the Treasurer

2337 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

2338 Minister for Finance and Administration

2339 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2340 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

2341 Minister representing the Attorney-General

2342 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

2343 Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs

- 2344 Minister representing the Minister for Defence
- 2345 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
- 2346 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
- 2347 Minister for the Environment and Heritage
- 2348 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 2349 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 2350 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
- 2351 Minister for Justice and Customs
- 2352 Minister for the Arts and Sport
- 2353 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
- 2354 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1821 (*Senate Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:
- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
  - (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
  - (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
  - (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 2355 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Trade—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1822 (*Senate Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:
- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
  - (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
  - (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
  - (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 2356 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1823 (*Senate Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:
- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
  - (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.

- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
- (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

2357 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1824 (*Senate Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:

- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
- (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
- (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

2358 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1825 (*Senate Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:

- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
- (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.

2359 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1826 (*Senate Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:

- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
- (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
- (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

2360 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1827 (*Senate Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:

- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.



- (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
- (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

2361 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1828 (*Senate Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:

- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
- (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
- (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

2362 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the answer to question on notice no 1829 (*Senate Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:

- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
- (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
- (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

2363 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1830 (*Senate Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:

- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
- (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
- (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

- 2364 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1831 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:
- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
  - (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
  - (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
  - (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 2365 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1832 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:
- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
  - (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
  - (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
  - (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 2366 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1833 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:
- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
  - (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
  - (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
  - (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 2367 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1834 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:
- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
  - (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.

- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
- (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

2368 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1835 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:

- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
- (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
- (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

2369 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1836 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:

- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
- (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
- (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

2370 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1837 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:

- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
- (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
- (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
- (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

- 2371 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1838 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:
- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
  - (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
  - (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
  - (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 2372 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for the Arts and Sport—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1839 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:
- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
  - (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
  - (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
  - (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 2373 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1840 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 August 2006, p. 104), provided by the Minister for Finance and Administration after it was transferred on 9 August 2006, which refers to documents which have not yet been tabled, can the following information be provided:
- (1) What new discretionary grant programs are being established in this portfolio during the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07.
  - (2) What are the details, including eligibility criteria and name, of any new or projected programs.
  - (3) What quantum of funding has been appropriated for these programs.
  - (4) What was the reason for this question being transferred to the Minister for Finance and Administration.

*Notice given 14 August 2006*

- 2374 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the former Minister for Family and Community Services Senator Kay Patterson's media release of 27 May 2005 and her commitment to resolve the issue of United Kingdom (UK) pensioners living in Australia being denied indexed pensions by the UK Government:
- (1) Since the date of this media release what action has the Minister taken on this issue.

- (2) How long does the Minister think it will take for this situation to be resolved.

2375 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to funding for the Job Placement, Employment and Training (JPET) program in Central Australia:

- (1) Can a list be provided of the organisations that have received JPET funding in Central Australia for the period 2006 to 2009.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the Alice Springs Youth Accommodation and Support Service (ASYASS) contract for JPET funding will not be renewed in the period 2006 to 2009; if so, what is the reason for this decision.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that the department initially informed ASYASS that its tender had been successful and subsequently withdrew its offer for JPET funding; if so, on what dates did this happen.
- (4) Has the department received a complaint from ASYASS in relation to the withdrawal of the JPET contract; if so: (a) on what date did the department first become aware of this complaint; (b) what has the department done in response to this complaint; and (c) has the department initiated any review of the process in response to the complaint by ASYASS.
- (5) Which organisation has been awarded the contract for JPET funding in lieu of ASYASS.
- (6) On what basis was this organisation given preference to ASYASS.
- (7) Under the new JPET funding arrangements beginning in the 2006-07 financial year, what service will be providing outreach or evening support services to young people from Alice Springs town camps.

*Notice given 15 August 2006*

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2376-2377)—With reference to Australian Design Rule (ADR) 81/01—Fuel Consumption Labelling for Light Vehicles:

- (1) As part of the testing process, are the fuel consumption figures as displayed on new car fuel consumption labels achieved in normal driving at any time.
- (2) Is there a built in tolerance between the listed consumption figure and the actual consumption that could be experienced by an average driver; if so, what is that tolerance.
- (3) Has the department received complaints from consumers, car manufacturers and/or motoring organisations about the accuracy of the fuel consumption labelling; if so: (a) how many complaints were received in the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06; and (b) what, if any, action has been taken as a result of the complaints.
- (4) If ADR 81/01 has been in harmony with the regulation of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, how does the ADR reflect Australia's unique and diverse road conditions and environment.
- (5) When is ADR 81/01 scheduled to be reviewed.

2376 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2377 Minister for the Environment and Heritage

- 2378 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to House of Representatives question on notice no. 2116 (House of Representatives *Hansard*, 29 May 2006, p. 156) concerning the development of land at Badgerys Creek, in which the Minister advised 'The Government also previously said that it would retain the land at Badgerys Creek in Commonwealth ownership and protect the site from incompatible development in surrounding areas'.
- (1) What type of development is defined as 'incompatible development'.
  - (2) What type of development is defined as 'compatible development'.
  - (3) Given that the site is to be protected from incompatible development, what does the Government intend to do with this site.
  - (4) If the Government has no plans for the site at present, when will a final decision be taken on this site.
  - (5) Does the Minister intend to allow development on the land that is exempt from state and local government planning regimes.
- 2379 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the closure of runway 18/36 at Bankstown Airport:
- (1) What consultations were undertaken before the decision by Bankstown Airport Limited to close runway 18/36.
  - (2) Was the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) consulted on the closure of runway 18/36.
  - (3) Did CASA commission a report on the impact of the closure either internally or externally; if so, when and who provided the report.
  - (4) Do weather conditions affecting runway 11/29 ever result in closure of this runway to air traffic.
  - (5) Do weather conditions ever make runway 11/29 unsuitable for landings by any type of aircraft; if so: (a) can details be provided of any such occurrences; and (b) what alternative arrangements have been made to ensure that the safety of aircraft operating out of Bankstown Airport will not be compromised.
  - (6) Will the proposed closure in 2008 of Hoxton Park Airport impact on any alternative arrangements for aircraft operating from Bankstown Airport.
  - (7) Following the closure of Hoxton Park Airport, other than Sydney Airport, what alternative arrangements have been made for a north/south runway in the Sydney basin; if no arrangements, other than Sydney Airport, exist or are planned, what impact are landings at Sydney Airport likely to have on the operation of that airport.
- 2380 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the open day at Canberra International Airport in 2006:
- (1) Given that more than 7 500 people attending the open day had access to the runway extension, what arrangements were made to ensure the security of Defence facilities co-located at Canberra International Airport and Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) aircraft either on the tarmac or in a hanger.
  - (2) Was the RAAF or the department consulted.

- 2381 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the open day at Canberra International Airport in 2006:
- (1) What approval procedures are necessary to conduct an open day at an international airport.
  - (2) What involvement, if any, did the department or any of its agencies have in the open day.
  - (3) Given that more than 7 500 people attending the open day had access to the runway extension, what arrangements were made to ensure: (a) the security of the airport and aircraft on the tarmac; and (b) the safety of the public attending the open day.
- 2382 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1817 (Senate *Hansard*, 9 August 2006, p. 108) regarding Civil Aviation Safety Regulation (CASR) Part 139:
- (1) In relation to emergency plan testing at Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne, Darwin, Bankstown and Launceston airports: (a) what was the nature of the exercises at these airports; (b) how were the exercises assessed; (c) what were the outcomes; and (d) what agencies were involved in the exercises.
  - (2) In relation to the auditing of aerodrome operating procedures: (a) how often are aerodrome operating procedures audited; and (b) for each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 which airports have been identified as having an overdue aerodrome emergency exercise.
- 2383 **Senator Parry:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the 1987 trial of *Ryker (Faulkner) vs The Commonwealth and Flint*:
- (1) Is the Minister aware of: (a) the documents contained in the Department of Defence's response of 15 May 1996 to Freedom of Information request 61/94/95 which includes: (i) an interview conducted with Brigadier Flint in 1973 by Inspector Jack Davis, (ii) Brigadier Flint's two page response to the Inspector provided on 9 January 1973, (iii) Brigadier Flint's response to a notice to show cause dated 1 March 1973, (iv) Brigadier Flint's complaint to the Defence Force Ombudsman of 26 September 1975, (v) Military Board minute no. 103/1973, (vi) the minute of Brigadier Ewing of 28 March 1973, (vii) the request by Brigadier Flint to retain his appointment to London, (viii) the determinations of the Military Board which allowed Brigadier Flint to resign within 7 days and retain his pension; and (b) a report by Lieutenant Colonel DG Osborne, Chief Instructor, School of Military Engineering, dated 30 April 1968.
  - (2) Did the documents in part 1(a) relate to investigations into the conduct of Brigadier Flint in dealing with the Faulkners and/or Trisal Engineering, and other instances and allegations of misconduct by Brigadier Flint in his capacity as Engineer in Chief of the Australian Army.
  - (3) For each of the above documents: (a) was it discoverable for the 1987 trial; and (b) was it discovered; if not, was this a deliberate decision, a case of negligence or accident.

2384 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Following the announcement by the former Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Defence on 29 February 2004 to establish a National Aviation Museum Trust for the Point Cook Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Facility in Victoria and the forming of a Trust Establishment Group (the Group): (a) how many positions on the Group were created; (b) who was invited to join the Group; (c) what was the basis for their selection; (d) who made the selection for those invited to join the Group; and (e) what was the charter of the Group.
- (2) (a) When did the Group first meet; (b) who attended the meeting; (c) what was the agenda for the meeting; (d) what was the outcome of the meeting; and (e) can copies of the minutes be provided.
- (3) (a) On what dates did the Group meet; (b) who attended each meeting; (c) what was the outcome of each meeting; and (d) can copies of the minutes be provided.
- (4) When was the decision taken to disband the Group.
- (5) Who made the decision to disband the Group.
- (6) On what basis was the decision made to disband the Group.
- (7) (a) When was the decision taken to create the RAAF Heritage Advisory Council; (b) who determined the composition of the Council; (c) what was the basis for selection to the Council; (d) how long is an appointment to the Council; and (e) when will the first term expire.
- (8) (a) How often has the RAAF Heritage Advisory Council met since its inception; (b) where were the meetings held; (c) on what dates were meetings held; and (d) can copies of the minutes of the meeting be provided.
- (9) (a) When was a detailed Heritage Management Plan for Point Cook completed as per (press release dated 3 November 2005); (b) which consultants to the department were responsible for the development of the plan; (c) what were their recommendations; (d) which recommendations were accepted and which rejected; and (e) who received a copy of the plan.
- (10) When did the RAAF Heritage Advisory Council meet with consultants to review and implement the recommendations.
- (11) On Friday 11 August 2006, it was reported in the *Herald Sun* that a number of civilian users and businesses at Point Cook had been given notice to quit their premises by 12 September 2006: (a) which civilian users and businesses were given notice to quit; (b) why was notice to quit given to these groups; (c) what arrangements have been made to assist the civilian users in this process; (d) what advice has been given to groups on the future development of business facilities at Point Cook; and (e) what is the long-term plan for civilian users and businesses of Point Cook RAAF base.
- (12) Will any work be carried out on the Bellman hangars which are considered to be 'no longer safe'; if so: (a) who will finance the maintenance of the hangars; (b) when will work commence on the hangars; and (c) when will the work be completed.
- (13) What decision has been made on the future use of the hangars at the site.
- (14) Will the Point Cook RAAF Base be 'retained in public ownership with the airfield and majority of the land'; if not, what are the current plans for the site.



*Notice given 16 August 2006*

- 2385 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) Can a list be provided of each spot check or support contact provided by the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency to the Central Highlands Aged Care Home since inception, including those that were advised visits and those that were unannounced visits.
  - (2) What was the reason for the visit by the agency from 7 to 9 February 2006.
- 2386 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) Can a list be provided of each spot check or support contact provided by the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency to the Hastings Regional Nursing Home since inception, including those that were advised visits and those that were unannounced visits.
  - (2) What was the reason for the visit by the agency from 24 to 31 October 2005.
- 2387 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) Can a list be provided of each spot check or support contact provided by the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency to the Missionholme Aged Care Facility since inception, including those that were advised visits and those that were unannounced visits.
  - (2) What was the reason for the visit by the agency from 24 to 27 January 2005.
- 2388 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—For each of the years 1996 to date, what are the number and percentages of the following aged care packages that are provided by for-profit and not-for profit organisations: (a) Community Aged Care packages; (b) Extended Aged Care at Home packages; and (c) Extended Aged Care at Home Dementia packages.
- 2389 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services—
- (1) For each of the years 2003 to 2006, what number of recipients of Carer Allowance and Carer Payments who attend secondary school are: (a) under 17 years old; and (b) under 18 years old.
  - (2) For each of the years 2003 to 2006, what number of unsuccessful applicants for Carer Allowance and Carer Payment were: (a) under 17 years; and (b) under 18 years.
- 2390 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services—
- (1) Can details be provided of when a child/adult recipient of a Carer Payment or Carer Allowance is required to reapply for their payment.
  - (2) For children with permanent disabilities, such as Down Syndrome, is the parent required to reapply for their payment; if so, how often.
  - (3) Is a review every 2 years required to establish if circumstances have changed.
  - (4) Is the form used for the review the same as for the initial application.

- 2391 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the education programs to offset drug addiction in Australia and, in particular, Tasmania:
- (1) For each of the past 5 years, what funding has been allocated for such programs.
  - (2) What success has been confirmed.
  - (3) How does Tasmania compare with regional areas of mainland Australia in terms of drug abuse.
  - (4) Is the Government planning to increase funding for such education in Tasmania; if so, can details be provided.
- 2393 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to compliance testing and certification of vehicles imported into Australia: for each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, has the department or any of its agencies sent instructions, circulars, letters or any other form of correspondence to vehicle engineers regarding compliance or other testing of electric quadricycles and other electric vehicles including the Reva; if so: (a) what was the substance of the instructions, circulars, letters or correspondence; (b) who authorised the instructions, circulars, letters or correspondence; and (c) can a copy be provided of the instructions, circulars, letters or correspondence.
- 2394 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to leases at Bankstown Airport granted and managed by the Federal Airports Corporation (FAC):
- (1) Between 1996 and the sale of the airport to Bankstown Airport Limited in December 2003: (a) how many initial rental determinations made by FAC were disputed by lessees; (b) which parties lodged these disputes; and (c) what was the outcome of each dispute.
  - (2) Between 1996 and the sale of the airport to Bankstown Airport Limited in December 2003: (a) how many biennial lease renewal rent determinations made by FAC were disputed by lessees; (b) which parties lodged these disputes; (c) what was the outcome of each dispute; and (d) what was the percentage increase applied to each lessee.
- 2395 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the media release by the former Minister for Transport and Regional Services (Mr Anderson) on 20 February 2004, which states that the implementation of the National Airspace System (NAS) 'involves 50 steps over several years' and that as at that date, 13 steps had been introduced: Can an outline be provided of the details of each of the 50 steps involved in the implementation of NAS, including: (a) the date of introduction of each of the 13 steps to 20 February 2004; (b) the date of the introduction of each of the steps since 20 February 2004; and (c) the timetable for the introduction of all future steps.

*Notice given 17 August 2006*

- 2396 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the proposed BGC (Australia) Pty Ltd brickworks on Perth Airport land, and the 'Conditions of Approval' attachment to the Minister's Media Release of 15 August, 2006:

- (1) Can each of the substances, specified in Column A of the table included in condition 1b, be identified.
- (2) How were the emission limits, specified in Column B of the same table, arrived at.
- (3) What penalties, if any, apply to breaches of these limits.

2397 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the proposed BGC (Australia) Pty Ltd brickworks on Perth Airport land, and the ‘Conditions of Approval’ attached to the Minister’s Media Release of 15 August 2006:

- (1) Who is the lead agency with responsibility for management of this development.
- (2) Can an outline be provided of the formal responsibility of each of the following agencies and corporations with regard to this development: (a) the Department of Transport and Regional Services (DOTARS); (b) the Department of Environment and Heritage (DEH); and (c) the Westralia Airports Corporation Pty Ltd.
- (3) Are the ‘Conditions of Approval’ legally enforceable; if so, by whom.
- (4) Which business unit or branch within DOTARS has the expertise and/or the competence in regulating industrial developments of this kind.
- (5) Are there any other industrial developments of this kind in Australia currently regulated by DOTARS.
- (6) What penalties apply for breaches of condition 1.
- (7) Which agency and business unit or branch within that agency is responsible for monitoring compliance with condition 1.
- (8) Which agency and business unit or branch within that agency is responsible for the enforcement and levying of penalties with regard to condition 1.
- (9) What penalties apply for breaches of condition 4.
- (10) Which agency and business unit or branch within that agency is responsible for monitoring compliance with condition 4.
- (11) Which agency and business unit or branch within that agency is responsible for the enforcement and levying of penalties with regard to condition 4.
- (12) With regard to condition 7, can a description be provided of DEH’s formal role in ‘consultation’ on the Flora and Fauna Survey.
- (13) Does DEH have to formally approve the resulting Flora and Fauna Management Plan.
- (14) Will the Flora and Fauna Management Plan be subject to community consultation and public review; if not, why not.
- (15) Will the quarterly monitoring results identified in condition 1c(iv) be made public; if so, which of the parties identified in condition 1c(iv) will have responsibility for releasing the results to the public.
- (16) Why has DEH been excluded from the approval of the ‘Construction Environment Management Plan’ (CEMP) as identified in condition 8.
- (17) Which business unit or branch within DOTARS has the expertise and/or the competence in assessing the CEMP.
- (18) Why has DEH been excluded from the approval of the ‘Environmental Management System’ (EMS) as identified in condition 10.

- (19) Which business unit or branch within DOTARS has the expertise and/or the competence in assessing the EMS.
- (20) How does condition 11 address the concerns raised by DEH in part 4.3 (Land Use – Buffer) of the Environmental Assessment Report for the Perth Airport brickworks.
- (21) Is it the case that the separation distances between the closest points of the specified plant components and the boundaries of sensitive land uses as identified in Annexure A will still be inconsistent with the Western Australian Planning Commission's Statement of Planning Policy No. 4.1 State Industrial Buffer Policy (1997) and the 2004 draft revision of that policy; if not, why not.
- (22) Will the results of ambient air quality monitoring referred to in condition 12a be made public: if so, on what basis will these data be released; if not, why not.
- (23) Will the results of the cumulative impact modelling referred to in condition 12b be made public: if so, on what basis will this modelling be released; if not, why not.
- (24) Will the results of the assessment of public health environmental risks referred to in condition 12c be made public: if so, on what basis will this assessment be released; if not, why not.
- (25) Why has DEH been excluded from the approval of the 'Operational Environmental Management Plan' (OEMP) as identified in condition 13.
- (26) Which business unit or branch within DOTARS has the expertise and/or the competence in assessing the OEMP.
- (27) Is the Minister aware of any differences between the specifications of the brickworks in the Major Development Plan (MDP) and the brickworks actually proposed to be constructed, as suggested in condition 24; if so, can those differences be identified.

2398 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Can Defence families salary sacrifice child care costs at ABC Corporate Care centres; if so, can a copy be provided of the guidelines on salary sacrificing arrangements made available to Defence personnel, who use ABC Corporate Care centres.
- (2) Can Defence families salary sacrifice child care fees at ABC Learning Centres that are not specifically designated as departmental corporate care centres; if so, can they salary sacrifice at any ABC Learning Centre, or just particular centres; if only at particular centres, can a list be provided of those centres.
- (3) Will the department allow families to salary sacrifice child care fees with any child care provider other than ABC Corporate Care; if so (a) which providers; (b) in which federal electorates do the relevant services operate; and (c) do the services include family day care and outside school hours care.
- (4) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, how many departmental personnel salary sacrificed child care.
- (5) Does the department pay fringe benefits tax in relation to child care; if so: (a) how much was paid; and (b) what was the average tax payable per employee in relation to salary sacrificed child care.

- (6) Can a copy be provided of any rulings made by the Australian Tax Office specifying circumstances in which the department is exempt from paying fringe benefits tax for child care.

**Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2399-2416)—Has the Minister met with representatives of the Wilderness Society in the past 5 years; if so, on what dates.

- 2399 Minister representing the Prime Minister  
2400 Minister representing the Minister for Trade  
2401 Minister representing the Treasurer  
2402 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs  
2404 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services  
2405 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing  
2406 Minister representing the Attorney-General  
2407 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts  
2408 Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs  
2409 Minister representing the Minister for Defence  
2410 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources  
2411 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations  
2412 Minister for the Environment and Heritage  
2413 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
2414 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs  
2415 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training  
2416 Minister for the Arts and Sport

*Notice given 18 August 2006*

- 2417 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1819 (Senate *Hansard*, 9 August 2006, p. 110): Can details be provided of the prosecution initiated by the Civil Aviation Authority pursuant to Regulation 215, as contained in the Civil Aviation Regulations 1988, including: (a) the operator; (b) the nature of the alleged breach; and (c) the outcome.

*Notice given 21 August 2006*

- 2418 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—With reference to the 2006 Australian Census form:
- (1) Why was no option given to people in same-sex relationships.
  - (2) Why was 'defacto partner' an option to answer question 5 but was not given as an option to answer question 6.
  - (3) Why was 'relationships of significance', as now described in several Australian jurisdictions, not offered as a Census option.
  - (4) What changes to questions about personal relationships were made to the Census form between 2002 and 2006; if no changes were made, why not.

**Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2419-2420)—With reference to the International Media Visits program managed by the International Media Centre in the department:

- (1) When was the program established.
- (2) Since its inception, by financial year, what has been the cost of the program.
- (3) What services does the program provide to 'senior international journalists and commentators'.
- (4) (a) How are the journalists and commentators selected; and (b) what role, if any, does the Minister play in the selection process.
- (5) By financial year, which journalists and commentators have made working visits under the program.

2419 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

2420 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

2421 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—With reference to senior aged care facilities in Australia:

- (1) From January 2006 to date, by month, what is the number of support contacts (unannounced) and review audits (unannounced).
- (2) Will the findings from support contacts (unannounced) and review audits (unannounced) be made publicly available; if so, when and where will these findings be available.

2422 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Are iatrogenic deaths required to be reported by law.
- (2) Is it illegal for a medical practitioner to falsely certify an iatrogenic death as some other legally acceptable cause of death.
- (3) Do Australian governments grant anonymity to iatrogenic death by allowing the true cause of death to go unrecorded.

2423 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the land known as Hill 60 at Port Kembla, New South Wales:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of any agreements, formal or informal, written or unwritten, implied or direct, made with aboriginal people regarding their removal (at the time of the Second World War) from and possible return to, this land.
- (2) Will the Minister honour the agreements made with aboriginal people, at the time of their removal from this land, in relation to their promised return to the land at the end of the Second World War.
- (3) Will the Minister agree to the deferment of the intended sale of the departmentally owned land, until the issues of ownership, significance and as yet unfulfilled agreements are discussed and resolved with aboriginal elders.
- (4) Will the Minister meet with aboriginal elders and members of the Port Kembla community to discuss and resolve issues of ownership, significance and unfulfilled agreements, relating to this land.

*Notice given 22 August 2006*

2424 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer to question on notice W1 relating to the Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Committee Budget Estimates 2006-07:

- (1) (a) Why was the third investigation into the death of Trooper Lawrence conducted by the same person who conducted the original investigation; and (b) what protocols exist, if any, on the need for subsequent inquiries in such matters to be conducted by a different and independent person who is more capable of making an objective assessment.
- (2) (a) Does the Minister indorse this approach to subsequent inquiries; (b) can the Minister advise whether such a process is one whereby objectivity and independence are compromised; and (c) do the findings of the inquiry contradict those made by the Northern Territory coroner.
- (3) Has the Northern Territory coroner been informed of the outcome of the third inquiry; if so, what was the coroner's response given that his findings were directly contradicted.

2425 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer to question on notice W25 relating to the Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade Committee Budget estimates 2006-07:

- (1) (a) On what grounds was the public servant dismissed on 10 March 2006; (b) who made that recommendation; and (c) who conducted the inquiry which led to that outcome.
- (2) Did this person take any action in the Industrial Relations Commission for wrongful dismissal and as a result, was a settlement reached by way of payment to that person; if so: (a) what was the reason for that payment; (b) was the payment made in recognition that either the process or merit was found wanting; (c) on whose advice and approval was the payment made; and (d) from what part of the departmental budget specifically, or under what scheme, was the payment made.
- (3) Does the fact that such a settlement and payment was made indicate the original investigation and recommendation was flawed; if so, what corrective action has been taken against those who so advised.

2426 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the review of training establishments conducted by Mr A Podger:

- (1) Was the review due to be completed by 30 June 2006; if so, why has it not yet been completed and published.
- (2) What was the cost of the review.

*Notice given 23 August 2006*

2427 **Senator Conroy:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of consumer complaints about poor quality digital television broadcasts in Tuggeranong, Australian Capital Territory.
- (2) What is the cause of these reception problems.
- (3) Why do the reception problems only occur in broadcasts by Prime Television and Win Television and not the other free to air broadcasters.

- (4) What steps is the Government taking to improve the quality of digital television in areas where there are reception problems.
- (5) Is the quality of digital television reception being monitored by the department or the Australian Communications Media Authority.

*Notice given 24 August 2006*

- 2428 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) How many forestry workers have entered Australia on visas in relation to working holiday makers.
  - (2) Which states were/are they working in.
- 2429 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—For each month since the inception of Australian Workplace Agreements (AWAs), can details be provided of the number of AWAs certified in each Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification by state and territory.
- 2430 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the Collective Agreement between Protective Service officers and Australian Protective Services:
- (1) Has the current agreement expired; if so, when did it expire; if not, when does it expire.
  - (2) Have either or both parties forwarded a log of claims to the other in respect of a new agreement; if so, when did this occur; if not, why not.
  - (3) Have either or both of the parties responded to the log of claims submitted by the other; if so, when did this occur; if not: (a) which of the parties has not responded to the log of claims; and (b) why not.
  - (4) Has there been any protected industrial action; if so, can details of the date and length be provided.
  - (5) What is the current status of the negotiations.
  - (6) Has a draft agreement been reached.
  - (7) Can a copy be provided of any bulletins, memorandums or any other correspondence issued to Protective Service officers in respect of the negotiations for the new agreement.
- 2431 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—With reference to the report *Review of Illegal Workers in Australia: Improving immigration compliance in the workplace* published by the department:
- (1) Has the Government issued a response to this review; if not: (a) why not; and (b) does the Government intend to issue a response.
  - (2) For each recommendation, can an indication be given of: (a) the current status of the implementation of the recommendation; (b) the progress of the implementation of the recommendation; (c) any monies expended in the implementation of the recommendation; (d) whether any punitive action has been taken against an employer as a result of that recommendation; if so, can details be provided; and (e) whether any legislative change is necessary to implement the recommendation, for instance, the Migration Amendment (Employer Sanctions) Bill 2006; if so, what is the status of the legislation.
  - (3) Have any persons been removed from Australia as a direct result of the implementation of any of these recommendations; if so, how many have been removed.



- 2432 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—Is the department currently drafting any legislation to give effect to any of the recommendations of the report *Review of Illegal Workers in Australia: Improving immigration compliance in the workplace* published by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs; if so, which recommendations are being used as a basis to draft legislation, and can details be provided.
- 2433 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the report *Review of Illegal Workers in Australia: Improving immigration compliance in the workplace* published by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs: Has the department cancelled the passport of any individual arising out of any of the recommendations of that report; if so, how many have been cancelled.
- 2434 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Subsequent to the amalgamation of the Australian Protective Service with the Australian Federal Police, by financial year, how many private contracts for the supply of security or guarding services have been entered into for the provision of Protective Service officers.
  - (2) What is the total price of these contracts.
  - (3) What happens to the money paid to the Protective Service officers for the supply of these services, for example, is it recouped by the Protective Service officers or is it transferred to consolidated revenue, etc.
- 2435 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the eight unlawful entrants who landed on Ashmore Reef on 13 August 2006:
- (1) Were these entrants first detected by the Australian Customs Service (ACS): (a) if so: (i) on what date, (ii) what was the longitude and latitude of the place at which they were first detected, and (iii) how were they detected; and (b) if not, which agency advised ACS of the detection and on what date.
  - (2) Were these entrants monitored by ACS prior to their arrival on Ashmore Reef: (a) if so: (i) how long were they monitored, and (ii) why were they not intercepted prior to their abandonment on Ashmore Reef; and (b) if not, why not.
  - (3) Were these entrants detected by the Jindalee Operational Radar Network; if so, on what date were they detected.
  - (4) What actions were taken in response to the detections and on what date; if no action was taken in response to the detection, why not.
  - (5) Did the ACS at any time attempt to intercept the vessel carrying the entrants: (a) if so: (i) when, and (ii) why was this not successful; and (b) if not, why not.
  - (6) Did ACS receive any indication of an intention to land potential entrants in Australia; if so: when and from whom.
  - (7) Was ACS aware of whether or not these entrants came directly from their original country to Australia; if so, what was the original country of the entrants; if not, which countries did the entrants pass through in order to arrive in Australia.

- (8) Were these entrants taken into detention by ACS: (a) if so: (i) when, (ii) what health checks were completed on these persons when they were taken into detention, and (iii) did any of the entrants require medical attention and did they receive it; and (b) if not, why not.

2436 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the communiqué, *Safer kids, Safer Communities*, dated 26 June 2006:

- (1) (a) What is the status of the review of bail conditions (to remove ‘cultural factors’ from mandatory consideration in sentencing) in relation to Commonwealth criminal offences; (b) is this issue currently being progressed by the Attorney-General’s Department; (c) are there plans for any form of consultations regarding the changes; (d) have any amendments to Commonwealth bail conditions been drafted; and (e) is there an expected timeframe for the amendments to bail conditions to be put before Parliament; if so, can details be provided; if not, why not.
- (2) (a) What is the status of the proposed amendments to section 16A of the *Crimes Act 1914* to delete reference to any mandatory consideration of cultural background for all offences against Commonwealth law; and (b) is there an expected timeframe for those amendments to be put before Parliament; if so, can details be provided; if not, why not.
- (3) Were the above proposals put to the Council of Australian Governments meeting: (a) if so: (i) what was the response, and (ii) was any further work on the proposals agreed to and, what was it; and (b) if not, why not.

2437 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to departmental tender 06/1466, Provision of a Chartered Vessel with Full Crew to Conduct Patrols in Australia’s Northern Waters:

- (1) (a) Did the proposal originate from the Australian Customs Service (ACS); if not, from where did the proposal originate; (b) when was the proposal first raised; and (c) what was the impetus for the proposal.
- (2) Were there any discussions with industry on any aspect of the proposal before the issue of the tender document; if so: (a) what industry bodies were consulted; (b) what were the discussions about; (c) did the discussions with industry include the timeline of the tender, and the timeline for the procurement of the vessel; and (d) did industry raise any concerns about any aspect of the tender and, what were they.
- (3) If there were no discussions with industry; why not.
- (4) Has ACS had any discussion with industry since the tender document was released; if so: (a) what were the discussions about; and (b) did industry raise any concerns about any aspect of the tender and what were they.
- (5) How was the timeline developed.
- (6) How many responses to the tender have been received.
- (7) Has the deadline for the tender been altered in any way; if so, why and can details be provided of the alterations.
- (8) Is it the case that detainees will be held aboard the vessel for up to 30 days; if not, why is it a key requirement of the tender that the vessel must have the capacity to hold persons for up to 30 days.
- (9) Will there be separate, or additional holding areas for detainees who are judged to be a high risk of harm to themselves or others; if so, do these areas have any special arrangements for suicide, or other self-harm watch; if not, why not.

- (10) If the need arises, will the vessel be used to hold asylum seekers.
- (11) If the need arises, does the vessel have the capacity to hold asylum seekers.
- (12) Will asylum seekers detained onboard the vessel be held in the same holding areas as illegal foreign fishers; if so, will there be any arrangements in place to ensure their security.
- (13) Will the vessel have separate holding areas for women and children; if not:
  - (a) will women and children detained onboard the vessel be placed in the general population holding areas; and
  - (b) what steps will be taken to ensure their welfare.
- (14)
  - (a) What level of medical care will detainees have access to onboard the vessel; and
  - (b) how many medical officers will be onboard the vessel and what will be their qualifications.
- (15) Will the civilian crew be required to perform duties that:
  - (a) include guarding of detainees;
  - (b) include assistance in boarding operations; and
  - (c) involve the use of firearms, explosives or pyrotechnics (please specify).
- (16) Will the civilian crew receive any training for:
  - (a) the use of force, firearms, explosives or pyrotechnics;
  - (b) safety issues involving the use of force, firearms, explosives or pyrotechnics, by either themselves or others, onboard the vessel;
  - (c) any other safety issues (please specify);
  - (d) the detention of prisoners;
  - (e) the care of prisoners;
  - (f) the transfer of prisoners; and
  - (g) any other training specific to the operation of this vessel (please specify).
- (17)
  - (a) What level of English language proficiency will be required of members of the crew;
  - (b) how will this level of proficiency be ascertained; and
  - (c) can details be provided of the exact standard.
- (18)
  - (a) What level of medical care will the civilian crew and Government officers have access to onboard the vessel;
  - (b) how many medical officers will be onboard the vessel; and
  - (c) what qualifications will they have and will these include training in mental health.
- (19) Will the crew of the vessel be required to undergo security checks:
  - (a) if so:
    - (i) specifically what security checks will the crew be required to undergo,
    - (ii) which agency or department will carry out these checks, and
    - (iii) will the security checks be completed by the time the vessel is intended to be operational in January 2007; if not, will the crew be allowed to operate on the vessel without these checks; and
  - (b) if not, why not.
- (20) Will all non-crew members, that is, Government officers, be required to undergo security checks:
  - (a) if so:
    - (i) specifically what security checks will the non-crew be required to undergo,
    - (ii) which agency or department will carry out these checks, and
    - (iii) will the security checks be completed by the time the vessel is intended to be operational in January 2007; if not, will the non-crew be allowed to operate on the vessel without these checks; and
  - (b) if not:
    - (i) why not, and
    - (ii) which non-crew members of the vessel will be exempt from the requirement of security checks.

- (21) Will the crew of the vessel be the subject of a legally enforceable 'gag' order or similar prohibition on discussing their activities in a non-operational role:
  - (a) if so: (i) what is the form of the 'gag' order or other prohibition, and (ii) what is the extent of the operation of the 'gag' order or other prohibition; and
  - (b) if not, why not.
- (22) Will there be an officer onboard the vessel to oversee the conditions of the detainees:
  - (a) if so, what guarantees of independence will the officer have; and
  - (b) if not: (i) why not, (ii) how often will the conditions onboard the vessel be subject to oversight, and (iii) what other mechanisms for overseeing the conditions onboard the vessel will be available.
- (23) What access to legal services will the detainees be afforded while they are onboard the vessel.
- (24) Will there be a legal officer stationed onboard the vessel to provide advice to detainees.
- (25) Will the detainees be subject to questioning by ACS or other officers while detained onboard the vessel.
- (26) Why are ships flagged with non-Australian flags being considered for the tender.
- (27) Will ACS take into account whether a vessel has a flag of convenience in deciding the tender; if so, what weight will be given to this consideration; if not, why not.
- (28) Has ACS received advice whether the domestic laws of a non-Australian flagged ship would apply to the detention of prisoners; if so, can the advice be provided; if not, why not.

2438 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to vessels engaged to transfer detainees to mainland Australia or other ports from the Australian Customs Service detention vessel which is the subject of departmental tender 06/1466, *Provision of a Chartered Vessel with Full Crew to Conduct Patrols in Australia's Northern Waters*:

- (1) (a) What procedures are in place to effect the safe transfer of detainees from the detention vessel to the transfer vessels; and (b) do these procedures cover all naval and weather conditions; if not, what conditions are not covered.
- (2) How will these vessels be engaged.
- (3) How many vessels will be engaged for this purpose.
- (4) In relation to personnel onboard these vessels, how many will be: (a) government officials; and (b) civilian crew.
- (5) Will the civilian crew receive any training in: (a) the use of force, firearms, explosives or pyrotechnics; (b) safety issues involving the use of force, firearms, explosives or pyrotechnics, by either themselves or others, onboard the vessel; (c) any other safety issues (please specify); (d) the detention of prisoners; (e) the transfer of prisoners; and (f) any other training specific to the operation of these vessels (please specify).
- (6) What quarantine facilities will be available on these vessels.

- (7) What distance (in terms of travel time from port) will these vessels be required to transport detainees.
- (8) How long will these vessels be required to hold detainees.
- (9) Will these vessels contain separate detention facilities for women and children; if not: (a) will women and children detained onboard the vessel be placed in the general population holding areas; and (b) what steps will be taken to ensure their welfare.
- (10) What security arrangements will be made for these vessels.
- (11) What is the projected annual cost of these vessels.
- (12) (a) What level of medical care will detainees have access to onboard these vessels; and (b) how many medical officers will be onboard the vessel and what qualifications will they have.
- (13) Will the crew of the vessel be required to undergo security checks:
  - (a) if so: (i) what security checks will crew be required to undergo, (ii) what agency or department will conduct these checks, and (iii) will the security checks be completed by the time the vessel is intended to be operational in January 2007; if not, will the crew be allowed to operate on the vessel without these checks; and
  - (b) if not, why not.
- (14) Will all non-crew members, that is government officers, be required to undergo security checks:
  - (a) if so: (i) specifically what security checks will the non-crew members be required to undergo, (ii) what agency or department will undertake these checks, and (iii) will the security checks be completed by the time the vessel is intended to be operational in January 2007; if not, will the non-crew members be allowed to operate on the vessel without these checks; and
  - (b) if not: (i) why not, and (ii) which non-crew members of the vessel will be exempt from the requirement of security checks.

*Notice given 25 August 2006*

2439 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Can a list be provided of the top 30 performing Job Network providers in achieving Indigenous employment outcomes for the 2005-06 financial year.
- (2) For each of those Job Network providers can the following details be provided: (a) the name; (b) the physical location; (c) the number of initial employment outcomes; (d) the number of employment outcomes at 13 weeks; (e) the number of employment outcomes at 26 weeks; and (f) is the provider an Indigenous Employment Centre.

2440 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) (a) How many consultancies have been commissioned since the document *The Way Forward* was released in August 2004; and (b) in each case what is: (i) the name of the consultancy, and (ii) the cost of the consultancy.
- (2) Which of these consultants' reports have been finalised and released.
- (3) For the reports that have not yet been released, what is: (a) the contracted completion date; (b) the anticipated completion date; and (c) the release date.

- (4) Given the high level of interest among the community in relation to these consultancies: (a) what process will be used to provide feedback; and (b) when can the community care field expect to see action in the various areas on which consultancies have been carried out.
- (5) Was the decision to introduce the Extended Aged Care at Home Dementia packages based on any consultancy report; if so, can details be provided.
- (6) What are the dates, numbers and names of approved residential care providers that have refused entry to staff of the Aged Care and Accreditation Agency (ACAA) making routine audit visits and unannounced visits.
- (7) What action does the department intend taking to uphold the authority of the ACAA and the *Aged Care Act 1997* against aged care providers who refuse entry to staff of the ACAA.

2441 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to panels of experts used by the Office of Indigenous Policy Co-ordination and the answer to question no. 92 taken on notice during the 2006-07 Budget estimates hearings of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee, which stated that funding was not allocated to each panel but is instead allocated to specific projects, which may be undertaken by panel members: For each project to date, what is: (a) the name and purpose of the project; (b) the location of the community(s) that will participate; (c) the name of the expert(s) that has undertaken the project and how that expert was selected; (d) the start and end date; (e) the amount of funding that has been allocated; and (f) the amount of the above funding allocation that is to be spent on the expert's fees and costs.

2442 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the answer to question no. 62 taken on notice during the 2006-07 Budget estimates hearings of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee, which stated 'Multi-Agency Common Funding Process – a number of Australian Government agencies have been working through a common funding submission process to put in place a whole of government approach to funding facilities and services for Indigenous communities for 2006-07':

- (1) Can more information be provided on the 'whole of government approach to funding facilities and services for Indigenous communities'.
- (2) Is this process designed to reduce the amount of funding streams that flow between government agencies and community organisations from multiple streams to a single stream.
- (3) Will all Federal Government agencies be participating in this process; if not, please list the agencies that will not participate.
- (4) Will the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC) administer this common funding process; if not, which agency will administer it.
- (5) Does this multi-agency process include funding from state and territory agencies.
- (6) Would this process result in a common funding pool for community organisations to access.
- (7) Will OIPC administer this common funding pool; if not, which agency will administer it.

- (8) On what date will this common funding process begin.
- (9) Will this common funding process apply to all communities.

*Notice given 28 August 2006*

2443 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—With reference to the development of the Access to Premises Standard under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*:

- (1) What is the process for consultation with state and territory governments concerning the inclusion of the standard in the Building Code of Australia (BCA).
- (2) Given that the majority of signatories to the Inter-Government Agreement on the operation of the Australian Building Codes Board (ABCB) are planning ministers, will consultation occur through the Local Government and Planning Ministers' Council (LGPMC); if so, why was the issue not on the agenda for the LGPMC meeting on 4 August 2006.
- (3) Given that the terms of reference for the Building Access Policy Committee (BAPC) indicate that ABCB will publish BAPC recommendations for changes to the BCA, when are these recommendations going to be published.
- (4) Given that BAPC terms of reference state that ABCB will provide reasons to BAPC and afford BAPC an opportunity to comment if ABCB decides that a recommendation of BAPC will not be accepted; has BAPC been given any opportunity to comment on the ABCB advice to ministers; if not, when will BAPC be given an opportunity to comment on proposed changes to the BCA and what process will be followed.
- (5) Is it intended that amendments to the BCA, that take into account the standard, will come into operation on the same day as the standard takes effect under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*.
- (6) Has the Minister requested that the ABCB or the department undertake any further work on the standard since 29 March 2006; if so, did this work include any further analysis of the costs and benefits of the proposed standard.
- (7) Does the fact that \$200 000 has been set aside by the ABCB in its budget for the 2006-07 financial year, in case further work is required on the standard, indicate that ministers have foreshadowed the potential for significant further work.

2444 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the development of the Access to Premises Standard under the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*:

- (1) What is the proposed process for consultation with state and territory Attorneys General concerning the standard.
- (2) Why was no progress report on this issue placed on the agenda for the most recent Standing Committee of Attorneys General.
- (3) Will the Commonwealth also directly consult state and territory ministers with responsibility for matters relating to building, since it proposed to incorporate the standard in the Building Code of Australia.
- (4) When is it expected that the proposed standard will be made public.
- (5) Approximately when does the Minister anticipate the tabling of the proposed standard.

- 2445 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—Will the consultancy report on accessible housing, jointly commissioned by the Australian Building Codes Board and the Victorian Building Commission, be publicly released; if so, when.
- 2446 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that agency fees and commissions are not included in the list of items that can be deducted from wages under regulations for 457 visas.
  - (2) Does the department undertake any monitoring of whether 457 visa holders are being forced to pay agency fees or commissions.
  - (3) What penalties apply if organisations or individuals are found to have deducted agency fees or commissions from the wages of 457 visa holders in breach of the regulations.
  - (4) How many individuals or organisations have been penalised for deducting agency fees or commissions from the wages of 457 visa holders in each of the past 3 financial years.
- 2447 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—With reference to the 457 visa program, can a table be provided that displays the full breakdown of all occupations filled by principal applicant 457 visa holders who entered Australia in each of the financial years, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06.
- 2448 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) What was the total number of 457 visa holders in Australia as at 30 June 2006.
  - (2) How many of these people were principal applicant 457 visa holders.
  - (3) Can a list be provided of all occupations filled by principal applicant 457 visa holders who were in Australia as at 30 June 2006.
- 2449 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—With reference to the investigation into reported misuse of 457 visas by T&R Pastoral that was referred to in Senate question time on 16 August 2006:
- (1) On what date did the department commence its investigation.
  - (2) On what date was the Minister's office first made aware that an investigation was underway.
  - (3) Was the investigation actually undertaken by the department or was it performed by someone external to the department; if it was undertaken by someone outside the department, who was that person and/or organisation.
  - (4) On what date was the investigation completed.
  - (5) On what date was the Minister's office first informed that the investigation had been completed.
  - (6) When was the department first advised of the investigation's findings.
  - (7) When was the Minister's office first advised of the investigation's findings.
  - (8) What were the findings of the investigation.
  - (9) What penalties/sanctions, if any, have been imposed against T&R Pastoral.
  - (10) Can a copy of the investigation report be provided; if not, why not.



2450 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the list, 'Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs: Arrivals by Visa Category 457 by ASCO occupation, financial year 2004-05', referred to in Senate question time on 17 August 2006, includes separate categories for inadequately described, self-employed, retired, pensioner (disability), pensioner (other), home duties, non-working child, student, unemployed and not stated.
- (2) Are any of the people who appear in the above separate categories, also counted as part of the other occupational categories in this list; if so, why.
- (3) Are any principal applicant 457 visa holders counted in the above separate categories.
- (4) What is the meaning of the 'not stated' category on this list.
- (5) Does the 'not stated' category include any principal applicant 457 visa holders.

2451 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Can a list be provided of all employers in Western Australia sponsoring workers on 457 visas in Western Australia as at 30 June 2006.
- (2) Can a list be provided of the number of principal applicants on 457 visas sponsored by each of the above employers in Western Australia as at 30 June 2006.
- (3) Can a list be provided of the number of other 457 Visa holders sponsored by each of the above employers in Western Australia as at 30 June 2006.
- (4) What is the location of each of the above employers, including the federal electorate they are located in.

2452 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) What is the total number of workers on 457 visas employed by businesses located in the federal electorate of Forrest as at 30 June 2006.
- (2) What is the total number of workers on 457 visas, who were the principal applicant, employed by businesses located in the federal electorate of Forrest as at 30 June 2006.
- (3) For all principal applicant 457 visa holders, employed by businesses located in the federal electorate of Forrest as at 30 June 2006, what is the number occupying each relevant ASCO classification.
- (4) For all principal applicant 457 visa holders, employed by businesses located in the federal electorate of Forrest as at 30 June 2006, is the period they have been in Australia under that visa: (a) less than 1 month; (b) 1-2 months; (c) 2-6 months; (d) 6-12 months; (e) 12-18 months; (f) 18-24 months; (g) 24-36 months; and (h) 36 months or more.
- (5) Has the department received any complaints of non-compliance by the employers of workers on 457 visas in the federal electorate of Forrest in the 2005-06 financial year; if so, what was the nature of those complaints and what action was taken to investigate those complaints.

2453 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Did the Minister sign off on new migration regulations to provide for minimum salary levels and occupations for the business long stay visa on 15 June 2006.

- (2) Is it the case that the words ‘calculated on a 38 hour week’ were included in subsections (2), (3), (4) and (5) of these regulations.
- (3) Is it the case that the previous regulations, that were issued by the Minister on 24 April 2006 and revoked by the regulations issued on 15 June 2006 did not include the words ‘calculated on a 38 hour week’.
- (4) What will be the effect of inserting the words ‘calculated on a 38 hour week’ into the regulations, for example, does it mean that 457 visa holders on the \$41 850 minimum salary level need only work a 38 hour week to earn that amount and if they work more than 38 hours must receive additional salary.
- (5) Does the insertion of those words mean that 457 visa holders are effectively paid a minimum hourly salary of \$21.18.
- (6) Does the insertion of those words mean that 457 visa holders are paid an additional \$21.18 per hour for every hour worked over 38 hours.
- (7) Is it the Minister’s intention that 457 visa holders who work 45 hours a week receive overtime equivalent to \$148.26 in addition to the \$804.84 that they are entitled to for working a 38 hour week; if so, what actions have been taken to inform all employers and 457 visa holders of this change.

2454 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—With reference to the ‘migration occupations in demand’ lists prepared by the department:

- (1) Can a copy be provided for each occasion on which the list was issued during the financial years, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06.
- (2) What estimates of shortages are used by the department in generating these lists.
- (3) What is the minimum numerical shortage for an occupation to be included on the list.
- (4) What is the department’s numerical estimate of the shortage for each occupation included on these lists.

2455 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—Can a copy be provided of the list that the Minister was referring to in an answer to a question without notice from Senator Bernadi in Senate question time on 17 August 2006.

2456 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Minister’s statement, in Senate question time on 9 August 2006, that ‘The Commonwealth Government has spent in excess of \$1 million on orange-bellied parrot recovery programs’:

- (1) Can a detailed breakdown be provided of how the \$1 million in funding was spent, indicating: (a) the year or years in which it was spent; (b) the amount spent in each year; and (c) the programs funded.
- (2) How much funding has been allocated for the programs in the 2006-07 financial year.

2457 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to referrals lodged in the 2004-05 financial year for assessment and approval under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*:

- (1) (a) Of these referrals, how many did the department recommend that the action was not controlled under the Act; and (b) did the Minister overturn any of these recommendations; if so, how many.
- (2) (a) Of these referrals, how many did the department recommend that the action was controlled under the Act; and (b) did the Minister overturn any of these recommendations; if so, how many.
- (3) (a) Of the referrals that were determined to be controlled actions, how many did the department recommend be approved without conditions under the Act; and (b) did the Minister overturn any of these recommendations; if so, how many.
- (4) (a) Of the referrals that were determined to be controlled actions, how many did the department recommend be approved with conditions under the Act; and (b) did the Minister overturn any of these recommendations; if so, how many.
- (5) (a) Of the referrals that were determined to be controlled actions, how many did the department recommend not be approved under the Act; and (b) did the Minister overturn any of these recommendations; if so, how many.

2458 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) (a) How many consultants were involved in the evaluation of the Commonwealth Disability Strategy (CDS); and (b) what are the names of those consultants.
- (2) What was the cost of the consultations carried out for stages 1 and 2.
- (3) Has the department received the evaluation from Erebus International; if so, when will the evaluation be released.
- (4) How many Commonwealth organisations have/have not addressed the needs of people with disabilities in employment or community participation in accordance with the CDS.
- (5) If any government department/agency has not addressed the needs of people with disabilities in employment or community participation in accordance with the CDS what action will be taken to rectify this.

*Notice given 31 August 2006*

2459 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Was the department notified of an incident that took place in Carnavon, Western Australia, in July 2006, where an Indigenous person was lost at sea during a job placement as a deckhand on a local fishing trawler; if so, on what date was the department notified.
- (2) Was the department aware that the local Job Network provider required this person to attend the placement as a deckhand despite the person having no previous experience or skill in this particular work at sea and despite the person lacking competency as a swimmer.

- (3) Is the department aware that this incident is currently under review by the Worksafe section of the Western Australian Department of Consumer and Employment Protection.
- (4) Will the department be making any submissions or participating in any way in this review.
- (5) Is the department aware that another Indigenous person has been reported lost at sea, after being placed as a deckhand by the same Job Network provider, in August 2006.
- (6) What action has the department taken, or plans to take, in relation to these incidents.
- (7) Under Job Network, are providers required to ensure that job placements do not represent a risk to the person being placed.

2460 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Why was the tender RFP 05/06-17 Design, Manufacture and Installation of ADS-B Avionics issued by Airservices Australia terminated.
- (2) Has Airservices Australia developed (or are developing) any alternative arrangements to the cancelled tender; if so, can details be provided.
- (3) Was industry consulted on the termination of this tender:
  - (a) if so: (i) what was the form of this consultation, (ii) what was the outcome of this consultation, and (iii) what was communicated by industry during the consultation; and
  - (b) if not, why not.
- (4) Was industry notified that the tender was to be terminated prior to the termination:
  - (a) if so: (i) when, and (ii) was industry critical of the decision to terminate the tender and can the details be provided;
  - (b) if not, why not.
- (5) Can a copy be provided of the notification issued to industry indicating that the tender was terminated.
- (6) How many applications were received for the tender.
- (7) Will the tender be re-opened at a later date:
  - (a) if so: (i) when, and (ii) why was it necessary to close the tender if it was to be re-opened at a later point; and
  - (b) if not, why not.
- (8) Did any organisations, companies or persons receive grants from federal, state or local governments to assist in the development of the tender application; if so: (a) was the Minister aware of this; (b) what was the total value of grants made to assist in the development of tender applications; and (c) to which organisation, company or person were these grants made.

*Notice given 1 September 2006*

2461 **Senator Watson:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that in a meeting of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services, on 13 June 2006, the Deputy Commissioner of the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC), Mr Jeremy Cooper, informed senators and members

that ASIC had written to 306 participants in its surveillance activity known as ‘shadow-shopping’ of licensed financial advisers.

- (2) Did Mr Cooper advise the committee that the purpose of the letter was to ‘invite each and every one of them to make a formal complaint’, presumably about any aspect of the financial advice they had received and with which they were not satisfied.
- (3) Did ASIC inform the Minister of the outcome of the letter writing exercise.
- (4) How many replies has ASIC received to the letter.

*Notice given 4 September 2006*

2462 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—For each of the years 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 to date:

- (1) What is the average waiting time for an Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) assessment, by each state and territory and nationally.
- (2) What are the numbers of people, on a national level, who were recommended as requiring a Community Aged Care Package (CACP), low care and high care.
- (3) What are the numbers of people on a national level who were recommended as requiring both low care and high care (at the same assessment).
- (4) What are the numbers of people, on a national level, who were recommended as requiring both a CACP and low care (at the same assessment).
- (5) What is the length of time from the ACAT assessment to the time when people are able to access the care they were assessed as requiring by CACP, low care and high care.

2463 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For each year since 2000 and for all airlines conducting regular passenger transport operations in Australia: (a) what is the number of immediately reportable matters by type; (b) what is the number of routine reportable matters by type; and (c) what action has been taken by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau or any other body as a result of these reports.

2464 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) With reference to Australia’s overseas health budget, what percentage of the funds are allocated to: (a) general sexual and reproductive health programs such as family planning; (b) provision of condoms; (c) provision of contraceptives other than condoms; (d) treatment of sexually-transmitted diseases including HIV; (e) general maternal health services; (f) treatment of sexual and reproductive disabilities such as obstetric fistula; (g) post-abortion care; and (h) medical education and training.
- (2) With reference to Australia’s contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria: (a) what percentage of the contribution goes towards general reproductive health programs; (b) what percentage of the contribution goes towards tuberculosis and malaria programs; (c) what percentage of the contribution goes towards specific HIV/AIDS programs; (d) what percentage of the contribution is counted as expenditure on reproductive health; and (e) does expenditure reporting for reproductive

health include the expenditure on tuberculosis and malaria programs; if so, why.

2465 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Rural Doctors Association has been quoted as saying ‘What you’ll find is there are many, many nurses who are trained to provide antenatal care who may not be current members of the Australian College of Midwives and so I don’t think we should see this as limits to people who are currently registered as a midwife. There are many women who have provided antenatal care in the past’.
- (2) If nurses are not trained as midwives, what other qualifications can they obtain that would equip them to provide antenatal care.
- (3) How many nurses without midwifery qualifications are registered as midwives in Australia.
- (4) How many nurses without midwifery qualifications are currently providing antenatal care in Australia.
- (5) How many nurses not registered as midwives are currently providing antenatal care.
- (6) Does the Minister agree that qualification as a midwife, registration as a midwife and membership of Australian College of Midwives are not the same thing.
- (7) Will the new Medicare item rely on the medical practitioner’s ability to delegate to ‘appropriately qualified and trained’ staff; if so, how will the Government ensure that medical practitioners are aware of the difference between qualifications in midwifery, registration as a midwife and membership of the ACM.

2466 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Point Cook Flying Club and various other businesses are being evicted from the southern tarmac at RAAF Williams, Point Cook.
- (2) Why are the businesses being evicted.
- (3) Has the Government reneged on its 2004 decision not to sell RAAF Williams, Point Cook; if so, why.
- (4) What consultation has taken place on this eviction; if there has been no consultation, is this standard practice.
- (5) What options have been investigated with relocate these businesses.
- (6) Have any arrangements been put in place to assist these businesses and the other clubs and community-based organisations that use their premises; if so, what are they.

2467 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the article in the *Sunday Mail* of 27 August 2006, ‘Uproar over aid for anti-abortion service’:

- (1) Is it the case, as reported, that the Minister or his spokesperson claimed that: (a) \$15 million in federal funds went to the states to pay for pregnancy help groups and that much of that money went to pro-choice organisations; and (b) can details be provided of the organisations that were recipients of the \$15 million.

- (2) If the comment referred to funding which goes to family planning organisations through the Public Health Outcomes Funding Agreements, is the Minister aware that family planning organisations do not receive any dedicated Federal Government funding for the pregnancy counselling they provide.
- (3) Can details be provided of the federally-funded activities provided by family planning organisations.

2468 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) How often does the Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) meet each year and are there regularly scheduled meeting dates and times; if so, what are they.
- (2) For each year since its establishment, how many submissions has MSAC received relating to new medical technologies and procedures receiving reimbursement under the Medicare Benefits Scheme.
- (3) For each year since its establishment, what percentage of applications for new medical technologies and procedures have been approved by MSAC.
- (4) How does this compare on average with the percentage of new medical technologies and procedures approved by the body that the MSAC replaced.
- (5) How many existing medical technologies and procedures has MSAC reviewed or provided advice to the Minister on and of these, how many have included recommendations to withdraw or reduce public funding for the technology or procedure.
- (6) What role do professional organisations, such as the Australian Medical Association or a relevant medical college, play in the assessment process.
- (7) At what stage are these professional organisations consulted.
- (8) Did the department or the Minister ever receive advice from a professional medical organisation that a MSAC recommendation would result in adverse outcomes for patients; if so: (a) what recommendation(s) did this relate to; and (b) what actions were taken in response to this advice.
- (9) Can a copy of the final MSAC review report be provided; if not, why not.
- (10) Can a copy of the submissions to the review be provided; if not, why not.

2469 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—For each of the years 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 to date, by aged care planning region, what is the number of applicants and the number of bed licences applied for, in the Aged Care Approvals Rounds.

*Notice given 5 September 2006*

2470 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Minister's announcement of 29 August 2006 that the Government is to invest \$3.2 million to protect the orange-bellied parrot:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the \$3.2 million is, as the Minister claims, 'the largest Australian Government investment in a threatened species'.

- (2) For each of the financial years 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 to date, can a list be provided of all other grants of the above kind, including: (a) the name of the species; (b) the date the grant was announced; (c) the purpose of the grant; and (d) the amount of the grant.
- (3) Can a list be provided, in tabular form, comprising the name of the species, the date of any grant(s), the purpose of any grant(s) and the amount of any grant(s), of all specific grants to: (a) the 16 animal species listed as critically endangered under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; (b) the 129 animal species listed as endangered under the Act; and (c) the 192 species listed as vulnerable under the Act.

2471 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What representations has the Minister made to the Chinese Government regarding the detention by Shanghai police of 57 year old Falun Gong practitioner Zeng Aihua, the mother of Australian resident Doris Chen (Muhan Chen).
- (2) What charges have been laid against Zeng Aihua.
- (3) What sentence is Zeng Aihua facing if she is convicted of these charges.
- (4) Does Zeng Aihua have a defence lawyer that is permitted to vigorously defend her against these charges.
- (5) What is the state of health of Zeng Aihua.
- (6) What other information did the Chinese authorities provide on Zeng Aihua.
- (7) What is the Government's position on the persecution and detention of Falun Gong practitioners by Chinese authorities.
- (8) Will the Government raise concerns over persecution of Falun Gong practitioners at its next human rights dialogue with China.

2472 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, can details be provided on the Community Housing and Infrastructure Program (CHIP), including: (a) each house that has been demolished; (b) each house that has been built; (c) each house that has been upgraded; (d) each house that has been purchased; (e) how much was paid for each house built or purchased; (f) under which element of CHIP the building, upgrade or purchase was undertaken; (g) the legal owner of each house and the organisation that manages it; and (h) the list of communities currently identified as priorities for receiving assistance under CHIP.

2473 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) What is the status of the Government's evaluation of Australian participation in the next stage of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) project.
- (2) Did the Government, for example, set up a joint departmental committee; if not, why not.
- (3) With reference to the Government's involvement in an international workshop, 'Towards an Australian involvement in ITER', scheduled for October 11 to 13 2006, in Sydney: (a) who will comprise the Government delegation that will attend the workshop; and (b) what are the names of the delegates.



2474 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to a letter from Senator Coonan to the Minister on 22 June 2004 which stated ‘that the superannuation arrangements within your portfolio be reviewed with a view to ensuring consistency with the Government’s policy to recognise interdependent relationships for death benefits’:

- (1) What steps has the Minister taken to comply with this request.
- (2) When will the Minister introduce amendments to the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS) and Public Sector Superannuation Scheme funds to allow reversionary death benefits to be available to partners in interdependent relationships, in accordance with the above letter.
- (3) What were the costs to the CSS of the inclusion of reversionary benefits for those in interdependent relationships, which the department has completed.
- (4) What further matters, if any, need to be resolved before these amendments can be introduced into the Senate.

2475 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Did the Minister on 22 April 2006 explain the death of Private Kovco as being the result of his pistol discharging while he was ‘maintaining’ it; if so, was that advice provided by the Chief of the Defence Force (CDF), another member of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) in Australia or by a member of his personal staff.
- (2) Did the Minister or any member of his personal or office staff speak to, or otherwise communicate with, ADF personnel in Baghdad in the days following Private Kovco’s death concerning the circumstances of the death; if so: (a) who conducted the conversation(s); (b) when; and (c) with whom.
- (3) In the days following the Minister’s statement about the cause of Private Kovco’s death, on how many occasions did the Minister speak to the CDF, other senior ADF personnel or Defence officials concerning the death, and was any alternative advice conveyed to the Minister about the cause of death.
- (4) Did the Minister personally speak to the CDF and to the Chief of Army, and at any time did either of them advise the Minister not to venture opinions as to the cause of death.
- (5) Did the Prime Minister or anyone on the Prime Minister’s staff also speak directly to the Minister advising him against expressing any further opinions as to the cause of death.
- (6) Why did the Minister alter his view of the cause of death on 27 April 2006, and did he say that it appeared that Private Kovco had not been handling his weapon after all, or that he had knocked it causing it to fire; if so, who provided the Minister with that advice.
- (7) Did the Minister cancel a planned trip to the United States of America (US) leaving on or about 27 April 2006; if so: (a) who was the Minister intending to meet and for what purpose; and (b) did the Minister consider that to be a very important commitment.
- (8) Given the importance of that commitment, did the Minister or his staff inquire of the ADF or the department about the timing of the repatriation of Private Kovco’s body, and the means of transport; if so: (a) was a request made for the body to be repatriated by the quickest means possible; and (b) who made that request.

- (9) Did the Minister cancel his trip to the US so he could be present in Australia for both the repatriation of the body and the funeral.
- (10) At any stage was the Minister or anyone in his office advised of the protocols and procedures applying to the investigation of ADF deaths overseas, including estimated time needed to properly conduct investigations by both military and civilian authorities; if so, who provided the advice and when.
- (11) To what extent was the demand for the immediate repatriation of Private Kovco's body to suit the Minister's timetable the cause for all the breaches of investigation protocols, as referred to in detailed evidence given to the current inquiry.

*Notice given 6 September 2006*

- \*2476 **Senator Marshall:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—With reference to the trade skills training visa (subclass 471) applications:
- (1) What trade qualifications are being sought by each applicant.
  - (2) Have any of the applications been approved; if so, which ones; if not, what is the timetable for approval or refusal.
  - (3) Have any of the applicants been approved as sponsoring organisations; if so, which ones; if not, what is the timetable for approval or refusal.
- \*2477 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to school funding programs:
- (1) Can the department provide a list of all the Commonwealth funding programs (e.g. Parent School Partnership Initiative, Kids Excel, Investing in Our Schools etc.) that schools can access and which require the school to make an application in order to receive it.
  - (2) For each program: (a) what is the duration of each funding grant (i.e. annual, biannual or more); (b) is funding provided once only or is it renewable; if renewable, is a new application needed to renew funding; (c) how long is the application form (number of pages or number of questions); and (d) what is the average time period between the application form being lodged and the funding being issued.
- \*2478 **Senator Hurley:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the recent Middle East conflict and the department's hotline established to assist the evacuation of Lebanese Australians:
- (1) On what dates did the hotline: (a) commence operating; and (b) cease operating.
  - (2) How many calls did the hotline receive in this time.
  - (3) How many phone operators were employed during this time.
  - (4) How many Arabic speaking operators were employed during this time.
  - (5) Was an Arabic speaking operator on duty at all times.
  - (6) What was the maximum and minimum number of Arabic speaking operators working during any one shift while the hotline was operational.
  - (7) Was the Lebanese community consulted regarding the establishment of the hotline; if so, who was consulted.
  - (8) What was the cost of establishing and running the hotline.

- \*2479 **Senator Hurley:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the recent Middle East conflict and the evacuation of Lebanese Australians:
- (1) What methods were used by the department to confirm that those evacuating were Australian citizens.
  - (2) What methods were used by the department to confirm that those evacuating were Australian passport holders.
  - (3) What security checks were carried out by the department for all evacuees.
  - (4) How many Australian citizens were evacuated in total.
  - (5) How many Arabic speaking officials did the department employ for the evacuation process and what were their duties.
- \*2480 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) What medical and dental checks are made to Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel before their dispatch to Iraq and to Afghanistan.
  - (2) What medical and dental services are provided to ADF personnel on deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan.
  - (3) Are these services provided in-country by ADF medical and dental officers and staff.
  - (4) Are ADF personnel in Iraq and in Afghanistan, who require urgent or routine dental assistance, moved to Germany for treatment.

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## ORDERS OF THE SENATE

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## Committees

### 1 Allocation of departments

Departments and agencies are allocated to the legislative and general purpose standing committees as follows:

#### *Community Affairs*

Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs  
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 Affairs

*Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport*

Transport and Regional Services

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

*(Agreed to 9 February 2006.)***2 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.)***3 Migration—Joint Standing Committee—Authorisation to meet**

That the Joint Standing Committee on Migration be authorised to hold private meetings otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) during the sittings of the Senate.

*(Agreed to 29 March 2006.)***4 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.)***5 Senators' Interests—Standing Committee—Resolutions relating to senators' interests**

That the Senators' Interests Resolutions 1(1) and 1(2)(b) are amended to read as follows:

**1 Registration of Senators' Interests**

(1) Within:

- (a) 28 days after the first meeting of the Senate after 1 July first occurring after a general election; and

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

each senator shall provide to the Registrar of Senators' Interests a statement of:

- (a) the senator's registrable interests; and
- (b) the registrable interests of which the senator is aware:
  - (i) of the senator's spouse or partner, and
  - (ii) of any children who are wholly or mainly dependent on the senator for support;

in accordance with this resolution and in a form determined by the Committee of Senators' Interests from time to time, and shall also notify any alteration of those interests to the Registrar within **35** days of that alteration occurring.

(2) Any senator who:

- (a) knowingly fails to provide a statement of registrable interests to the Registrar of Senators' Interests by the due date;
- (b) knowingly fails to notify any alteration of those interests to the Registrar of Senators' Interests within **35** days of the change occurring; or
- (c) knowingly provides false or misleading information to the Registrar of Senators' Interests;

shall be guilty of a serious contempt of the Senate and shall be dealt with by the Senate accordingly, but the question whether any senator has committed such a serious contempt shall first be referred to the Privileges Committee for inquiry and report and may not be considered by any other committee.

*(Agreed to 10 August 2006.)*

## **6 Unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings**

That the following order operate as a sessional order:

- (1) The Senate confirms that any disclosure of evidence or documents submitted to a committee, of documents prepared by a committee, or of deliberations of a committee, without the approval of the committee or of the Senate, may be treated by the Senate as a contempt.
- (2) The Senate reaffirms its resolution of 20 June 1996, relating to procedures to be followed by committees in cases of unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings.
- (3) The Senate provides the following guidelines to be observed by committees in applying that resolution, and declares that the Senate will observe the guidelines in determining whether to refer a matter to the Committee of Privileges:
  - 1. Unless there are particular circumstances involving actual or potential substantial interference with the work of a committee or of the Senate, the following kinds of unauthorised disclosure should not be raised as matters of privilege:

- (a) disclosure of a committee report in the time between the substantial conclusion of the committee's deliberations on the report and its presentation to the Senate;
  - (b) disclosure of other documents prepared by a committee and not published by the committee, where the committee would have published them, or could appropriately have published them, in any event, or where they contain only research or publicly-available material, or where their disclosure is otherwise inconsequential;
  - (c) disclosure of documents and evidence submitted to a committee and not published by the committee, where the committee would have published them, or could appropriately have published them, in any event;
  - (d) disclosure of private deliberations of a committee where the freedom of the committee to deliberate is unlikely to be significantly affected.
2. The following kinds of unauthorised disclosure are those for which the contempt jurisdiction of the Senate should primarily be reserved, and which should therefore be raised as matters of privilege:
- (a) disclosure of documents or evidence submitted to a committee where the committee has deliberately decided to treat the documents or evidence as in camera material, for the protection of witnesses or others, or because disclosure would otherwise be harmful to the public interest;
  - (b) disclosure of documents prepared by a committee where that involves disclosure of material of the kind specified in paragraph (a);
  - (c) disclosure of private deliberations of a committee where that involves disclosure of that kind of material, or significantly impedes the committee's freedom to deliberate.
3. An unauthorised disclosure not falling into the categories in guidelines 1 and 2 should not be raised as a matter of privilege unless it involves actual or potential substantial interference with the work of a committee or of the Senate.
4. When considering any unauthorised disclosure of material in the possession of a committee, the committee should consider whether there was any substantive reason for not publishing that material.
- (4) Before deciding to raise a matter of privilege involving possible unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings, any committee may seek the guidance of the Committee of Privileges as to whether a matter should be pursued. If the committee decides that such a matter should be raised, it must consult with the Committee of Privileges before taking the matter further.
- (5) When applying this resolution a committee shall have regard to the matters set out in paragraphs 3.43 to 3.59 of the 122nd Report of the Committee of Privileges, June 2005.

*(Agreed to 6 October 2005 upon adoption of a recommendation of the Procedure Committee in its first report of 2005.)*

## Estimates

### 7 2005-06 Budget 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.)*

### 8 2006-07 Budget estimates—Hearings

- (1) That the 2006-07 Budget estimates hearings by legislation committees be scheduled as follows:

Monday, 22 May to Thursday, 25 May (*Group A*)

Monday, 29 May to Thursday, 1 June (*Group B*).

- (2) 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.

*(Agreed to 11 May 2006.)*

### 9 2006-07 Budget estimates—Answers to questions

The dates set by legislation committees for answering questions taken on notice during the 2006-07 Budget estimates are as follows:

**Group A:**

Environment, Communications,  
Information Technology and the Arts      Friday, 28 July 2006

Finance and Public Administration      Friday, 7 July 2006

Legal and Constitutional      Friday, 14 July 2006

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport      Thursday, 13 July 2006

**Group B:**

Community Affairs      Friday, 28 July 2006

Economics      Friday, 28 July 2006

Employment, Workplace Relations and  
Education      Friday, 28 July 2006

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade      Thursday, 27 July 2006.

Standing order 74(5) takes effect 30 days after these dates.

## Meeting of Senate

### 10 Meeting of Senate

That the days of meeting of the Senate for 2006 be as follows:

**Autumn sittings:**

Tuesday, 7 February to Thursday, 9 February  
Monday, 27 February to Thursday, 2 March

**Autumn sittings (2):**

Monday, 27 March to Thursday, 30 March

**Budget sittings:**

Tuesday, 9 May to Thursday, 11 May

**Winter sittings:**

Tuesday, 13 June to Thursday, 15 June  
Monday, 19 June to Thursday, 22 June

**Spring sittings:**

Tuesday, 8 August to Thursday, 10 August  
Monday, 14 August to Thursday, 17 August  
Monday, 4 September to Thursday, 7 September  
Monday, 11 September to Thursday, 14 September

**Spring sittings (2):**

Monday, 9 October to Thursday, 12 October  
Monday, 16 October to Thursday, 19 October  
Monday, 6 November to Thursday, 9 November  
Monday, 27 November to Thursday, 30 November  
Monday, 4 December to Thursday, 7 December.

*(Agreed to 8 December 2005.)*

### 11 Adjournment debate on Tuesdays—Temporary order

That the following order operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2006 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 7 February 2006.)*

### 12 Divisions on Thursday—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order until 30 June 2007:

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 10 August 2006.)*



## Orders for production of documents

### 13 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.)*

### 14 Foreign Affairs—Gallipoli—Road works—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Defence, no later than Thursday, 12 May 2005, all briefings to the Minister and the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, on the matter of road works at Gallipoli over the past 4 years, and all internal minutes and file notes, including records of meetings between the Office of Australian War Graves and officials of the Government of Turkey on the same subject.

*(Motion of Senator Bishop agreed to 11 May 2005.)*

### 15 Family and Community Services—Housing Assistance agreements—Order for production of documents

(1) That the Senate:

- (a) notes that the Housing Assistance (Form of Agreement) Determination 2003 in Schedule 1, subsections 4(33) to 4(36) requires states to report on expenditure and progress towards their respective bilateral agreements to the Commonwealth within 6 months after the end of each grant year;
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table, no later than 3.30 pm on 12 May 2005, all reports provided by the states and territories to the Commonwealth under those provisions for the financial year 2003-04; and
- (c) orders that all reports provided by the states and territories to the Commonwealth under those provisions be tabled in the Senate within 5 sittings days, or one calendar month, after receipt (whichever is the later), and that the Senate be notified in writing by the Minister for Family and Community Services within 5 sitting days of the expiration of the 6 months if reports have not been provided within the required 6 months.

(2) That this order is of continuing effect.

*(Motion of Senator Bartlett agreed to 12 May 2005.)*

### 16 Environment—Tasmania—Proposed pulp mill—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, no later than 3.30 pm on 16 June 2005, all correspondence from January 2002 to the present between the Minister, his staff and department and Gunns Pty Ltd relating to the proposed pulp mill in Tasmania.

*(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) agreed to 12 May 2005.)*

**17 Environment—Tasmania—Proposed pulp mill—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Prime Minister, no later than 3.30 pm on 22 June 2005, all correspondence from January 2002 to the present between the Prime Minister, his staff and department and Gunns Pty Ltd relating to the proposed pulp mill in Tasmania.

*(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) agreed to 14 June 2005.)*

**18 Law and Justice—Airport security—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Justice and Customs, no later than 5 pm on Monday, 20 June 2005, copies of all reports prepared by the Australian Customs Service since 1 January 2004 which refer to issues of airport security, including the report completed in September 2004, referred to on page 1 of *The Australian* on 31 May 2005 ('Airport staff "smuggling drugs"'), other than material specifically relating to current ongoing investigations.

*(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison) agreed to 20 June 2005.)*

**19 Taxation—Deductible gift recipient status—Environment groups—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, no later than 3.30 pm on Wednesday, 22 June 2005, all correspondence between the Minister and the Assistant Treasurer, the Australian Taxation Office, or the Institute of Public Affairs in 2004 and 2005 relating to the issue of deductible gift recipient status of environment groups.

*(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) agreed to 21 June 2005.)*

**Orders for production of documents still current from previous parliaments**

<b>Date of order</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Addressed to</b>
25.10.1995	Administrative decision-making—Effect of international instruments	Minister representing the Attorney-General
13.05.1998	Waterfront reform	Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Development (Senator Alston); Minister representing the Minister for Workplace Relations and Small Business (Senator Alston); and Minister representing the Prime Minister (Senator Hill)
07.03.2000	Environment—Queensland—Tree clearing	Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Hill)
03.04.2000	Aged care—Riverside Nursing Home	Minister representing the Minister for Aged Care

<b>Date of order</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Addressed to</b>
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)
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	
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

<b>Date of order</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Addressed to</b>
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	
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)

<b>Date of order</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Addressed to</b>
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
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

### **Restructuring of committee system**

Standing orders, procedural orders and resolutions of the Senate of continuing effect were amended with effect from 11 September 2006, and a temporary order adopted, as follows:

#### **20 Standing orders**

##### **25 Legislative and general purpose**

- (1) At the commencement of each Parliament, legislative and general purpose standing committees shall be appointed, as follows:

Community Affairs  
Economics  
Employment, Workplace Relations and Education  
Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts  
Finance and Public Administration  
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade  
Legal and Constitutional Affairs  
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport.

- (2) The committees shall inquire into and report upon:
  - (a) matters referred to them by the Senate, including estimates of expenditure in accordance with standing order 26, bills or draft bills, annual reports in accordance with paragraph (20); and
  - (b) the performance of departments and agencies allocated to them.
- (3) References concerning departments and agencies shall be allocated to the committees in accordance with a resolution of the Senate allocating departments and agencies to the committees.
- (4) The committees shall inquire into and report upon matters referred to their predecessor committees appointed under this standing order and not disposed of by those committees, and in considering those matters may consider the evidence and records of those committees relating to those matters.
- (5) The committees shall consist of 8 senators, 4 nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 3 nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and one nominated by minority groups and independent senators.
- (6)
  - (a) The committees to which minority groups and independent senators make nominations shall be determined by agreement between the minority groups and independent senators, and, in the absence of agreement duly notified to the President, any question of the representation on a committee shall be determined by the Senate.
  - (b) The allocation of places on the committees amongst minority groups and independent senators shall be as nearly as practicable proportional to the numbers of those minority groups and independent senators in the Senate.
- (7)
  - (a) Senators may be appointed to the committees as substitutes for members of the committees in respect of particular matters before the committees.
  - (b) On the nominations of the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and minority groups and independent senators, participating members may be appointed to the committees.
  - (c) Participating members may participate in hearings of evidence and deliberations of the committees, and have all the rights of members of committees, but may not vote on any questions before the committees.
  - (d) A participating member shall be taken to be a member of a committee for the purpose of forming a quorum of the committee if a majority of members of the committee is not present.
- (8) A committee may appoint sub-committees consisting of 3 or more of its members, and refer to any such sub-committee any of the matters which the committee is empowered to consider.
- (9)
  - (a) Each committee shall elect as its chair a member nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate.

- (b) Each of 6 committees shall elect as its deputy chair a member nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, and each of 2 committees shall elect as its deputy chair a member of a minority group in the Senate.
  - (c) The deputy chairs to which members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and members of minority groups are elected shall be determined by agreement between the opposition and minority groups, and, in the absence of agreement duly notified to the President, any question of the allocation of deputy chairs shall be determined by the Senate.
  - (d) Each committee shall elect one of its members as its deputy chair and the member so elected shall act as the chair of the committee when the member elected as chair is absent from a meeting of the committee or the position of chair is temporarily vacant.
  - (e) When votes on a question before a committee are equally divided, the chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, shall have a casting vote.
  - (f) The chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, may appoint another member of a committee to act as chair during the temporary absence of both the chair and deputy chair at a meeting of the committee.
- (10) The chairs and deputy chairs of the committees, together with the chairs and deputy chairs of any select committees appointed by the Senate, shall constitute the Chairs' Committee, which may meet with the Deputy President in the chair, and may consider and report to the Senate on any matter relating to the operations of the committees.
- (11) Except as otherwise provided by the standing orders, the reference of a matter to a committee shall be on motion after notice, and such notice of motion may be given:
- (a) in the usual manner when notices are given; or
  - (b) at any other time by a senator:
    - (i) stating its terms to the Senate, when no other business is before the chair, or
    - (ii) delivering a copy to the Clerk, who shall report it to the Senate at the first opportunity;
- and shall be placed on the Notice Paper for the next sitting day as business of the Senate and, as such, shall take precedence of government and general business set down for that day.
- (12) Matters referred to the committees should relate to subjects which can be dealt with expeditiously.
- (13) A committee shall take care not to inquire into any matters which are being examined by a select committee of the Senate appointed to inquire into such matters and any question arising in this connection may be referred to the Senate for determination.
- (14) A committee and any sub-committee shall have power to send for persons and documents, to move from place to place, and to meet and transact business in public or private session and notwithstanding any prorogation of the Parliament or dissolution of the House of Representatives.

- (15) All documents received by a committee during an inquiry shall remain in the custody of the Senate after the completion of that inquiry.
- (16) A committee shall be empowered to print from day to day any of its documents and evidence. A daily Hansard shall be published of public proceedings of a committee.
- (17) A committee shall be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources and shall be empowered to appoint persons with specialist knowledge for the purposes of the committee, with the approval of the President.
- (18) A committee may report from time to time its proceedings and evidence taken and any recommendations, and shall make regular reports on the progress of its proceedings.
- (19) A committee may authorise the broadcasting of its public hearings, under such rules as the Senate provides.
- (20) Annual reports of departments and agencies shall stand referred to the committees in accordance with an allocation of departments and agencies in a resolution of the Senate. Each committee shall:
  - (a) Examine each annual report referred to it and report to the Senate whether the report is apparently satisfactory.
  - (b) Consider in more detail, and report to the Senate on, each annual report which is not apparently satisfactory, and on the other annual reports which it selects for more detailed consideration.
  - (c) Investigate and report to the Senate on any lateness in the presentation of annual reports.
  - (d) In considering an annual report, take into account any relevant remarks about the report made in debate in the Senate.
  - (e) If the committee so determines, consider annual reports of departments and budget-related agencies in conjunction with examination of estimates.
  - (f) Report on annual reports tabled by 31 October each year by the tenth sitting day of the following year, and on annual reports tabled by 30 April each year by the tenth sitting day after 30 June of that year.
  - (g) Draw to the attention of the Senate any significant matters relating to the operations and performance of the bodies furnishing the annual reports.
  - (h) Report to the Senate each year whether there are any bodies which do not present annual reports to the Senate and which should present such reports.

## **26 Estimates**

- (1) Annual and additional estimates, contained in the documents presenting the particulars of proposed expenditure and additional expenditure, shall be referred to the legislative and general purpose standing committees for examination and report.
- (2) The committees shall hear evidence on the estimates in public session.
- (3) Not more than 4 committees shall hear evidence on the estimates simultaneously.



- (4) When a committee hears evidence on the estimates, the chair shall, without motion, call on items of expenditure in the order decided upon and declare the proposed expenditure open for examination.
- (5) The committees may ask for explanations from ministers in the Senate, or officers, relating to the items of proposed expenditure.
- (6) The report of a committee on the estimates may propose the further consideration of any items.
- (7) A Hansard report of the committees' hearings of evidence on the estimates shall be circulated, in a manner similar to the daily Senate Hansards, as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
- (8) Participating membership of committees shall not have effect in respect of proceedings on estimates, other than the formation of a quorum, but any senator may attend a meeting of a committee in relation to estimates, question witnesses and participate in the deliberations of the committee at such a meeting and add a reservation to a report relating to estimates.
- (9) After a committee has considered proposed expenditure referred to it by the Senate and agreed to its report to the Senate, the committee shall fix:
  - (a) a day for the submission to the committee of any written answers or additional information relating to the proposed expenditure; and
  - (b) in respect of the annual estimates only, a day for the commencement of supplementary meetings of the committee to consider matters relating to the proposed expenditure.

The day fixed under subparagraph (9)(b) shall be not less than 10 days after the day fixed under subparagraph (9)(a).

- (10) A senator may lodge with a committee, not less than 3 working days before the day fixed under subparagraph (9)(b), notice of matters, relating to the written answers or additional information, or otherwise relating to the proposed expenditure referred to the committee, which the senator wishes to raise at the supplementary meetings of the committee. A notice shall be forwarded by the committee to the minister in the Senate responsible for the matters to which the notice relates.
- (11) A committee may determine at any time the number and duration of any supplementary meetings.
- (12) At a supplementary meeting, questions may be put to ministers or officers relating to matters of which notice has been given, and the proceedings of the committee shall be confined to those matters, but the committee shall otherwise conduct the proceedings in accordance with this standing order.
- (13) A committee may report to the Senate any recommendation for further action by the Senate arising from the committee's supplementary meetings.
- (14) Written questions relating to the estimates may be supplied to the secretaries of the committees, who shall distribute them to the relevant departments and to members of the committees. Answers shall be supplied to, and circulated by, the secretaries.

**74 Questions on notice**

- (1) Notice of a question shall be given by a senator signing and delivering it to the Clerk, fairly written, printed, or typed. Notice may be given by one senator on behalf of another.
- (2) The Clerk shall place notices of questions on the Notice Paper in the order in which they are received.
- (3) The reply to a question on notice shall be given by delivering it to the Clerk, a copy shall be supplied to the senator who asked the question, the publication of the reply is then authorised, and the question and reply shall be printed in Hansard.
- (4) A senator who has received a copy of a reply pursuant to this standing order may, by leave, immediately after questions without notice, ask the question and have the reply read in the Senate.
- (5) If a minister does not answer a question on notice asked by a senator within 30 days of the asking of that question, or if a question taken on notice during a hearing of a legislative and general purpose standing committee considering estimates remains unanswered 30 days after the day set for answering the question, and a minister does not, within that period, provide to the senator who asked the question an explanation satisfactory to that senator of why an answer has not yet been provided:
  - (a) at the conclusion of question time on any day after that period, the senator may ask the relevant minister for such an explanation; and
  - (b) the senator may, at the conclusion of the explanation, move without notice – That the Senate take note of the explanation; or
  - (c) in the event that the minister does not provide an explanation, the senator may, without notice, move a motion with regard to the minister's failure to provide either an answer or an explanation.

**115 Committal**

- (1) After the second reading, a bill shall be considered in a committee of the whole immediately, unless:
  - (a) the bill is referred to a standing or select committee; or
  - (b) no senator has:
    - (i) circulated in the Senate a proposed amendment or request for amendment of the bill, or
    - (ii) required in debate or by notification to the chair that the bill be considered in committee of the whole.
- (2) After a bill has been read a second time a motion may be moved:
  - (a) without notice for referring the bill to a committee;
  - (b) on notice for an instruction to the committee of the whole.
- (3) The further consideration of a bill referred to a standing or select committee shall be an order of the day for:
  - (a) where a day is fixed for the report of the committee, that day; or
  - (b) where no day is fixed for the report of the committee, the sitting day next occurring after the day on which the committee reports on the bill.

- (4)
  - (a) Where proposed expenditure has been considered and reported on by a legislative and general purpose standing committee, an appropriation bill authorising that proposed expenditure shall not be considered in committee of the whole, unless, prior to the further consideration of the bill subsequent to the second reading, a senator has circulated in the Senate a proposed amendment or request for amendment of the bill.
  - (b) Where an appropriation bill is considered in committee of the whole in accordance with this paragraph:
    - (i) the only questions put by the chair shall be:
      - (A) that any amendment or request for amendment moved to the bill be agreed to, and
      - (B) that the bill be reported with any amendment or request for amendment agreed to by the committee; and
    - (ii) debate shall be confined to the purpose of any amendment or request for amendment moved to the bill.
  - (c) At any stage of the consideration of an appropriation bill, other than in committee of the whole, an amendment, other than an amendment or a request for an amendment to the bill, arising from a recommendation of a legislative and general purpose standing committee, may be moved to the question before the chair.
- (5) When the order of the day relating to a bill which is the subject of a committee report pursuant to standing order 24A is called on, the following procedures shall apply:
  - (a) A motion may be moved without notice that the report of the committee be adopted (if the committee has recommended amendments to the bill, this motion shall have the effect of amending the bill accordingly, but may not be moved if other proposed amendments to the bill have been circulated in the Senate by a senator).
  - (b) If a motion under subparagraph (a) is moved, following the disposal of that motion a motion may be moved by a minister, or, in respect of a bill introduced into either House of the Parliament other than by a minister, by the senator in charge of the bill, that consideration of the bill be an order of the day for a future day, or that the bill not be further proceeded with.
  - (c) If no motion under subparagraph (a) or (b) is agreed to, a motion may be moved without notice that the bill again be referred to the committee for reconsideration, provided that such motion:
    - (i) indicates the matters which the committee is to reconsider, and
    - (ii) fixes the day for the further report of the committee, and if such motion is agreed to the bill shall stand referred to the committee, and the further consideration of the bill shall be an order of the day for the day fixed for the further report of the committee.

- (d) If no motion under subparagraph (b) or (c) is agreed to, consideration of the bill shall be resumed at the stage at which it was referred to the committee, provided that, if the consideration of the bill in committee of the whole has been concluded and the committee has recommended amendments to the bill or requests for amendments, the bill shall again be considered in committee of the whole.
- (6) On a motion on notice and a motion under this standing order to refer a bill to a committee, and on an amendment for that purpose to a question in respect of any stage in the passage of a bill after its second reading, a senator shall not speak for more than 5 minutes, and at the expiration of 30 minutes, if the debate be not sooner concluded, the President shall put the question on the motion and any amendments before the chair, but if a senator wishes to move a further amendment at that time, that amendment may be moved and shall be determined without debate.

## 21 Procedural orders of continuing effect

### Committees

#### 6 Reference of Tax Expenditures Statement to committees considering estimates

The annual Tax Expenditures Statement stands referred to legislative and general purpose standing committees for consideration by the committees during their examination of the estimates of government expenditure under standing order 26.

### Parliamentary secretaries

#### 19 Powers

- (1) Any senator appointed a parliamentary secretary under the *Ministers of State Act 1952* may exercise the powers and perform the functions conferred upon ministers by the procedures of the Senate, but may not be asked or answer questions which may be put to ministers under standing order 72(1) or represent a Senate minister in relation to that minister's responsibilities before a legislative and general purpose standing committee considering estimates.
- (2) This order is of continuing effect.

## 22 Broadcasting of Senate and Committee Proceedings

#### 3 Broadcasting of proceedings of committees when considering estimates

The public proceedings of legislative and general purpose standing committees when considering estimates may be relayed within Parliament House and broadcast by radio and television stations in accordance with the conditions contained in paragraphs (4) and (5) of the order of the Senate relating to the broadcasting of committee proceedings, and in accordance with any further conditions, not inconsistent with the conditions contained in those paragraphs, determined by a committee in relation to the proceedings of that committee.

**23 Substitute members of committees—Temporary order**

The following operate as a temporary order with effect from 11 September 2006 till the first sitting day in 2007:

If a member of a committee appointed under standing order 25 is unable to attend a meeting of the committee, that member may in writing to the chair of the committee appoint a participating member to act as a substitute member of the committee at that meeting. If the member is incapacitated or unavailable, a letter to the chair of a committee appointing a participating member to act as a substitute member of the committee may be signed on behalf of the member by the leader of the party or group on whose nomination the member was appointed to the committee.

*(Agreed to 14 August 2006 upon adoption of recommendations of the Procedure Committee in its first report of 2006.)*

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## 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)**  
**Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)**  
**Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on the President presenting a report of the Auditor-General on any day or notifying the Senate that such a report had been presented under standing order 166)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion to take note of the report and any senator speaking to it for not more than 10 minutes, with the total time for the debate not to exceed 60 minutes.

### **Conduct of business**

- 2 Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Minchin):** 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)**  
**Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)**  
**Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on the Senate on any day concluding its consideration of any item of business and prior to the Senate proceeding to the consideration of another item of business)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the conduct of the business of the Senate or to provide for the consideration of any 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)**  
**Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)**  
**Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on the Senate proceeding to the consideration of government documents)—That so much of the standing orders relating to the consideration of government documents be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the order in which the documents are called on by the President.

### **Limitation of time**

- Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**  
**Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)**  
**Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)**  
**Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)**  
**Senator Nettle**

- 5 To move (contingent on a minister moving a motion that a bill be considered an urgent bill)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent debate taking place on the motion.
- 6 To move (contingent on a minister moving a motion to specify time to be allotted to the consideration of a bill, or any stage of a bill)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent the motion being debated without limitation of time and each senator speaking for the time allotted by standing orders.
- 7 To move (contingent on the chair declaring that the time allotted for the consideration of a bill, or any stage of a bill, has expired)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent further consideration of the bill, or the stage of the bill, without limitation of time or for a specified period.

### **Matters of urgency**

8 **Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Minchin):** 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)**  
**Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)**  
**Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on the moving of a motion to debate a matter of urgency under standing order 75)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving an amendment to the motion.

### **Order of business**

10 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**  
**Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)**  
**Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)**  
**Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)**  
**Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on the President proceeding to the placing of business on any day)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the order of business on the *Notice Paper*.

### **Questions without notice**

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)**  
**Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)**  
**Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on a minister at question time on any day asking that further questions be placed on notice)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion that, at question time on any day, questions may be put to ministers until 28 questions, including supplementary questions, have been asked and answered.

**Statements**

- 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)**  
**Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)**  
**Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on any senator being refused leave to make a statement to the Senate)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent that senator making that statement.

**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)**  
**Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)**  
**Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)**  
**Senator Nettle**

To move (contingent on any senator being refused leave to table a document in the Senate)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving that the document be tabled.

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## **TEMPORARY CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES**

Senators Barnett, Brandis, Chapman, Crossin, Ferguson, Forshaw, Hutchins, Kirk, Lightfoot, Marshall, Moore, Murray, Troeth and Watson

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## **CATEGORIES OF COMMITTEES**

**Standing Committees**

Appropriations and Staffing

House

Library

Privileges

Procedure

Publications

Selection of Bills

Senators' Interests

**Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committees**

Regulations and Ordinances

Scrutiny of Bills



**Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees**

Community Affairs Legislation

Community Affairs References

Economics Legislation

Economics References

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References

Finance and Public Administration Legislation

Finance and Public Administration References

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References

Legal and Constitutional Legislation

Legal and Constitutional References

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References

**Select Committees**

Administration of Indigenous Affairs

Lindeberg Grievance

Mental Health

Scrafton Evidence

**Joint Statutory Committees**

Australian Crime Commission

Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings

Corporations and Financial Services

Intelligence and Security

Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Account

Public Accounts and Audit

Public Works

**Joint Committees**

Electoral Matters

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

Migration

National Capital and External Territories

Parliamentary Library

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*)

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### **Appropriations and Staffing—Standing Committee**

#### *Members*

The President (*Chairman*), the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Senators Bartlett, Boswell, Faulkner, Ferris, Heffernan and Ray

#### *Reports presented*

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

42nd report—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2005-06 (*tabled 11 May 2005*)

43rd report—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2006-07 (*tabled 11 May 2006*)

Annual report for 2005-06 (*tabled 16 August 2006*)

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### **Australian Crime Commission—Joint Statutory Committee**

#### *Members*

Senator Ian Macdonald (*Chair*), Mr Kerr (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Ferris, Ludwig and Polley and Mrs Gash, Mr Hayes, Mr Richardson and Mr Wood

#### *Current inquiry*

Amphetamines and other synthetic drugs (*adopted 5 December 2005*)

#### *Reports 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*)

Examination of the annual report for 2003-04 of the Australian Crime Commission (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Inquiry into the trafficking of women for sexual servitude—Supplementary report (*tabled 11 August 2005*)

Review of the *Australian Crime Commission Act 2002* (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

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### **Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings—Joint Statutory Committee**

#### *Members*

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

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### **Community Affairs Legislation Committee**

#### *Portfolios*

Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs; Health and Ageing

#### *Members*

Senator Humphries (*Chair*), Senator Moore (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Adams, Barnett, Nettle and Polley

#### *Substitute member*

*Matters relating to the Family and Community Services*—Senator Siewert to replace Senator Nettle

#### *Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Allison, Bartlett, Bernardi, Bishop, Boswell, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Forshaw, Heffernan, Hogg, Hurley, Joyce, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Nash, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Patterson, Payne, Ray, Siewert, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Watson, Webber, Wong and Wortley

#### *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*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Provisions of the Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Safety-nets) Bill 2005 (*tabled 5 September 2005*)

Provisions of the Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Provisions of the Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Provisions of the National Health Amendment (Budget Measures—Pharmaceutical Benefits Safety Net) Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Provisions of the Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work and Other Measures) Bill 2005 and the Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work) Bill 2005 (*tabled 28 November 2005*)

Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Repeal of Ministerial responsibility for approval of RU486) Bill 2005 (*tabled 8 February 2006*)

Provisions of the Family Assistance, Social Security and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (2005 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 24 March 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 March 2006*)

Provisions of Aged Care (Bond Security) Bill 2005, Aged Care (Bond Security) Levy Bill 2005 and Aged Care Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005 (*tabled 27 March 2006*)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 28 March 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

National Health and Medical Research Council Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

Provisions of the Health and Other Services (Compensation) Amendment Bill 2006 (*tabled 9 May 2006*)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 1 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 8 August 2006*)

Transparent Advertising and Notification of Pregnancy Counselling Services Bill 2005 (*tabled 17 August 2006*)

## **Community Affairs References Committee**

### *Members*

Senator Moore (*Chair*), Senator Humphries (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Adams, Allison, Carol Brown and Polley

### *Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Barnett, Bartlett, Bernardi, Bishop, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Forshaw, Hurley, Joyce, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Murray, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Siewert, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Watson, Webber, Wong and Wortley

### *Current inquiries*

Gynaecological cancer in Australia (*referred 11 May 2006; reporting date: 19 October 2006*)

Funding and operation of the Commonwealth-State/Territory Disability Agreement (*referred 11 May 2006; reporting date: last sitting week of 2006*)

### *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*)

Protecting vulnerable children: A national challenge—Second report on the inquiry into children in institutional or out-of-home care (*tabled 17 March 2005*)

The cancer journey: Informing choice—Report on the inquiry into services and treatment options for persons with cancer (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Quality and equity in aged care (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Response to the petition on gynaecological health issues (*tabled 30 March 2006*)

Workplace exposure to toxic dust (*presented to the Deputy President on 31 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 June 2006*)

Beyond petrol sniffing: Renewing hope for Indigenous communities (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

### **Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee**

#### *Members*

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

#### *Current inquiries*

Superannuation industry (*adopted 30 June 2006*)

Shareholder engagement (*adopted 30 June 2006*)

#### *Reports presented*

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

Statutory oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*tabled 12 May 2005*)

Inquiry into the exposure draft of the Corporations Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2005 (*tabled 16 June 2005*) and erratum (*tabled 16 June 2005*)

Property investment advice – Safe as houses? (*tabled 23 June 2005*) and erratum (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Timeshare: The price of leisure (*tabled 5 September 2005*)

Statutory oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*presented to the Deputy President on 19 December 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 February 2006*)

Corporate responsibility: Managing risk and creating value (*tabled 21 June 2006*)

Statutory oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*tabled 16 August 2006*)

### **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*

*Matters relating to the Resources portfolio*—Senator Allison to replace Senator Murray

*Petrol pricing in Australia*—Senator O'Brien to replace Senator Webber

#### *Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Adams, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fifield, Forshaw, Hogg, Joyce, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Murray, Nash, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stott Despoja, Webber and Wong

*Current inquiries*

- Petrol pricing in Australia (*referred 22 June 2006; reporting date: 9 October 2006*)
- Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 4) Bill 2006 (*referred 16 August 2006; reporting date: 4 October 2006*)

*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*)
- Provisions of the Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)
- Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)
- Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)
- Superannuation Bill 2005, Superannuation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2005 and Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Choice of Superannuation Funds) Bill 2005 (*tabled 21 June 2005*)
- Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Improvements to Self Assessment) Bill (No. 1) 2005 and the Shortfall Interest Charge (Imposition) Bill 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)
- Tax Laws Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005 (*tabled 23 June 2005*)
- Provisions of the Trade Practices Amendment (National Access Regime) Bill 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)
- Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Loss Recoupment Rules and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)
- Provisions of the Energy Efficiency Opportunities Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)
- Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), November 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)
- Provisions of the Future Fund Bill 2005 (*tabled 27 February 2006*)
- Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 30 March 2006*)
- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 30 March 2006*)
- Provisions of the Petroleum Retail Legislation Repeal Bill 2006—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)
- Provisions of the Petroleum Retail Legislation Repeal Bill 2006 (*tabled 11 May 2006*)
- Provisions of the Fuel Tax Bill 2006 and the Fuel Tax (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2006—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 7 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 June 2006*)
- Provisions of the Customs Amendment (Fuel Tax Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2006 and three related bills—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 7 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 June 2006*)
- Provisions of the Fuel Tax Bill 2006 and the Fuel Tax (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2006 (*presented to the President on 14 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 15 June 2006*) and erratum (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Forshaw, on 14 July 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 8 August 2006*)

Provisions of the Customs Amendment (Fuel Tax Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2006, the Customs Tariff Amendment (Fuel Tax Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2006, the Excise Laws Amendment (Fuel Tax Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2006 and the Excise Tariff Amendment (Fuel Tax Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2006 (presented to the President on 14 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 15 June 2006)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (tabled 20 June 2006)

Provisions of the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax Assessment Amendment Bill 2006 and the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (Instalment Transfer Interest Charge Imposition) Bill 2006 (presented to the Deputy President on 21 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 22 June 2006)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 3) Bill 2006 (presented to the Deputy President on 21 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 22 June 2006)

Provisions of the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Bill 2006 (tabled 17 August 2006)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 4) Bill 2006—Interim report (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 31 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 4 September 2006)

\* Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (tabled 6 September 2006)

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### **Economics References Committee**

#### *Members*

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

#### *Substitute member*

*Matters relating to the Resources portfolio*—Senator Allison to replace Senator Murray

#### *Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Adams, Barnett, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fifield, Forshaw, Joyce, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Ian Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Murray, Parry, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stott Despoja, Watson and Wong

#### *Report presented*

Consenting adults deficits and household debt: Links between Australia's current account deficit, the demand for imported goods and household debt (tabled 13 October 2005)

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### **Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee**

(appointed 18 November 2004)

#### *Members*

Mr Lindsay (*Chair*), Senators Brandis, Carr, Hogg, Mason and Murray and Mr Ciobo, Mr Danby, Mr Griffin and Ms Panopoulos

#### *Current inquiry*

Civics and electoral education (referred 24 March 2006)

*Reports presented*

The 2004 federal election—Report of the inquiry into the conduct of the 2004 federal election and matters related thereto (*tabled 10 October 2005*) and corrigendum (*tabled 9 November 2005*)

Funding and disclosure: Inquiry into disclosure of donations to political parties and candidates (*presented to the President on 31 March 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

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

Employment and Workplace Relations; Education, Science and Training

*Members*

Senator Troeth (*Chair*), Senator Marshall (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, George Campbell, Johnston and Stott Despoja

*Substitute members*

*Matters relating to the Schools and Training portfolio*—Senator Allison to replace Senator Stott Despoja

*Matters relating to the Workplace Relations portfolio*—Senator Murray to replace Senator Stott Despoja

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Allison, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fifield, Forshaw, Hogg, Humphries, Hutchins, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Mason, Ian Macdonald, McEwen, McGauran, Milne, Nash, Nettle, O'Brien, Patterson, Payne, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Stott Despoja, Trood, Watson, Webber, Wong and Wortley

*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*)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Small Business Employment Protection) Bill 2004 (*tabled 14 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004 (*tabled 14 March 2005*)



Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)  
Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)  
Provisions of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2005 and the Building and Construction Industry Improvement (Consequential and Transitional) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)  
Provisions of the Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Promoting Safer Workplaces) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)  
Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)  
Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)  
Provisions of Skilling Australia's Workforce Bill 2005 and Skilling Australia's Workforce (Repeal and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2005 (*tabled 9 August 2005*)  
Provisions of the Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 August 2005*)  
Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)  
Provisions of the Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Bill 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)  
Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)  
Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Workplace Relations Requirements) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 October 2005*)  
Provisions of the Student Assistance Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 13 October 2005*)  
Bills relating to the establishment of Carnegie Mellon University 2005: Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 4) Bill 2005 and the Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)  
Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Work Choices) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 22 November 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 28 November 2005*)  
Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005 and Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Related Amendments) Bill 2005 (*tabled 29 November 2005*)  
Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 28 March 2006*)  
Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)  
Provisions of the OHS and SRC Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 9 May 2006*)  
Provisions of the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation Amendment Bill 2006 (*tabled 10 May 2006*)  
Provisions of the Australian Research Council Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 June 2006*)  
Provisions of the Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 6 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 June 2006*)  
Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

Provisions of the Independent Contractors Bill 2006 and the Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Independent Contractors) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 25 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 4 September 2006*)

- \* Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

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

### *Members*

Senator Marshall (*Chair*), Senator Troeth (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, George Campbell, McEwen and Stott Despoja

### *Substitute members*

*Matters relating to the Schools and Training portfolio*—Senator Allison to replace Senator Stott Despoja

*Matters relating to the Workplace Relations portfolio*—Senator Murray to replace Senator Stott Despoja

### *Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fifield, Forshaw, Humphries, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Moore, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Stott Despoja, Trood, Watson, Webber, Wong and Wortley

### *Current inquiries*

Pacific region seasonal contract labour (*referred 7 December 2005; reporting date: 18 October 2006*)

- \* Workforce challenges in the Australian transport sector (*referred 6 September 2006; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2007*)

### *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*)

Indigenous education funding—Interim report (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Unfair dismissal and small business employment (*tabled 21 June 2005*)

Indigenous education funding—Final report (*tabled 22 June 2005*) and corrigendum (*tabled 23 June 2004*)

Student income support (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Workplace agreements (*presented to the President on 31 October 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 November 2005*)

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

Environment and Heritage; Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

*Members*

Senator Eggleston (*Chair*), Senator Lundy (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Patterson, Ronaldson, Siewert and Wortley

*Substitute member*

*Australia's Indigenous visual arts and craft sector*—Senator Crossin to replace Senator Lundy

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Adams, Allison, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Forshaw, Heffernan, Hogg, Humphries, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Moore, Nettle, O'Brien, Ray, Scullion, Watson, Webber and Wong

*Current inquiry*

Australia's Indigenous visual arts and craft sector (*referred 15 August 2006; reporting date: first sitting day in 2007*)

*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*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 14 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Regular Reviews and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 11 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 May 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2005 and related bills (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

Provisions of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Bill 2005 and the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 February 2006*)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Amendment Bill 2005 [2006] (*tabled 8 February 2006*)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 28 March 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

Provisions of the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2006 (*tabled 9 May 2006*)

Provisions of the Do Not Call Register Bill 2006 and the Do Not Call Register (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2006 (*tabled 19 June 2006*)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

- \* Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

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

### *Members*

Senator Bartlett (*Chair*), Senator Adams (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Lundy, Ronaldson, Webber and Wortley

### *Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Allison, Bernardi, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Forshaw, Humphries, Joyce, Ludwig, Ian Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Moore, Nash, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Ray, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens and Watson

### *Current inquiry*

Australia's national parks (*referred 7 December 2005; reporting date: 30 November 2006*)

### *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*)

Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's energy white paper—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 18 April 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 May 2005*)

Lurching forward, looking back: Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's Energy White Paper (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Crossin, on 16 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 June 2005*)

The performance of the Australian telecommunications regulatory regime (*tabled 10 August 2005*)

Living with salinity – a report on progress: The extent and economic impact of salinity in Australia (*tabled 28 March 2006*)

- \* About time! Women in sport and recreation in Australia (*tabled 6 September 2006*)
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**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, Carol Brown, Fifield and Forshaw

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Bernardi, Bob Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Hogg, Joyce, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Marshall, McGauran, Milne, Moore, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Trood, Watson and Webber

*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*) 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*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), May 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Provisions of the Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Electoral Integrity and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*tabled 28 March 2006*) and corrigendum (*tabled 9 May 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 30 March 2006*)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

\* Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

**Finance and Public Administration References Committee***Members*

Senator Forshaw (*Chair*), Senator Watson (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Carol Brown, Fifield, Moore and Murray

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Bernardi, Bishop, Brandis, Boswell, Bob Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Joyce, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Sandy Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Trood and Webber

*Current inquiry*

The transparency and accountability of Commonwealth public funding and expenditure (*referred 20 June 2006; reporting date: 19 October 2006*)

*Reports 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*)

Regional Partnerships and Sustainable Regions programs (*tabled 6 October 2005*)  
 Matters relating to the Gallipoli Peninsula (*tabled 13 October 2005*)  
 Government advertising and accountability (*tabled 6 December 2005*)

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### **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee**

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

#### *Members*

Senator Ferguson (*Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Crossin, Eggleston, Hutchins, Johnston, Kirk, Moore, Payne, Scullion, Stott Despoja and Webber and 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, Dr Southcott, Mr Snowdon, Mr CP Thompson, Ms Vamvakinou, Mr Wakelin and Mr Wilkie

#### *Current inquiries*

Australian Defence Force regional air superiority (*referred 14 June 2005*)  
 Australia's relationship with Malaysia (*adopted 14 June 2006*)

#### *Reports presented*

Expanding Australia's trade and investment relations with the Gulf States (*tabled 7 March 2005*)  
 Australia's human rights dialogue process (*tabled 12 September 2005*)  
 Reform of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (*tabled 12 September 2005*)  
 Review of the Defence Annual Report 2003-04 (*tabled 11 October 2005*)  
 Australia's defence relations with the United States—Report of the delegation to the United States, 28 June to 13 July 2005 (*tabled 11 October 2005*)  
 Australia's free trade agreements with Singapore, Thailand and the United States: progress to date and lessons for the future (*tabled 7 November 2005*)  
 Visit to Australian Defence Forces deployed to support the rehabilitation of Iraq – Report of the delegation, 22 to 28 October 2005 (*tabled 13 June 2006*)  
 Australia's defence relations with the United States (*tabled 13 June 2006*)  
 Expanding Australia's trade and investment relations with North America (*tabled 13 June 2006*)  
 Australia's relationship with the Republic of Korea; and developments on the Korean peninsula (*tabled 22 June 2006*)  
 Australia's response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami (*tabled 22 June 2006*)

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### **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee**

#### *Portfolios*

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

#### *Members*

Senator Johnston (*Chair*), Senator Hutchins (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bishop, Ferguson and Payne

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Adams, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Forshaw, Hogg, Hurley, Joyce, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Nash, Nettle, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Siewert, Sterle, Trood, Watson, Webber and Wortley

*Current inquiry*

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment Bill 2006 (*referred 16 August 2006; reporting date: 9 September 2006*)

*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*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 14 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 28 March 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

Provisions of the Australian Trade Commission Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

Provisions of the Export Market Development Grants Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

Reforms to Australia's military justice system—First progress report (*tabled 17 August 2006*) and correction (*tabled 17 August 2006*)

\* Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

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

Senator Hutchins (*Chair*), Senator Johnston (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bishop, Hogg, Joyce and Stott Despoja

*Substitute member*

*Naval shipbuilding in Australia*—Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Stott Despoja

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Adams, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Forshaw, Hurley, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Marshall, Ian Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Nash, Nettle, Payne, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Siewert, Sterle, Stott Despoja, Trood, Watson, Webber and Wortley

*Current inquiry*

*Naval shipbuilding in Australia* (*referred 10 November 2005; reporting date: last sitting day in 2006*)

*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)

The effectiveness of Australia's military justice system (tabled 16 June 2005)

Duties of Australian personnel in Iraq (tabled 18 August 2005)

Mr Chen Yonglin's request for political asylum (tabled 12 September 2005)

The removal, search for and discovery of Ms Vivian Solon—Interim report (tabled 15 September 2005)

Opportunities and challenges: Australia's relationship with China (tabled 10 November 2005)

The removal, search for and discovery of Ms Vivian Solon—Final report (tabled 8 December 2005)

China's emergence: Implications for Australia (tabled 30 March 2006)

**House—Standing Committee***Members*

The President (*Chair*), the Deputy President and Senators Carr, Crossin, Ferris, Lightfoot and Stephens

**Intelligence and Security—Joint Statutory Committee**

(formerly the Parliamentary Joint Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD; name amended 2 December 2005 pursuant to item 39 in Part 4 of Schedule 1 of the Intelligence Services Legislation Amendment Act 2005)

*Members*

Mr Jull (*Chair*), Senators Faulkner, Ferguson, Nash and Ray and Mr Byrne, Mr Ciobo, Mr Kerr and Mr McArthur

*Current inquiries*

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

Review of security and counter terrorism legislation (statutory responsibility)

*Reports presented*

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

Review of administration and expenditure for ASIO, ASIS and DSD (tabled 14 March 2005)

Annual report of committee activities 2004-05 (tabled 14 June 2005)

Review of the listing of Tanzim Qa'idat al-jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn (the al-Zarqawi network) as a terrorist organisation (tabled 14 June 2005)

Review of the listing of seven terrorist organisations (tabled 9 August 2005)

Review of the listing of four terrorist organisations (tabled 5 September 2005)

Intelligence Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (tabled 12 September 2005)

ASIO's questioning and detention powers: Review of the operation, effectiveness and implications of Division 3 of Part III in the *Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Act 1979* (tabled 30 November 2005)



Review of the listing of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 26 April 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

Review of administration and expenditure: Australian intelligence organisations: Number 4 – recruitment and training (*tabled 14 August 2006*)

## **Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee**

### *Portfolios*

Attorney-General; Immigration and Multicultural Affairs

### *Members*

Senator Payne (*Chair*), Senator Crossin (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Kirk, Mason and Scullion

### *Substitute member*

*Matters relating to the Attorney-General's portfolio*—Senator Stott Despoja to replace Senator Bartlett

### *Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Allison, Barnett, Bartlett, Bernardi, Bishop, Brandis, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Heffernan, Hogg, Humphries, Hurley, Johnston, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Murray, Nettle, Parry, Patterson, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Trood and Watson

### *Current inquiries*

Provisions of the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005 (*referred 7 September 2005; reporting date: 14 September 2006*)

Migration Amendment (Visa Integrity) Bill 2006 (*referred 9 August 2006; reporting date: 11 September 2006*)

### *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*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Migration Litigation Reform Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 11 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 May 2005*)

Provisions of the National Security Information Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (presented to the Deputy President on 11 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 May 2005)

Provisions of the Criminal Code Amendment (Suicide Related Material Offences) Bill 2005 (tabled 12 May 2005)

Crimes Legislation Amendment (Telecommunications Interception and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (presented to the Deputy President on 17 June 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 20 June 2005)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (tabled 20 June 2005)

Provisions of the Copyright Amendment (Film Directors' Rights) Bill 2005 (tabled 10 August 2005)

Provisions of the Law and Justice Legislation Amendment (Serious Drug Offences and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 15 August 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 August 2005)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (tabled 8 September 2005)

Provisions of the Law and Justice Legislation Amendment (Video Link Evidence and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (presented to the Deputy President on 1 November 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 November 2005)

Provisions of the Anti-Terrorism Bill (No. 2) 2005 (tabled 28 November 2005)

Defence Legislation Amendment (Aid to Civilian Authorities) Bill 2005 (tabled 7 February 2006)

Provisions of the Australian Citizenship Bill 2005 and the Australian Citizenship (Transitionals and Consequentials) Bill 2005 (tabled 27 February 2006)

Provisions of the Family Law Amendment (Shared Parental Responsibility) Bill 2005 (presented to the Deputy President on 24 March 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 March 2006)

Provisions of the Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment Bill 2006 (tabled 27 March 2006)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (tabled 28 March 2006)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (tabled 29 March 2006)

Exposure draft of the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Bill 2005 (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 13 April 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006)

Provisions of the Customs Legislation Amendment (Border Compliance and Other Measures) Bill 2006—Interim report (presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006)

Provisions of the Federal Magistrates Amendment (Disability and Death Benefits) Bill 2006 (presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006)

Migration Amendment (Employer Sanctions) Bill 2006 (presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006)

Provisions of the Customs Legislation Amendment (Border Compliance and Other Measures) Bill 2006 (presented to the Deputy President on 4 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006)

Provisions of the Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner Bill 2006, the Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2006 and the Law Enforcement (AFP Professional Standards and Related Measures) Bill 2006 (tabled 11 May 2006)

Provisions of the Migration Amendment (Designated Unauthorised Arrivals) Bill 2006 (tabled 13 June 2006)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)  
 Crimes Act Amendment (Forensic Procedures) Bill (No. 1) 2006 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 1 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 8 August 2006*)  
 Customs Legislation Amendment (Modernising Import Controls and Other Measures) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 1 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 8 August 2006*)  
 Financial Transaction Reports Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 1 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 8 August 2006*)

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### **Legal and Constitutional References Committee**

#### *Members*

Senator Crossin (*Chair*), Senator Fierravanti-Wells (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Joyce, Kirk and Ludwig

#### *Substitute member*

*Indigenous workers whose paid labour was controlled by Government*—Senator Moore to replace Senator Ludwig

#### *Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Barnett, Bishop, Brandis, Bernardi, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Conroy, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, Murray, Milne, Nettle, Payne, Parry, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Trood and Watson

#### *Current inquiry*

*Indigenous workers whose paid labour was controlled by Government* (*referred 13 June 2006; reporting date: last sitting day in 2006*)

#### *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*)

The real Big Brother: *Inquiry into the Privacy Act 1988* (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Administration and operation of the *Migration Act 1958* (Cth)—*Interim report* (*presented to the Deputy President on 21 December 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 February 2006*)

Administration and operation of the *Migration Act 1958* (*tabled 2 March 2006*)

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### **Library—Standing Committee**

#### *Members*

The President (*Chair*) and Senators Allison, Brandis, Hutchins, Nash, Trood and Webber

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**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; terms of appointment varied 18 August 2005; final report tabled 9 May 2006)**Members*Leader of the Australian Democrats (*Chair*), Senator Humphries (*Deputy Chair*) and Senators Forshaw, Moore, Scullion, Troeth and Webber*Reports presented*A national approach to mental health – from crisis to community—First report (*tabled 30 March 2006*)A national approach to mental health – from crisis to community—Final report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 28 April 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)**Migration—Joint Standing Committee***(appointed 18 November 2004)**Members*Mr Randall (*Chair*), Senator Kirk (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Eggleston and Parry and Mr L Ferguson, Mrs Irwin, Mr Keenan, Dr Lawrence and Dr Southcott*Current inquiry*Skills recognition, upgrading and licensing (*referred 19 April 2005*)*Reports presented*Inspections of Baxter Immigration Detention Facility and Port Augusta Residential Housing Project, April 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)Review of Audit Report no. 1, 2005-06, Management of the detention centre contracts—Part B (*tabled 6 December 2005*)**National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee***(appointed 18 November 2004)**Members*Senator Lightfoot (*Chair*), Senator Lundy (*Deputy Chair*), the Deputy President and Chairman of Committees, the Deputy Speaker, and Senators Carr, Joyce and Stott Despoja and Mrs AL Ellis, Mr Neville, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Snowdon and Mr Secker*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)

Antarctica: Australia's pristine frontier—Report on the adequacy of funding for Australia's Antarctic Program (tabled 23 June 2005)

Norfolk Island financial sustainability: The challenge – sink or swim (tabled 1 December 2005)

Current and future governance arrangements for the Indian Ocean Territories (tabled 13 June 2006)

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### **Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Account—Joint Statutory Committee**

(in accordance with the Extension of Sunset of Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title Act 2004, the committee ceased operation on 23 March 2006; name amended 22 February 2005 pursuant to items 208 and 210 in Part 2 of Schedule 1 of the Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Act 2005)

#### *Members*

Senator Scullion (*Chair*), Mr McMullan (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Crossin, Evans, Johnston and Siewert and Mr Melham, Mr Randall, Mr Slipper and Mr Tollner

#### *Reports presented*

Examination of annual reports in fulfilment of the committee's duties pursuant to s.206(c) of the *Native Title Act 1993*—

2003-04 (tabled 23 June 2005)

2004-05 (presented to the *Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis*, on 21 March 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 March 2006)

Report on the operation of Native Title Representative Bodies (presented to the *Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis*, on 21 March 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 March 2006)

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### **Parliamentary Library—Joint Standing Committee**

(appointed 7 December 2005)

#### *Members*

Senator Trood and Mr Adams (*Joint Chairs*), Senators Allison, Brandis, Hutchins, Nash and Webber and Mr Broadbent, Mr Georgiou, Mr Hatton, Mr BP O'Connor, Mr Wakelin and Mr Anderson

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### **Privileges—Standing Committee**

#### *Members*

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

#### *Reports 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)

121st report—Possible unauthorised disclosure of draft reports of Community Affairs References Committee (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

122nd report—Parliamentary privilege – unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings (*tabled 21 June 2005*)

123rd report—Possible failure by a senator to comply with the Senate’s resolution relating to registration of interests (*tabled 5 October 2005*)

124th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Professor David Peetz) (*tabled 6 December 2005*)

125th report—Parliamentary privilege: Precedents, procedures and practice in the Australian Senate 1966-2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 19 December 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 February 2006*)

126th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Professor Barbara Pocock) (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

127th report—Persons referred to in the Senate (Certain persons on behalf of the Exclusive Brethren) (*tabled 21 June 2006*)

128th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Mr Karl J O’Callaghan, APM, Commissioner of Police, Western Australia) (*tabled 16 August 2006*)

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### **Procedure—Standing Committee**

#### *Members*

The Deputy President (*Chair*), the President, the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Senators Bartlett, Eggleston, Ellison, Faulkner, Ferguson and Ray

#### *Current inquiry*

Adequacy and appropriateness of the Register of Senators’ Interests (*referred 20 June 2005*)

#### *Reports presented*

First report of 2005—Storage of Senate documents; Unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings (*presented to the President on 20 September 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 5 October 2005*)

Second report of 2005—Declaration of interests: registration of Senators’ share tradings; Unanswered questions and orders for documents: proposed amendments of standing orders 74(5) and 164; Repeated motions for suspension of standing orders: ruling of the President of 14 September 2005 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Moore, on 28 October 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 November 2005*)

First report of 2006—Restructuring the committee system (*tabled 10 August 2006*)

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### **Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Statutory Committee**

#### *Members*

Mr ADH Smith (*Chairman*), Senators Bishop†, Hogg, Humphries, Murray, Nash and Watson and Mrs BK Bishop, Mr Broadbent, Mr Emerson, Ms Grierson, Dr Jensen, Ms JM Kelly, Ms King, Dr Laming and Mr Tanner

†Senator Bishop to be discharged at the completion of the committee’s inquiry into the financial reporting and equipment acquisition at the Department of Defence and Defence Materiel Organisation with Senator Moore to be reappointed in his place

*Current inquiries*

Certain taxation matters (*adopted 7 December 2005*)

Financial reporting and equipment acquisition at the Department of Defence and Defence Materiel Organisation (*adopted 1 March 2006*)

*Reports 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*)

Report 403—Access of Indigenous Australians to law and justice services (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Report 404—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2003-04: Third and fourth quarters; and first and second quarters of 2004-05 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Report 405—Annual report 2004-05 (*tabled 28 November 2005*)

Report 406—Developments in aviation security since the committee's June 2004 Report 400: *Review of aviation security in Australia – An interim report* (*tabled 8 December 2005*)

Report 407—Review of Auditor-General's reports tabled between 18 January and 18 April 2005 (*tabled 4 September 2006*)

*Committee documents presented*

Statement on the Australian National Audit Office budget estimates for 2005-06 (*tabled 11 May 2005*)

Statement on the Australian National Audit Office budget estimates for 2006-07 (*tabled 11 May 2005*)

**Public Works—Joint Statutory Committee***Members*

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

*Reports presented*

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*)

Sixty-eighth annual report, March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources in Civic, ACT (First report of 2005) (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

New housing for Defence Housing Authority at McDowall, Brisbane, Queensland (Second report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Provision of facilities for Maribyrnong Immigration Detention Centre additional accommodation and related works, Maribyrnong, Victoria (Third report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Development of on-base housing for Defence at Puckapunyal, Victoria (Fourth report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Defence Science and Technology Organisation Ordnance Breakdown Facility, Port Wakefield, South Australia (Fifth report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Australia House Defence and lightwells refurbishment, Australian High Commission, London (Sixth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Mid-life upgrade of existing chancery at the Australian High Commission, Singapore (Seventh report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

New Consulate-General building, Bali, Indonesia (Eighth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Construction of Chancery, Vientiane, Laos (Ninth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Reserve Bank of Australia business resumption site (Tenth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Holsworthy program – Special operations working accommodation and base redevelopment stage 1 (Eleventh report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

CSIRO entomology bioscience laboratory at Black Mountain, Canberra, ACT (Twelfth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Operational upgrade, Darwin Detention Facility, Berrimah, NT (Thirteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Upgrade patrol boat facilities, HMAS *Coonawarra*, Darwin, NT (Fourteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Redevelopment of Kokoda Barracks, Canungra, Queensland (Fifteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Redevelopment of Willis Island meteorological office, Coral Sea (Sixteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 14 September 2005*)

Refurbishment of the Royal Australian Mint, Canberra, ACT (Seventeenth report of 2005) (*tabled 12 October 2005*)

RAAF Base Amberley redevelopment stage 2, Queensland (Eighteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Relocation of RAAF College; RAAF Base East Sale, Victoria and RAAF Base Wagga, New South Wales (Nineteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

CSIRO minerals laboratory extensions at Waterford, Perth, WA (Twentieth report of 2005) (*tabled 9 November 2005*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for AusAID at London Circuit, City, ACT (Twenty-first report of 2005) (*tabled 9 November 2005*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Australian Customs Service at 1010 Latrobe Street, Melbourne Docklands (Twenty-second report of 2005) (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

Construction of Chancery, Phnom Penh, Cambodia (First report of 2006) (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

Construction of Chancery, Rangoon, Burma (Second report of 2006) (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

171st Aviation Squadron relocation, Holsworthy Barracks, NSW (Third report of 2006) (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

Fit-out of an extension to leased premises for IP Australia in Woden, ACT (Fourth report of 2006) (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

Redevelopment of Post 1945 Conflicts Galleries and Discovery Room for the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, ACT (Fifth report of 2006) (*tabled 29 March 2006*)



- Sixty-ninth annual report, March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)
- Fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in Civic, ACT (Sixth report of 2006) (*tabled 10 May 2006*)
- Fit-out of new leased premises for the Australian Taxation Office at the site known as Section 84, Precincts B and C, Canberra City, ACT (Seventh report of 2006) (*tabled 10 May 2006*)
- Fit-out of new leased premises for Centrelink at Greenway, ACT (Eighth report of 2006) (*tabled 13 June 2006*)
- HMAS Cairns redevelopment, Cairns, Queensland (Ninth report of 2006) (*tabled 14 June 2006*)
- Construction of housing for Defence at Fairview Rise, Ipswich, Queensland (Tenth report of 2006) (*tabled 14 June 2006*)
- Fit-out of new leased premises for the Australian Securities and Investments Commission at 120 Collins Street, Melbourne (Eleventh report of 2006) (*tabled 21 June 2006*)
- Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Facilities Project, Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera, Queensland (Twelfth report of 2006) (*tabled 16 August 2006*)
- \* Australian Institute of Police Management redevelopment, North Head, Manly, NSW (Thirteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

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#### **Publications—Standing Committee**

##### *Members*

Senator Watson (*Chair*), Senators Johnston, Marshall, Nash, Polley, Sterle and Wortley

##### *Reports presented*

- 1st report (*tabled 9 December 2004*)
- 2nd report (*tabled 17 March 2005*)
- 3rd report (*tabled 12 May 2005*)
- 4th report (*tabled 23 June 2005*)
- 5th report (*tabled 18 August 2005*)
- 6th report (*tabled 15 September 2005*)
- 7th report (*tabled 13 October 2005*)
- 8th report (*tabled 10 November 2005*)
- 9th report (*tabled 8 December 2005*)
- 10th report (*tabled 2 March 2006*)
- 11th report (*tabled 30 March 2006*)
- 12th report (*tabled 11 May 2006*)
- Distribution of the Parliamentary Papers series (*tabled 13 June 2006*)
- 13th report (*tabled 22 June 2006*)
- 14th report (*tabled 17 August 2006*)

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#### **Regulations and Ordinances—Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committee**

##### *Members*

Senator Watson (*Chairman*), Senators Bartlett, Carol Brown, Fierravanti-Wells, Mason and Wortley

*Report presented*

112th report—40th Parliament report (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

*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*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, December 2004 to June 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, May to December 2005 (*tabled 2 March 2006*)

Delegated legislation monitor—Disallowable legislative instruments tabled in the Senate in 2005, dated March 2006 (*tabled 30 March 2006*)

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

Transport and Regional Services; Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

*Members*

Senator Heffernan (*Chair*), Senator McEwen (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Ferris, Milne, Nash and Sterle

*Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Adams, Allison, Bartlett, Bernardi, Bishop, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fielding, Hogg, Hutchins, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Sandy Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Siewert, Stephens, Trood, Watson and Webber

*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*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Administration of Biosecurity Australia – Revised draft import risk analysis for bananas from the Philippines (*tabled 17 March 2005*)

Administration of Biosecurity Australia – Revised draft import risk analysis for apples from New Zealand (*tabled 17 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Border Protection Legislation Amendment (Deterrence of Illegal Foreign Fishing) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)

Provisions of the AusLink (National Land Transport) Bill 2004 and the AusLink (National Land Transport—Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004 (tabled 12 May 2005)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (tabled 20 June 2005)

Regulatory framework under the *Maritime Transport Security Amendment Act 2005* (tabled 10 August 2005)

Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment (Mutual Recognition with New Zealand) Bill 2005 (tabled 5 September 2005)

Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Amendment (Maritime Security Guards and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (tabled 5 September 2005)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (tabled 8 September 2005)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (tabled 30 March 2006)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), May 2006 (tabled 10 May 2006)

Provisions of the Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Amendment (Security Plans and Other Measures) Bill 2006 (tabled 15 June 2006)

The administration by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry of the citrus canker outbreak (tabled 20 June 2006)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (tabled 20 June 2006)

National Animal Welfare Bill 2005 (tabled 22 June 2006)

\* Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (tabled 6 September 2006)

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

### *Members*

Senator Siewert (*Chair*), Senator Heffernan (*Deputy Chair*), Senators McEwen, Nash, O'Brien and Sterle

### *Participating members*

Senators Abetz, Adams, Allison, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Hutchins, Joyce, Ludwig, Lightfoot, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Sandy Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Murray, Nettle, Payne, Polley, Ray, Santoro, Stephens, Trood, Watson and Webber

### *Current inquiries*

Water policy initiatives (referred 14 September 2005; reporting date: 30 November 2006)

Australia's future oil supply (referred 29 November 2005; reporting date: 19 October 2006)

### *Reports 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)

Iraqi wheat debt – repayments for wheat growers (tabled 16 June 2005)

The operation of the wine-making industry (tabled 13 October 2005)

**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, McEwen 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 (*tabled 9 March 2005*)

No. 3 of 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

No. 4 of 2005 (*tabled 12 May 2005*)

No. 5 of 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 1 June 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 June 2005*)

No. 6 of 2005 (*tabled 15 June 2005*)

No. 7 of 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

No. 8 of 2005 (*tabled 10 August 2005*)

No. 9 of 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

No. 10 of 2005 (*tabled 7 September 2005*)

No. 11 of 2005 (*tabled 14 September 2005*)

No. 12 of 2005 (*tabled 5 October 2005*)

No. 13 of 2005 (*tabled 9 November 2005*)

No. 14 of 2005 (*tabled 30 November 2005*)

No. 15 of 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

No. 1 of 2006 (*tabled 8 February 2006*)

No. 2 of 2006 (*tabled 1 March 2006*)

No. 3 of 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

No. 4 of 2006 (*tabled 10 May 2006*)

No. 5 of 2006 (*tabled 14 June 2006*)

No. 6 of 2006 (*tabled 21 June 2006*)

No. 7 of 2006 (*tabled 9 August 2006*)

No. 8 of 2006 (*tabled 16 August 2006*)

\* No. 9 of 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

*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: Legislative Instruments Acts—Determinations (*tabled 9 March 2005*)  
 Third report of 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)  
 Fourth report of 2005 (*tabled 12 May 2005*)  
 Fifth report of 2005 (*tabled 15 June 2005*)  
 Sixth report of 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)  
 Seventh report of 2005 (*tabled 10 August 2005*)  
 Eighth report of 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)  
 Ninth report of 2005 (*tabled 7 September 2005*)  
 Tenth report of 2005: [including: Retrospectivity—Scrutiny of Bills Committee Practice] (*tabled 14 September 2005*)  
 Eleventh report of 2005 (*tabled 5 October 2005*)  
 Twelfth report of 2005 (*tabled 12 October 2005*)  
 Thirteenth report of 2005 (*tabled 30 November 2005*)  
 Fourteenth report of 2005: Accountability and Standing Appropriations (*tabled 30 November 2005*)  
 First report of 2006 (*tabled 1 March 2006*)  
 Second report of 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)  
 Third report of 2006 (*tabled 14 June 2006*)  
 Fourth report of 2006 (*tabled 21 June 2006*)  
 Fifth report of 2006 (*tabled 9 August 2006*)  
 Sixth report of 2006 (*tabled 16 August 2006*)  
 \* Seventh report of 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

**Selection of Bills—Standing Committee***Members*

The Government Whip (*Chair*), the Opposition Whip, the Australian Democrats Whip, the Nationals Whip, the Australian Greens 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 (*presented 9 February 2005*)  
 Report no. 2 of 2005 (*presented 9 March 2005*)  
 Report no. 3 of 2005 (*presented 16 March 2005*)  
 Report no. 4 of 2005 (*presented 11 May 2005*)  
 Report no. 5 of 2005 (*presented 15 June 2005*)  
 Report no. 6 of 2005 (*presented 22 June 2005*)  
 Report no. 7 of 2005 (*presented 10 August 2005*)  
 Report no. 8 of 2005 (*presented 17 August 2005*)

Report no. 9 of 2005 (*presented 7 September 2005*)  
 Report no. 10 of 2005 (*presented 14 September 2005*)  
 Report no. 11 of 2005 (*presented 5 October 2005*)  
 Report no. 12 of 2005 (*presented 12 October 2005*)  
 Report no. 13 of 2005 (*presented 9 November 2005*)  
 Report no. 14 of 2005 (*presented 30 November 2005*)  
 Report no. 15 of 2005 (*presented 8 December 2005*)  
 Report no. 1 of 2006 (*presented 8 February 2006*)  
 Report no. 2 of 2006 (*presented 1 March 2006*)  
 Report no. 3 of 2006 (*presented 30 March 2006*)  
 Report no. 4 of 2006 (*presented 11 May 2006*)  
 Report no. 5 of 2006 (*presented 14 June 2006*)  
 Report no. 6 of 2006 (*presented 22 June 2006*)  
 Report no. 7 of 2006 (*presented 9 August 2006*)  
 Report no. 8 of 2006 (*presented 16 August 2006*)

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### **Senators' Interests—Standing Committee**

#### *Members*

Senator Webber (*Chair*), Senator Lightfoot (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Allison, Forshaw, Humphries, Kirk, McEwen and Nash

#### *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*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 7 December 2004 and 20 June 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating registrable statements of interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 21 June and 12 September 2005—Volumes 1 (A–L) and 2 (M–Z) (*tabled 15 September 2005*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 13 September 2005 and 5 December 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 6 December 2005 and 19 June 2006 (*tabled 21 June 2006*)

#### *Reports presented*

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

Report 1/2006: Annual report 2005 (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

Report 2/2006: Review of arrangements for registration of senators' interests (*presented to the Deputy President on 6 April 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

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**Treaties—Joint Standing Committee**

(appointed 18 November 2004)

*Members*

Dr Southcott (*Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Carol Brown, Mason, McGauran, Sterle, Trood and Wortley and Mr Adams, Mr Johnson, Mr Keenan, Mrs May, Ms Panopoulos, Mr Ripoll, Mr Scott and Mr Wilkie

*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*)

Report 64—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (2) (*tabled 11 May 2005*)

Report 65—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (3) and 8 February 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Proposed agreement between Australia and the United States of America (US) relating to the surrender of US nationals to the International Criminal Court (*statement made, by way of a report, 20 June 2005*)

Report 66—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (4), 15 March and 11 May 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Report 67—Treaties tabled on 21 June 2005 (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

Report 68—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (5) and 9 August 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Report 69—Treaties tabled on 13 September and 11 October 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

Report 70—Treaty tabled on 9 November 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

Report 71—Treaty tabled on 29 November 2005 (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

Report 72—Treaties tabled on 29 November 2005 (2) (*tabled 28 March 2006*) and erratum (*tabled 30 March 2005*)

Report 73—Treaties tabled in February 2006 (*tabled 10 May 2006*)

Report 74—Treaty tabled on 28 March 2006 (*tabled 13 June 2006*)

Report 75—Treaties tabled on 11 October 2005 (2), 28 February and 28 March 2006 (2) (*tabled 14 August 2006*)

Report 76—Treaties tabled on 28 March (3) and 10 May 2006 (*tabled 16 August 2006*)



**SENATE APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY AUTHORITIES****Advisory Council on Australian Archives**

Senator Faulkner (*reappointed 20 June 2005, with effect from 27 June 2005, for a period of 3 years*).

**Council of the National Library of Australia**

Senator Brandis (*appointed 14 March 2005 for a period of 3 years*).

**Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Trust**

Senators Faulkner and Watson (*appointed 1 July 2005 and 10 February 1994, respectively*).

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**HARRY EVANS**  
Clerk of the Senate

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**MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION**

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

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