

2004-07

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

NOTICE PAPER

No. 143

THURSDAY, 10 MAY 2007

The Senate meets at 9.30 am

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

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Notices of Motion

Notice given 26 March 2007

- 1 **Senator Siewert:** To move—That the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (non-quota species) Total Allowable Catch (2007 Fishing Year) Determination (cited as 2007 SESSF D2), made under section 15 of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery Management Plan 2003, be disallowed. [F2006L03891]

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

Notice of motion altered on 26 March 2007 pursuant to standing order 77.

Notice given 27 March 2007

- 2 **Senator Bartlett:** To move—That the following matter be referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 10 May 2007:

The impacts of the Trade Practices (Horticulture Code of Conduct) Regulations 2006 on growers, wholesalers, retailers and consumers, and whether the regulations should be amended, disallowed or retained.

Notice given 28 March 2007

- 3 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That—
- (a) Amendment 56 (The Griffin Legacy – Principles and Policies);
 - (b) Amendment 59 (City Hill Precinct);
 - (c) Amendment 60 (Constitution Avenue); and
 - (d) Amendment 61 (West Basin)

of the National Capital Plan, made under section 19 of the *Australian Capital Territory (Planning and Land Management) Act 1988*, be disallowed. [F2006L03950, F2006L03952, F2006L03955 and F2006L03970]

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

Order of the Day

- 1 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)



GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Notice of Motion

Notice given 9 May 2007

- *1 **Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz):** To move—That the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (8) of standing order 111 not apply to the following bills, allowing them to be considered during this period of sittings:
- Social Security and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (One-Off Payments and Other 2007 Budget Measures) Bill 2007
 - Superannuation Laws Amendment (2007 Budget Co-contribution Measure) Bill 2007.

Orders of the Day

- *1 **Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2007**
Radio Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2007—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Johnston*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 9 May 2007*).
- *2 **Tax Laws Amendment (2007 Measures No. 2) Bill 2007**—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Johnston*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Johnston, 9 May 2007*).
- *3 **Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Legislation Amendment (Child Support Reform Consolidation and Other Measures) Bill 2007**—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Johnston*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Johnston, 9 May 2007*).
- 4 **Customs Legislation Amendment (Modernising Import Controls and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [2007]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*21 June 2006*).
- *5 **Education Services for Overseas Students Legislation Amendment Bill 2007**—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Johnston*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Johnston, 9 May 2007*).
- 6 **Primary Industries and Energy Research and Development Amendment Bill 2007**—(*Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Coonan*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*29 March 2007*).
- 7 **Governance Review Implementation (Treasury Portfolio Agencies) Bill 2007**—(*Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Coonan*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*29 March 2007*).

***8 Budget statement and documents 2007-08**

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, Senator Minchin, 9 May 2007*).

9 Archives Amendment Bill 2006 [2007]—(Senate bill)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*6 September 2006*).

10 Food Standards Australia New Zealand Amendment Bill 2007—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*28 March 2007*).

11 Customs Legislation Amendment (Augmenting Offshore Powers and Other Measures) Bill 2006—(Minister for Community Services, Senator Scullion)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Scullion, 1 March 2007*).

12 Crimes Legislation Amendment (National Investigative Powers and Witness Protection) Bill 2006 [2007]—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Human Services, Senator Ellison)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*29 November 2006*).

13 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*).

14 Migration Amendment (Visa Integrity) Bill 2006 [2007]—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz)

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

15 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*).

16 Human Services (Enhanced Service Delivery) Bill 2007—(Minister for the Arts and Sport, Senator Brandis)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*28 February 2007*).

17 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*).

18 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*).



**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 Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Standing Committee—Report—Conserving Australia: Australia's national parks, conservation reserves and marine protected areas**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Siewert, 9 May 2007*).
- 2 Community Affairs—Standing Committee—Report: Beyond petrol sniffing: Renewing hope for Indigenous communities—Additional information**
Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Humphries)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Moore, in continuation, 29 March 2007*).
- 3 Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—Report 83—Treaties tabled on 20 June (2), 17 October, 28 November (2) 2006 and CO₂ sequestration in sub-seabed formations**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Wortley—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 26 March 2007*).
- 4 National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee—Report: Antarctica: Australia's pristine frontier: The adequacy of funding for Australia's Antarctic Program—Government response**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator George Campbell—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 22 March 2007*).
- 5 Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Report—Transparency and accountability of Commonwealth public funding and expenditure**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Nash—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 22 March 2007*).
- 6 Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Report—Departmental and agency contracts: Second report on the operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (2003-06)**
Adjourned debate on the motion of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Mason)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Kirk, 22 March 2007*).
- 7 Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Standing Committee—Report—Unfinished business: Indigenous stolen wages**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Payne—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 22 March 2007*).

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

- 1 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 20 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Purchase, chartering and modification of the new fleet oiler: Department of Defence; Defence Materiel Organisation**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Hogg—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Hogg, in continuation, 1 March 2007*).
- 2 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 21 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Implementation of the revised Commonwealth procurement guidelines**
Consideration (*6 February 2007*).
- 3 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 21 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Implementation of the revised Commonwealth procurement guidelines—Corrigendum**
Consideration (*6 February 2007*).
- 4 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 22 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Management of intellectual property in the Australian Government sector**
Consideration (*6 February 2007*).
- 5 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 23 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Application of the outcomes and outputs framework**
Consideration (*6 February 2007*).
- 6 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 24 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Customs' Cargo Management Re-engineering project: Australian Customs Service**
Consideration (*7 February 2007*).
- 7 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 25 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Management of airport leases follow-up: Department of Transport and Regional Services**
Consideration (*8 February 2007*).
- 8 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 26 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Administration of complex age pension assessments: Centrelink**
Consideration (*26 February 2007*).
- 9 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 27 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Management of air combat fleet in-service support: Department of Defence; Defence Materiel Organisation**
Consideration (*26 February 2007*).
- 10 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 28 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Project management in Centrelink: Centrelink**
Consideration (*26 February 2007*).
- 11 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 29 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Implementation of the Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997**
Consideration (*20 March 2007*).

- 12 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 30 of 2006-07—Performance audit—The Australian Taxation Office’s management of its relationship with tax practitioners follow-up audit: Australian Taxation Office**
Consideration (20 March 2007).
- *13 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 32 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Administration of the Job Seeker Account: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations**
Consideration (9 May 2007).
- *14 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 33 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Centrelink’s customer charter follow-up audit: Centrelink**
Consideration (9 May 2007).
- *15 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 34 of 2006-07—Performance audit—High Frequency Communication System Modernisation Project: Department of Defence; Defence Materiel Organisation**
Consideration (9 May 2007).
- *16 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 35 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Preparations for the re-tendering of DIAC’s detention and health services contracts: Department of Immigration and Citizenship**
Consideration (9 May 2007).

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 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, 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 12 September 2006

- 546 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate supports the right of Australians to die with dignity.
- 547 **Senator Bartlett:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes, with deep concern, the rise of Islamophobia in Australia and the growing threat which this poses to the cohesion of Australian society;
 - (b) condemns all manifestations of Islamophobia wherever they occur; and
 - (c) expresses its unequivocal condemnation of all forms of racial and ethnic hatred, persecution and discrimination.

Notice given 13 September 2006

- 552 **Senators Hogg, Ludwig, McLucas and Moore:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) congratulates the Beattie Government on its re-election on Saturday, 9 September 2006;
 - (b) notes that the Liberal Party campaign was dominated by self-fleggellation and that the National Party campaign was clearly spring-bogged; and
 - (c) recognises government senators for their contribution through ‘Dorothy Dixers’ and speeches in the Senate in maintaining Labor in government in Queensland.

Notice given 27 November 2006

- 634 **Senator Adams:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to amend the Commonwealth legislative framework applying to the Australian wheat industry, and for related purposes. ***Wheat Marketing Legislation Amendment Bill 2007.***

Notice given 28 November 2006

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

(a) notes:

- (i) the further statement by the Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) on 27 November 2006 in response to Senator Ray's question without notice on 7 November 2006, asking the Minister when he first became aware of a potential breach of 4QA of the Customs regulations in regard to the importation of goods from Iraq without the written permission of the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr Downer) or his delegate,
 - (ii) that the Minister is hiding behind a current investigation into the matter by the Australian Federal Police (AFP) to avoid answering a process question that goes to how long he has known that goods imported into Australia from Iraq in 2000 may not have complied with the Australian Customs Service approval procedures established to meet Australia's obligations to enforce United Nations (UN) sanctions against Iraq,
 - (iii) that the Minister's position is bogus because, as AFP Commissioner Keely informed the estimates hearing of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee on 31 October 2006, no government minister is under investigation in regard to the matter, and
 - (iv) that this is yet another attempt by the Government to conceal its inaction and incompetence in failing to ensure that Australian companies trading with Iraq fully complied with the requirements of the UN's Oil-for-Food Programme; and
- (b) calls on the Minister for Justice and Customs to state clearly the date he first became aware that the Customs regulations may have been breached in regard to the import of goods from Iraq in 2000, between when he was appointed as the Minister for Justice and Customs on 30 January 2001 and the referral of the matter to the AFP from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through him on 23 February 2006.

Notice given 7 February 2007

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

(a) notes that:

- (i) child care costs are continuing to rise, with the average cost doubling under the Howard Government, and
 - (ii) a recent report from the Department of the Treasury denies there is a crisis in accessible and affordable child care, instead saying that parents are too choosy; and
- (b) calls on the Government to improve the accessibility and affordability of child care for Australian families.

Notice given 26 March 2007

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

- (a) notes that Monday, 26 March 2007 marks the arraignment of Mr David Hicks before a military commission on a single charge of providing material support for terrorism; and

- (b) recognises that the trial process at Guantanamo Bay allows for conviction on evidence obtained by coercion and evidence that detainees will never be allowed to see, removal of the right to a speedy trial, and removal of the right of habeas corpus.

Notice given 28 March 2007

773 Senators Bartlett and Siewert: To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) 27 May 2007 marks the 40th anniversary of the referendum giving the Federal Government the right to make specific laws in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and to count them in the census, and
 - (ii) the referendum was passed with an unprecedented level of support from more than 90 per cent of Australians, and is a great example of Indigenous and non-Indigenous people working together in support of equal rights for Indigenous people;
- (b) recognises the continuing need for the legislative and other powers of the Commonwealth and other levels of government to be used to redress the profound economic and social disadvantage continuing to be experienced by many Indigenous Australians;
- (c) acknowledges that although important gains have been made since 1967 Indigenous Australians remain the singularly most disadvantaged group in Australia;
- (d) notes, in particular, the facts that Indigenous Australians:
 - (i) still have an average life expectancy that is 17 years less than that of their non-Indigenous counterparts,
 - (ii) represent only 2.5 per cent of the Australian population but represent more than 22 per cent of people in Australian prisons and even more of those taken into police custody, and
 - (iii) experience an unemployment rate more than three times that of non-Indigenous Australians and enjoy an average income only two-thirds the national average;
- (e) commits to giving greater priority to addressing the needs of Indigenous Australians and to paying greater heed to the diverse views, abilities and achievements of Indigenous Australians from all parts of our nation;
- (f) recognises that Australia will not reach its full potential as a nation until there is full respect for all its people, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their unique, valuable and continuing heritage of this land; and
- (g) encourages all Australians and all political parties to revive and rebuild the cooperative spirit of the 1967 referendum to complete the unfinished business of ensuring true equality of opportunity for all Australians.

Notice of motion altered on 9 May 2007 pursuant to standing order 77.

Notice given 8 May 2007

784 **Senators Siewert and Bartlett:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) 26 May 2007 is the 10th anniversary of the tabling in the Senate of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission report, *Bringing them home: National inquiry into the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families*, and
 - (ii) as recommended in the report, the Senate recognises that 26 May is National Sorry Day, a day of remembrance each year to commemorate the history of forcible removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and its effects on individuals, families and communities;
- (b) acknowledges the efforts to implement the report's recommendations on support for services to reunite Indigenous family members, such as Link-Up's counselling support and tracing services, while recognising that the unmet need for these services is still unacceptably large; and
- (c) notes:
- (i) the release yesterday of the Urbis Keys Young *Bringing them home* evaluation report, which documents the outstanding work being done by Link-Up services and bringing them home counsellors, and highlights their positive outcomes and high rates of client satisfaction along with their inordinately heavy case loads and high rates of burnout, and
 - (ii) there remains a need for full implementation of the report's recommendations in order to provide healing and make reparations to Indigenous people removed from their families.

Notice of motion altered on 9 May 2007 pursuant to standing order 77.

Notice given 9 May 2007

- *785 **Chair of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee (Senator Eggleston):** To move—That the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee be authorised to hold a private meeting otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 10 May 2007, from 1 pm.
- *786 **Senator Watson:** To move—That the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 13 June 2007, from 11.30 am to 1 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the financial reporting and equipment acquisition at the Department of Defence and the Defence Materiel Organisation.
- *787 **Chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee (Senator Payne):** To move—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee on the Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006 be extended to 31 May 2007.

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

- (a) notes:
- (i) the growing incidence of, and pressures on, grandparents who are being called upon to resume the role of parenting of grandchildren because of family tragedies, family breakdown, or the devastating impact of drug or alcohol abuse,
 - (ii) the important role played by community organisations and support services in highlighting these issues and seeking funding for services, and
 - (iii) the fundamental role many grandparents play in holding family units together, and their struggle to provide a safe, secure and supportive environment for their grandchildren;
- (b) acknowledges:
- (i) the support currently provided by government departments and agencies,
 - (ii) the contribution of peak organisations, including research and reports developed by such bodies as Families Australia (*Grandparenting: present and future*, January 2007) and, in the Australian Capital Territory, the Canberra Mothercraft Society Inc (*Grandparents parenting children because of alcohol and other drugs*, 2006), and
 - (iii) calls to achieve substantive improvements in quality of life for grandparents and the children in their care by advocating for legislative recognition of these particular family units and their unique situations;
- (c) recognises:
- (i) the need for relevant, current and accessible information as soon as children arrive,
 - (ii) the potential for significant financial hardship and compromise when they take on parenting of grandchildren,
 - (iii) the need for access to affordable legal advice and support,
 - (iv) that parenting over the age of 55 years has significant health impacts,
 - (v) the significant contribution grandparents make to the social capital of their communities and the nation, and
 - (vi) the need for further research to identify the extent of grandparent families, particularly Indigenous grandparent families; and
- (d) calls for improved responses by government to these issues, including in relation to:
- (i) accessibility of relevant information and advice,
 - (ii) consideration of financial implications,
 - (iii) legal complexities and costs,
 - (iv) health impacts on grandparents and children,
 - (v) impact on grandparents and their contribution to society, and
 - (vi) the need for further research.

***789 Senator Sherry:** To move—That the Senate notes the 2007-08 Budget:

- (a) fails to:
 - (i) tackle Australia's poor productivity performance,
 - (ii) meet the challenges of climate change,
 - (iii) deliver practical solutions to the water crisis, and
 - (v) ensure long-term investment in broadband infrastructure; and
- (b) focuses on a short-term election fix rather than long-term nation building.

***790 Senator Joyce:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) on 30 April 2007, CPA Australia presented Senator John Watson with the Meritorious Service Award, and
 - (ii) the Meritorious Service Award is the highest honour bestowed by CPA Australia; and
- (b) commends Senator Watson, the father of the Senate, for his long-standing contribution to the Senate and the people of Australia particularly for his work on superannuation.

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

- (a) notes:
 - (i) the extensive history of violence directed towards human rights defenders and non-violent activists in Colombia, and
 - (ii) that Article 3 of the Fourth Geneva Convention prohibits violence against civilians in the context of armed conflict that occurs within the borders of a sovereign state and is not of an international character;
- (b) recognises the importance of human rights and peace work in the current situation in Colombia;
- (c) recalls its resolution of 4 August 2004, in which it expressed its 'hope that the Colombian Government will guarantee the safety of the people of San José de Apartadó, and of the international observers who accompany them';
- (d) remembers the death of Luis Eduardo Guerra, leader of the Peace Community of San José de Apartadó, his partner and child, in a massacre of eight people in the Department of Antioquia, Colombia in February 2005;
- (e) notes that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has strongly condemned these murders and called on Colombian authorities to prosecute those responsible;
- (f) recognises the importance of the Colombian Public Prosecutor calling in 69 soldiers from the 17th Brigade, based in Carepa, Department of Antioquia, for questioning in regards to this tragic crime; and
- (g) calls on the Colombian Government to:
 - (i) ensure that this investigation is carried out in an exhaustive and impartial manner to ascertain all the relevant facts and bring to justice those responsible for the murders, and
 - (ii) open an investigation of the 130 murders of members of the Peace Community of San José de Apartadó which have not yet been duly investigated.

- *793 **Senator Milne:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that most industrialised nations now accept the imperative of constraining global temperature increase to 2 degrees or less to avoid catastrophic climate change; and
 - (b) agrees that the imperative of constraining global temperature increase to no more than 2 degrees above pre-industrial levels should underpin government policy responses to global warming.
- *794 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate calls on the Government to inform the Senate by 13 June 2007 on the following matters:
- (a) the number of civilians displaced by the war in Iraq, both internally and externally;
 - (b) the circumstances of these Iraqi refugees;
 - (c) what aid or assistance is going to the refugees and what component of that aid comes from the Australian Government;
 - (d) how many such refugees have been accommodated in Australia and what plans there are to give refuge to more; and
 - (e) what calls from the United Nations, the Red Cross or any other international agencies have been made to nations, including Australia, to meet the refugees' needs.

Orders of the Day relating to Government Documents

1 Forest and Wood Products Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2005-06

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).

2 Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)—Report for 2005-06

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).

3 Australian Fisheries Management Authority—Report for 2005-06

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Webber—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 8 February 2007*).

4 Australian Crime Commission—Report for 2005-06

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).

5 Commonwealth Grants Commission—Report on state revenue sharing relativities—2007 update

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Sterle, in continuation, 1 March 2007*).

6 Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997—Live-stock mortalities for exports by sea—Report for the period 1 July to 31 December 2006

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).

- 7 **Wheat Export Authority—Report for 1 October 2005 to 30 September 2006**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Moore—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Moore, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).
- 8 **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 2006**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Moore—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Moore, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).
- 9 **Migration Act 1958—Section 91Y—Protection visa processing taking more than 90 days—Report for the period 1 July to 31 October 2006**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Moore, 27 February 2007*).
- 10 **Surveillance Devices Act 2004—Report for 2005-06 on the operation of the Act**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Moore—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Moore, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).
- 11 **Bilateral treaty—Text, together with the national interest analysis and annexures—Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Korea on the Protection of Migratory Birds, and Exchange of Notes, done at Canberra on 6 December 2006**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).
- *12 **Regional Forest Agreement between the Commonwealth and the State of Tasmania—Variation, dated 23 February 2007**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator McGauran—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator McGauran, in continuation, 9 May 2007*).
- *13 **Australia–Indonesia Institute—Report for 2005-06**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator McGauran—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator McGauran, in continuation, 9 May 2007*).
- *14 **Surveillance Devices Act 2004—Commonwealth Ombudsman’s report on inspections of surveillance device records for the period 1 July 2006 to 31 December 2006—Australian Crime Commission and Australian Federal Police**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 9 May 2007*).
- *15 **Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979—Report for 2005-06 on the operations of the Act**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Stott Despoja—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 9 May 2007*).
- *16 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Reports by the Commonwealth Ombudsman—Personal identifiers 126/07 to 137/07**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 9 May 2007*).

***17 Commission of inquiry into certain Australian companies in relation to the UN Oil-for-Food Programme—Report by Commissioner the Honourable TRH Cole, AO, RFD, QC—Government response**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 9 May 2007*).

Orders of the Day

- 1 **Anti-Genocide Bill 1999 [2004]—(Senate bill)**
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—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bernardi, in continuation, 12 October 2006*) (*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 (*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 (*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 (*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 (*Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin), in continuation, 14 September 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 acknowledged 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*).

63 Migration Legislation Amendment (End of Mandatory Detention) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 7 September 2006*).

64 Health—Medibank Private

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator McLucas—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.

And on the amendment moved by Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)—At the end of paragraph (b), add “, unless the Government is prepared to produce a white paper that substantiates and supports its proposal, to engage in a genuine period of public consultation, and to be able to confirm it has widespread public support for its sale” (7 September 2006).

65 Migration Legislation Amendment (Complementary Protection Visas) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 13 September 2006*).

66 Social Security (Helping Pensioners Hit by the Skills Shortage) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, Senator Evans)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator George Campbell, in continuation, 14 September 2006*).

67 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Protecting the Great Barrier Reef from Oil Drilling and Exploration) Amendment Bill 2003 [2006]—(Senate bill)—(Senators Bartlett and McLucas)

Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 10 October 2006*).

68 Migration Legislation Amendment (Enabling Permanent Protection) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 12 October 2006*).

69 Skills for the future—Ministerial statement

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Nettle—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Wong, in continuation, 12 October 2006*).

70 Crimes Amendment (Victim Impact Statements) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Ludwig)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Fifield, in continuation, 19 October 2006*).

71 Migration Legislation Amendment (Appropriate Review) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)

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

73 Migration Legislation Amendment (Restoration of Human Rights) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 9 November 2006*).

74 Migration Legislation Amendment (Duration of Detention) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 9 November 2006*).

75 Economy—Inflation and interest rates

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Sherry—That the Senate notes:

- (a) that the interest rate rise on 8 November 2006 is the eighth consecutive increase since May 2002 and the fourth since the 2004 election;
- (b) that the headline inflation rate increased to 3.9 per cent for the year ending September 2006;
- (c) that national and personal debt levels are increasing; and
- (d) the lowering of productivity and trending down in manufacturing and services export (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 9 November 2006*).

76 Avoiding Dangerous Climate Change (Kyoto Protocol Ratification) Bill 2006 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Carr)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*30 November 2006*).

77 Migration Legislation Amendment (Restoration of Fair Process) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)

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

78 Climate Change Action Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Milne)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Ronaldson, in continuation, 22 March 2007*).

79 Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison, Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown, and Senators Bishop and Bartlett)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Allison, in continuation, 5 December 2006*).

80 Pregnancy Counselling (Truth in Advertising) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senators Stott Despoja, Troeth, Nettle and Carol Brown)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 7 December 2006*).

81 Removal of Recognition of US Military Commissions (David Hicks) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senators Nettle and Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Nettle, in continuation, 7 December 2006*).

82 Australian Territories Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill 2007—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bob Brown, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).

83 Environment—Human activity and climate change

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

- (a) notes:
 - (i) the continued scepticism of the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) over the link between human activity and climate change,

- (ii) that the Howard Government has dragged the chain on climate change for more than 10 years, and
 - (iii) the environmental and economic cost of past inaction and any future delays in tackling this challenge; and
 - (b) calls on the Government to recognise the link between human activity and climate change and join in the efforts of the international community by ratifying the Kyoto Protocol (*Senator Ronaldson, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).
- 84 **Qantas Sale (Keep Jetstar Australian) Amendment Bill 2007**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Family First Party, Senator Fielding*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Fielding, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).
- 85 **Marriage (Relationships Equality) Amendment Bill 2007**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Nettle*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown), in continuation, 1 March 2007*).
- 86 **Electoral (Greater Fairness of Electoral Processes) Amendment Bill 2007**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Murray, in continuation, 1 March 2007*).
- 87 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Removal of Unjust Restrictions) Bill 2007**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 1 March 2007*).
- 88 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Access to Judicial Review of Migration Decisions) Bill 2007**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 1 March 2007*).
- 89 **Environment—Nuclear energy**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Wong—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that:
 - (i) nuclear energy is not economically viable in Australia,
 - (ii) nuclear energy is not a climate change solution for Australia, and
 - (iii) the delay in establishing nuclear power would only exacerbate the 11 years of inaction under the Howard Government; and
 - (b) calls on the Government to publish the details of any plans, including possible locations, for nuclear reactors and high level nuclear waste dumps in Australia (*Senator McEwen, in continuation, 1 March 2007*).
- 90 **Criminal Code Amendment (Anti-Child Abuse and Pornography Materials) Bill 2007**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Ludwig*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator George Campbell, in continuation, 21 March 2007*).

- 91 **Food Safety (Trans Fats) Bill 2007**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Nettle*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Nettle, in continuation, 26 March 2007*).
- 92 **Repatriation of Citizens Bill 2007**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison and Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Allison, in continuation, 29 March 2007*).
- 93 **Workplace Relations (Restoring Family Work Balance) Amendment Bill 2007**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Fielding, in continuation, 29 March 2007*).
- 94 **Global initiative on forests and climate—Ministerial statement**
Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison), in continuation, 29 March 2007*).

BUSINESS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

On 17 May 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Community Affairs—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Aged Care Amendment (Residential Care) Bill 2007. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Next day of sitting (12 June 2007)

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Standing Committee**

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

2 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on Australia's public diplomacy.

General Business—Notices of Motion

Notice given 21 March 2007

- 747 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to provide for the disclosure of lobbying activities intended to inform and influence Members of Parliament, Ministers and other public officers, to make unlawful the holding and trading of shares by Ministers, and to regulate the post-Ministerial employment of Ministers, and for related purposes. *Lobbying and Ministerial Accountability Bill 2007.*

Notice given 28 March 2007

- 775 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to create incentives and a market for energy savings, which are additional to energy efficiency activities set by minimum energy performance regulation, through white certificate trading, and for related purposes. *Energy Savings (White Certificate Trading) and Productivity Bill 2007.*

On 13 June 2007

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 9 May 2007

- *792 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to establish a Commission for peace and non-violence, and for related purposes. *Peace Commission and Non-Violence Bill 2007.*

On 19 June 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Standing Committees

Reports to be presented on the 2007-08 Budget estimates.

On 20 June 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Economics—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on private equity markets.

On 9 August 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Employment, Workplace Relations and Education—Standing Committee

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

Thirteen sitting days after today (15 August 2007)

Business of the Senate—Notices of Motion

Notice given 8 May 2007

- 1 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Watson):** To move—That the Australian Federal Police Amendment Regulations 2006 (No. 1), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2006 No. 326 and made under the *Australian Federal Police Act 1979*, be disallowed. [F2006L03972]

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

- 2 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Watson):** To move—That Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests) 2006 – Instrument 2006 No. R33, made under subsection 18(2) of the *Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Act 2006*, be disallowed. [F2007L00199]

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

- 3 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Watson):** To move—That Treatment Principles (Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests) 2006 – Instrument 2006 No. R30, made under subsection 16(2) of the *Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Act 2006*, be disallowed. [F2007L00202]

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

On 15 August 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the current level of academic standards of school education.

On 16 August 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on Australia's involvement in international peacekeeping operations.

On the tenth sitting day after 30 June 2007 (12 September 2007)

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Standing Committees**

Reports to be presented on annual reports tabled by 30 April 2007.

On 20 September 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Community Affairs—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on Patient Assisted Travel Schemes.

On 30 June 2008

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Community Affairs—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on mental health services in Australia.

BILLS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

Aged Care Amendment (Residential Care) Bill 2007 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Community Affairs Committee (*referred 29 March 2007; reporting date: 17 May 2007*).

Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006‡

Referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date varied 29 March 2007; reporting date: 10 May 2007*).

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.

‡ *Reference adopted by the Senate following a recommendation of the Selection of Bills Committee.*

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.

Private Senator's Bill

Charter of Political Honesty Bill 2000 [2004]
Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 1 March 2007.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions remaining unanswered

Question Nos, as shown, from 29 to 3108 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 representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—
- (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.

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.
- 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

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

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

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 representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—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

1232 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (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 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 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.

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

Notice given 16 February 2006

1591 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—

- (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 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.

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 6 June 2006

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.

1884 Minister representing the Treasurer

1885 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

1888 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

1890 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

1891 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

1893 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

1911 Minister representing the Deputy Prime Minister

Notice given 8 June 2006

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.

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

1993 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

1994 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

1998 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

Notice given 16 June 2006

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 14 July 2006

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.

Notice given 19 July 2006

2234 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (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 representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (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 representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (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 representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (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.

Notice given 28 July 2006

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

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.

Notice given 8 August 2006

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.

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.

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.

Notice given 15 August 2006

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.

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.

Notice given 17 August 2006

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.

2400 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

2402 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Notice given 24 August 2006

2431 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—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 representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—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.

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.

Notice given 28 August 2006

2446 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (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 representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—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 representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (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 representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—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 representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—
- (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 representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—
- (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 representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (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 representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (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.

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

Notice given 6 September 2006

2476 **Senator Marshall:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—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.

Notice given 21 September 2006

2503 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to funding priorities for the 2006 Living in Harmony Funded Community Projects:

- (1) What are the Australian values that funded community projects will promote.
- (2) How were these values identified.
- (3) (a) What criteria are being used to evaluate grant applications in regard to the promotion of Australian values; and (b) how were they developed.

Notice given 4 October 2006

Senator Bob Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2523-2543)—With reference to meetings between the Minister and representatives of the Exclusive Brethren: Has the Minister met with representatives of the Exclusive Brethren in the past 5 years: if so, in each case: (a) when was the meeting; (b) where was the meeting held; (c) who attended the meeting; and (d) what matters were discussed.

2525 Minister representing the Treasurer

2526 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

2527 Minister for Finance and Administration

2528 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

2529 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

2530 Minister representing the Attorney-General

2535 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

2537 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

2538 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

2539 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

2540 Minister for Justice and Customs

2541 Minister for the Arts and Sport

2542 Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation

2543 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing

Notice given 18 October 2006

Senator McLucas: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2576-2579)—With reference to applications for relief and/or assistance under the Cyclone Larry/Monica relief package:

- (1) (a) How many applications were received; (b) how many were approved; and (c) what was the total funding approved for each application.
- (2) Can a list be provided of the applications that were rejected and the reasons for each rejection.

2576 Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads

2577 Minister for Finance and Administration

2579 Minister for Human Services

2583 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to surveillance by Coastwatch for each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06:

- (1) What was the number of hours flown by Coastwatch during flights over the waters between the Australian coastline and the Indonesian archipelago.
- (2) (a) How many vessel sightings in the waters between the Australian coastline and the Indonesian archipelago were recorded by Coastwatch; and (b) in relation to those vessel sightings: (i) how many were referred for further action to another agency or another part of the Australian Customs Service, and (ii) can a list be provided of the names of the agencies and the number of referrals to each.

Notice given 19 October 2006

2586 **Senator Hurley:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to the report in the *Australian* on 22 August 2006 that 110 Chinese nationals obtained their passports and citizenship illegally:

- (1) Were both of the people charged in this incident departmental officials before, when or after the incident was uncovered; if so: (a) what were their positions; and (b) between which dates were they employed by the department.
- (2) Were the two people charged employed by any government department at anytime.
- (3) With what crimes were these two people charged.
- (4) Were there only two people charged in this incident; if not, were the additional people charged employed by the department or any other government department at anytime.
- (5) When and how did the department become aware that this incident was occurring.
- (6) What measures has the department put in place to ensure that this corrupt practice does not continue within the department.
- (7) Have any new false passport and citizenship cases been exposed since the two people were arrested.
- (8) Excluding the 110 Chinese nationals, how many false passports and citizenships have been detected by government officials for each of the years 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006.

- (9) Is the Government conducting an enquiry into this incident; if so: (a) who is conducting it; (b) when will the findings be handed down; and (c) will the findings, in their entirety, be made public.
- (10) Whose decision was it to allow the 110 Chinese nationals to keep their passports and maintain their Australian citizenship.

Notice given 6 November 2006

2614 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) Has the department instituted an internal costing or cost recovery system; if so, what was the reason for instituting this system.
- (2) How many staff are there at each Australian Public Service (APS) level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch as at 30 September 2006.
- (3) What is the average salary of staff at each APS level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch as at 30 September 2006.
- (4) (a) What is the methodology used to calculate time and cost of the preparation of answers to questions on notice; (b) what is the justification of this costing methodology; and (c) why has the department not embraced a cost estimate system linked to blocks of time such as that used by law and accounting firms.
- (5) What is the justification of the methodology used to calculate the time and cost of the preparation of this answer, including: (a) the number of staff involved; (b) the substantive or acting levels of the staff members involved; (c) the salary cost per staff member involved; (d) the on costs per staff member involved; and (e) the time taken per staff member in the preparation of the answer.

Notice given 7 November 2006

2615 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—

- (1) With reference to government assistance provided to the Tasmanian Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment to prepare a draft eradication plan for rabbits and rodents on Macquarie Island and to the Tasmanian Government's appointment, with Commonwealth assistance (through National Heritage Trust (NHT) funding), of a project officer to further develop this plan: (a) what steps has the Minister taken to allocate funds, from the NHT or other sources, for the implementation of the plan in conjunction with the Tasmanian Government; and (b) if no such steps have been taken, when will the Minister allocate funds.
- (2) Given that Commonwealth funding has been provided for various phases of the vertebrate pests program for the Macquarie Island World Heritage Area as stated in the answer to question on notice no. 1915 (Senate *Hansard*, 6 September 2006, p. 153), will the Government make a commitment to provide sufficient funds to complete the program.
- (3) What has been the effect so far on the nesting habitat and breeding success of the Macquarie Island grey-headed albatross population, listed as vulnerable under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, given that the location of the only colony, with 80 breeding pairs only, has been severely damaged by rabbits.

- (4) What has been the effect of rabbit grazing on the breeding success of Macquarie Island populations of: (a) wandering albatross, with approximately 19 breeding pairs only; (b) blue petrels; and (c) fairy prions, all listed as vulnerable under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
- (5) How many king penguins and their chicks were killed as a result of the recent rabbit-induced landslip at Lusitania Bay.
- (6) How will the recent landslip at the Sandy Bay tourist boardwalk affect the experience of the tourists landing on Macquarie Island in 2006.
- (7) What steps has the Minister taken to review the conservation status of endemic species and subantarctic vegetation communities on Macquarie Island in light of the observed increase in rabbit damage and its associated impacts on Macquarie Island biodiversity and landscape.
- (8) Given the accelerating degradation of the environment of Macquarie Island, with increasing risks of landslips due to vegetation loss as a result of rabbit grazing, what are the increased occupational health and safety risks to personnel of the Australian Government Antarctic Division and Bureau of Meteorology working on the island, many of whom travel along the coasts and slopes as part of their professional duties.

Notice given 8 November 2006

2618 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) With reference to the answer to question on notice no.1574, paragraph (4) (*Senate Hansard*, 9 May 2006, p. 199) what was the penalty imposed for each of the 24 personnel awaiting determination of drug offences.
- (2) (a) How many drug tests have been administered to Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel by service, since 1 February 2006; (b) how many tests returned positive results and at which sites; (c) what was the incidence of different drug types; and (d) what penalties have been imposed to date.
- (3) As at 1 November 2006, how many ADF personnel are currently being treated for alcoholism or are receiving counselling for alcohol substance abuse.
- (4) For each of the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 to date, by service, how many personnel have been discharged for: (a) alcohol substance abuse; and (b) drug usage.
- (5) For the year 2006 to date, how many trainees have been disciplined or counselled by military or civil authorities at the: (a) Australian Defence Force Academy for: (i) intoxication, and (ii) drug usage; and (b) Royal Military College, Duntroon for: (i) intoxication, and (ii) drug usage.
- (6) For each of the years 2005 and 2006 to date, what percentage of ADF applicants were rejected for past drug usage.

2623 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) At the end of each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, how many medically-qualified staff by rank or type were in each of the services.
- (2) By type, what is the current shortfall of qualified medical staff in each of the services.
- (3) (a) What is the most common form of employment of medically-qualified personnel; and (b) at present, what percentage of the total are contracted.

- (4) What estimate is there of medical consultations or individual provisions of medical service conducted currently for: (a) the Defence Health Services Division (DHSD) on base: (i) each week, and (ii) annually; and (b) private or public medical services off base: (i) each week, and (ii) annually.
- (5) (a) How many rehabilitation cases are currently active within the system; and (b) for each of the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 to date, what was the total number of active rehabilitation cases.
- (6) For each of the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 to date: (a) what was the cost of rehabilitation treatment; and (b) which providers received the five largest amounts.
- (7) What was the distribution of rehabilitation cases for the 2006-06 financial year, by type of injury or illness, for each of the services.
- (8) For the 2005-06 financial year: (a) what was the total sum paid to private medical providers off base for the treatment of Australian Defence Force serving personnel; and (b) by type, what was the sum paid for medical specialists.
- (9) For the 2005-06 financial year, how many cases of: (a) alcohol substance abuse and addiction; and (b) drug dependency, were treated by the DHSD.

Notice given 9 November 2006

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2631-2650)—

- (1) Has the department instituted an internal costing or cost recovery system; if so: (a) what was the reason for instituting this system; and (b) can details be provided of the costs associated with instituting this system.
- (2) As at 30 September 2006: (a) how many staff are there at each Australian Public Service (APS) level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch; and (b) what is the average salary of staff at each APS level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch.

2631 Minister representing the Prime Minister

2633 Minister representing the Treasurer

2637 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

2638 Minister representing the Attorney-General

2639 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

2643 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

2644 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

2647 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

2648 Minister for Justice and Customs

2649 Minister for the Arts and Sport

2651 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the decision to destroy the ancient forest in Weld River coupe WR15F:

- (1) (a) What is the necessity for the planned deforestation; and (b) what alternatives are available.
- (2) (a) What buffer will be kept between logging and the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area; and (b) how will this be managed.

- (3) (a) Does this buffer or lack thereof, accord with World Heritage respect and values; and (b) have World Heritage experts agreed with this; if so: (i) who are the experts, (ii) what is their complete advice, and (iii) when was it given.
- (4) (a) What areas of the coupe will not be logged; (b) why; and (c) on whose advice.
- (5) Will Gunns Limited be a receiver of wood products from the coupe; if so: what volume and percentage of the commercial wood will go to Gunns Limited.
- (6) Has the Minister inspected logging in the World Heritage value forests of the Weld; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (7) Will the Minister, as part of his portfolio responsibilities, visit the Weld River coupe WR15F to ensure Tasmania's World Heritage values are not contravened in any way while the current Minister is in office.

2652 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the cancellation of Transair's air operator's certificate (AOC) by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) on 24 October 2006 was not disclosed to the public until the opposition asked questions about the matter at the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee estimates hearing on 30 October 2006 (Committee *Hansard*, p 109).
- (2) Why did CASA fail to disclose the cancellation of Transair's AOC on 24 October 2006.
- (3) Did CASA propose to keep the cancellation a secret until the expiry of the automatic stay period or a decision by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal on an application to review the cancellation was made.
- (4) Has CASA previously published notices of AOC suspensions and cancellations on its website; if so: (a) when did this policy change; and (b) why.
- (5) Is it the case that disclosure of AOC suspensions and cancellations are in the public interest.

2653 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the memorandum 'CASA's relationship with industry – a new definition', published by Mr Bruce Byron, the Chief Executive Officer, Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), on 11 October 2006:

- (1) Did the Minister approve the publication of the memorandum.
- (2) Does the Minister agree that a focus on compliance with regulations is 'no longer a viable approach to safety as it is simplistic and not based on any analysis of the ever changing risks the aviation industry faces'.
- (3) What analysis has CASA undertaken that shows that a focus on compliance is not a viable approach to safety.
- (4) How is a failure to focus on compliance with regulations consistent with Australia's obligations under Article 12 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention) which requires each contracting state to 'adopt measures to insure that every aircraft flying over or manoeuvring within its territory and that every aircraft carrying its nationality mark, wherever such aircraft may be, shall comply with the rules and regulations

relating to the flight and manoeuvre of aircraft there in force' and 'ensure the prosecution of all persons violating regulations applicable'.

- (5) Does the Minister agree with Mr Byron's decision to place 'far less emphasis on getting involved in the detail of organisations through issuing administrative notices such as request for corrective action'.
- (6) Is it the role of CASA's to demand corrective action when it identifies breaches of safety rules.
- (7) Can the Minister substantiate Mr Byron's claim that 'the amount of industry surveillance has and will continue to increase'.
- (8) Has the restructure announced by Mr Byron in February 2006 enhanced or diminished CASA's capacity to undertake industry surveillance; if it has enhanced CASA's capacity, how has that capacity been enhanced.
- (9) Why does Mr Byron's memorandum fail to make reference to CASA's obligation to the travelling public.

2654 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) cancel Transair's air operator's certificate (AOC) on 24 October 2006.
- (2) Under what section of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* was the AOC cancelled.
- (3) Can a copy of the written cancellation notice be provided.
- (4) (a) How was the notice served; and (b) to whom was it served.
- (5) On what date, and in what form, was CASA advised that Transair intended to make an application to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) seeking a review of CASA's decision to cancel the AOC.
- (6) On what date did Transair make an application to the AAT seeking a review of CASA's decision to cancel the AOC.

2655 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) cancelled Transair's air operator's certificate on 24 October 2006 because the company failed to fulfil its obligations under an enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) entered into on 4 May 2006, and to respond to show cause notices issued on 14 August and 26 September 2006.
- (2) Which of the seven undertakings listed in the EVU did Transair fail to fulfil.
- (3) Why did not CASA apply to the Federal Court of Australia for an order under section 30DK(7) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* in relation to breaches of the terms of the EVU.

2656 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) (a) Which specific breaches or grounds were notified in the show cause notice issued to Transair on 14 August 2006; and (b) how was the notice served.
- (2) (a) Was Transair invited to attend a show cause conference related to this show cause notice; if so, on what date and in what form; and (b) if a conference was conducted: (i) on what date, (ii) what was the location, and (iii) who attended.

- (3) (a) Which specific breaches or grounds were notified in the show cause notice issued to Transair on 26 September 2006; and (b) how was this notice served.
- (4) (a) Was Transair invited to attend a show cause conference related to this show cause notice; if so, on what date and in what form; and (b) if a conference was conducted: (i) on what date, (ii) what was the location, and (iii) who attended.

Notice given 10 November 2006

2657 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Does section 30DK(4) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* require the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to publish details of enforceable voluntary undertakings on the Internet.
- (2) Why did CASA not publish parts 1 to 9 and parts 11 to 14 of the Transair enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) on its website which included: the dates of audits for the years 2001 to 2006 which disclosed to CASA auditors ongoing compliance and structural problems, the details of 14 identified safety breaches, Transair's admission that corrective action is required and the timetable for the implementation of the undertakings.
- (3) Why did the details published on the CASA website identify just five undertakings by Transair when part 10 of the Transair EVU contains seven undertakings.
- (4) Does the CASA publication *CASA New Enforcement Procedures: A Fairer and More Transparent System*, contain the following advice 'Is an EVU public? Yes. The legislation requires that CASA must publish details of EVUs on its website'.
- (5) Why were all details of the EVU not published on the Internet by CASA.
- (6) Did the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee recommend that an EVU scheme should be accompanied by a publicly-available register.
- (7) Did the explanatory memorandum for the Civil Aviation Amendment Bill 2003 advise the Parliament that the Government's proposed EVU scheme had been revised to take into account the above committee's recommendations, including the publication of EVU details on the Internet.
- (8) Did the explanatory memorandum also advise the Parliament that the Government's EVU scheme was modelled on section 87B of the *Trade Practices Act 1974*.
- (9) Is it the case that the guide on section 87B undertakings, published by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) in August 1999, states that 'the Commission's view is that all s.87B undertakings should be a matter of public record and open to public scrutiny'.
- (10) Is it the case that the ACCC maintains a public register of all undertakings made under section 87B of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* and publishes a copy of each signed undertaking on its website.
- (11) Is the Minister satisfied that CASA has complied with section 30DK(4) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* by failing to publish parts 1 to 9 and parts 11 to 14 of the Transair EVU and failing to publish full details of the specific undertakings contained in part 10.

- 2660 **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. 1472 (Senate *Hansard*, 22 June 2006, p. 313):
- (1) Does Mr Bruce Byron, the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), still maintain offices in Canberra, Melbourne, Moorabbin and at his home.
 - (2) For the each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, how many days did Mr Byron spend working from: (a) his Canberra office; (b) his Melbourne office; (c) his Moorabbin office; (d) his home office; and (e) any other location.
 - (3) (a) Why did CASA pay for the installation of a satellite telephone link at Mr Byron's home costing \$1 896.75 including a first month charge of \$89.95; (b) on what date was the satellite telephone link installed; and (c) for each of the financial years since installation, including 2006-07 to date, what sum has CASA spent on fees associated with the satellite telephone service.
 - (4) For each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date: (a) what equipment, if any, has been purchased for Mr Byron's home office; and (b) what other costs has CASA incurred in relation to the operation of the home office.
 - (5) For each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, what costs has CASA incurred in relation to Mr Byron's offices in: (a) Canberra; (b) Melbourne; and (c) Moorabbin.
- 2664 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the claim by Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) spokesperson Mr Peter Gibson in the *Australian* newspaper report 'Freefall to Death' of 23 January 2006, that proposed rule changes for the entire sports aviation industry have been delayed since 1998, but CASA would make an announcement about rule changes soon:
- (1) What rule changes have been under consideration since 1998.
 - (2) Why has the implementation of the rule changes been delayed for eight years.
 - (3) Can a copy be provided of all related Notices of Proposed Rule Making.
 - (4) When will rule changes be implemented.
 - (5) How many people participating in sports aviation, including: (a) skydiving (b) ultralight aviation; (c) ballooning; and (d) other sports, have died in Australia since 1998.
- 2666 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Which members of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Maintenance Regulations Project Team undertook a European study tour in late 2005.
 - (2) Did any non-team members participate in the study tour; if so, who.
 - (3) On what date did the study tour group depart Australia.
 - (4) On what date did the study tour group return to Australia.
 - (5) Can a detailed itinerary for each day of the study tour be provided.

- (6) What was the total cost of the study tour.
- (7) What was the cost of the following items: (a) domestic airfares; (b) international airfares; (c) land transport; (d) accommodation, disaggregated to show the name and cost of accommodation for each night; (e) hospitality; (f) meals; (g) travel insurance; and (h) other expenses not listed above.

2668 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the total cost of introducing the Civil Aviation Safety Authority Generated Minimum Equipment List (GMEL) system, by year.
- (2) Can the cost be disaggregated to include: (a) software adaptation; (b) project team costs; (c) trial costs; (d) payments to Transport Canada; and (e) other costs
- (3) Can details of all GMEL Review Board members be provided.

2670 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What was the cost of establishing and maintaining the Office of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Industry Complaints Commissioner in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the CASA Industry Complaints Commissioner received 219 complaints in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (3) What matters, by category, did the complaints concern in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (4) How many complaints did the CASA Industry Complaints Commissioner investigate in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (5) How many recommendations by the CASA Industry Complaints Commissioner in the 2005-06 financial year resulted in: (a) action by the original CASA decision maker to overturn a decision; (b) action by the CASA Chief Executive Officer to overturn a decision; and/or (c) a change to a CASA procedure.
- (6) How many recommendations from the CASA Industry Complaints Commissioner were not accepted in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (7) Were all complaints dealt with in accordance with the service charter.

2673 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Civil Aviation Regulation 7 (CAR 7) as contained in the Civil Aviation Regulations 1988, which provides that the Director of Aviation Safety 'may, in writing, delegate to a person all or any of CASA's powers and functions under CAR':

- (1) Does the Director of Aviation Safety issue delegations to positions rather than persons; if so, do these delegations comply with CAR 7 which provides for delegation to 'a person'.
- (2) Does the Director of Aviation Safety ever issue unsigned delegations stamped with an electronic signature.
- (3) Can a schedule showing the current functions and powers delegated under CAR 7 and the name of the person exercising that delegated power be provided: if not, why not.

- 2674 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) For each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, can details be provided of all costs associated with domestic travel for Mr Bruce Byron, the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, by year, including: (a) fares; (b) accommodation; (c) meals; (d) insurance; and (e) other costs.
 - (2) Can the same details be provided for any domestic travel undertaken by members of Mr Byron's family.
- 2677 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What was the cost of the Civil Aviation Safety (CASA) telephone survey of general aviation operators and organisations commissioned in September 2005.
 - (2) Will CASA undertake an extensive survey of all aviation sectors in the 2006-07 financial year, as planned; if so, what is the estimated cost of this survey.
- 2678 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the statement in the Civil Aviation Safety (CASA) annual report for the 2005-06 financial year that CASA issues 'continue to cause some concern in the Minister's office': Can the Minister outline the nature of these concerns with CASA's performance.
- 2685 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that separation and redundancy payments by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) have risen from \$235 000 in the 2003-04 financial year to \$374 000 in the 2004-05 financial year to \$6 514 000 in the 2005-06 financial year.
 - (2) What is the estimated cost of separation and redundancy payments by CASA in the 2006-07 financial year.
- 2687 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Why does the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) annual report for 2005-06 report that the highest remuneration paid to a CASA executive other than the Chief Executive Officer in the 2004-05 financial year was in the \$310,000 - \$324,999 band when the CASA annual report for 2004-05 reports that the highest remuneration paid to a CASA executive other than the Chief Executive Officer in the 2004-05 financial year was in the \$280,000 - \$289,999 band.
- 2690 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to section 30DK(4) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* that requires the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to publish details of enforceable voluntary undertakings (EVUs) on the internet:
- (1) What is the basis of the claim by the Chief Executive Officer of CASA, Mr Bruce Byron, to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on 30 October 2006 that because the Act requires publication of 'the details' of EVUs and not 'the detail', CASA may only publish a summary.
 - (2) (a) On what date did CASA seek legal advice on its obligations under section 30DK(4) of the Act; and (b) can a copy of the advice be provided.

- 2691 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the evidence by the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), Mr Bruce Byron, to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on 30 October 2006 that the enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) by Transair ‘was required by CASA, from a significant point of view, as a result of surveillance activity conducted since mid-2005’: Does part 3 of the EVU reveal that Transair ‘was the subject of CASA audits in November 2001, August 2004, February 2005 and February 2006 which disclosed to CASA auditors that it had ongoing compliance and structural problems’.
- 2693 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority General Counsel, Mr Rick Heap, issue a memorandum of advice on 9 May 2006 requesting publication of the details of the enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) by Transair, dated 4 May 2006, on the Internet.
 - (2) Did Mr Heap’s memorandum note that the structure of the company’s operations needed to change ‘to rectify the problems identified in the background to the undertakings’.
 - (3) Given its relevance to the undertakings, why was the background, contained in parts 1-9 of the EVU, not published on the internet.
- 2694 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can details be provided of all enforceable voluntary undertakings (EVUs) accepted by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) under section 30DK of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988*.
 - (2) For each EVU can the following details be provided:
 - (a) the organisation or individual making the undertaking;
 - (b) the date the undertaking was made;
 - (c) the date the undertaking was accepted by CASA; and
 - (d) the period of the undertaking.
- 2695 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) On what date did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) publish on its website a summary of the enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) by Transair accepted by CASA on 4 May 2006.
 - (2) On what date did CASA remove a summary of the EVU from its website.
- 2696 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) On what date did the enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) by Transair, dated 4 May 2006, cease to have effect.
 - (2) Why did the EVU cease to have effect on this date.

- 2697 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is the Minister aware that in September 2006 Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) spokesperson Mr Peter Gibson told *The Australian* newspaper that 'none' of the issues subject to the Transair enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) dated 4 May 2006 'can be linked directly' to the tragedy at Lockhart River on 7 May 2005.
 - (2) What is the basis of CASA's claim that none of the fourteen safety breaches identified in the Transair EVU can be linked to the Lockhart River crash.
- 2698 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the evidence by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Gemmell, to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on 30 October 2006 that CASA failed to enforce training requirements mandated in the Transair operations manual prior to the Lockhart River tragedy in May 2005:
- (1) Is the Minister aware Mr Gemmell told the committee 'whilst we may have known it was occurring, we did not enforce that because, quite frankly, if we sought to enforce it they could simply cross it out of the manual, and that would be the end of it'.
 - (2) Does Civil Aviation Regulation 215(9) as contained in the Civil Aviation Regulations 1988 require each member of the operations personnel of an operator to comply with all instructions contained in the operations manual in so far as they relate to his or her duties or activities.
 - (3) Did CASA knowingly fail in its duty by failing to enforce compliance with Civil Aviation Regulation 215(9).
 - (4) Which other instructions contained in the Transair operations manual has CASA knowingly permitted the operator to disregard.
- 2699 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the evidence by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Gemmell, to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on 30 October 2006 that CASA failed to enforce training requirements mandated in the Transair operations manual prior to the Lockhart River tragedy in May 2005 because 'if we sought to enforce it they could simply cross it out of the manual, and that would be the end of it':
- (1) Can holders of air operator's certificate simply 'cross out' provisions in operations manuals.
 - (2) Is it the case that original operations manuals must be approved by CASA.
 - (3) Is it the case that amendments to operations manuals must be approved by CASA.
 - (4) Why did CASA approve the provision in Transair's operations manual that mandated Human Factors Management training.
- 2700 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to page 34 of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) annual report for 2003-04 and page 38 of the CASA annual report for 2004-05 and the answer to question on notice no. 352 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 May 2005, p. 271), concerning a review of the new CASA enforcement regime:
- (1) Which CASA officers managed the review.

- (2) Did the review conclude in May 2005.
- (3) On what date was the review report presented to the CASA Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Byron.
- (4) What necessary changes to the enforcement regime did the review identify.
- (5) What necessary amendments to the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* did the review identify.
- (6) Can a copy of the review report be provided.
- (7) On what date did Mr Byron provide a report to the Minister on the review outcomes.
- (8) How did the Minister and the department consider the review.
- (9) When did the Minister's consideration of the review conclude.
- (10) What changes to the enforcement regime have resulted from this consideration.
- (11) What legislative amendments can be attributed to the review.

2701 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can a copy be provided of the Transair air operator's certificate (AOC) BN426646-31 issued on 20 October 2005.
- (2) Was this AOC current as at 4 May 2006 when Transair entered into an enforceable voluntary undertaking with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority.
- (3) Were any Transair AOCs issued between 4 May and 17 May 2006; if so, can a copy of each AOC be provided.
- (4) Can a copy be provided of the Transair AOC BN426646-33 issued on 17 May 2006.
- (5) Did Transair operate on three AOCs within the space of a fortnight in May 2006; if so, can an explanation for this be provided.

2702 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is it the case that section 28 of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* provides that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) may only issue an air operator's certificate (AOC) if it is satisfied that the applicant has complied with, or is capable of complying with, the provisions of the Act, the regulations and the Civil Aviation Orders.
- (2) On each occasion that CASA has issued an AOC to Transair, has CASA satisfied itself that Transair has complied with, or is capable of complying with, the provisions of the Act, the regulations and the Civil Aviation Orders.
- (3) Can a list be provided of all identified occasions that Transair has not complied with the provisions of the Act, the regulations and the Civil Aviation Orders.

2704 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can the Minister confirm evidence by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Gemmell, to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on 24 May 2005 that the CASA audit of Transair in February 2005 found 'nothing serious or significant'.

- 2705 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) (a) How many serious and imminent risk suspensions has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) issued under section 30DC of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988*; and (b) can details be provided of each suspension, including the holder of the civil aviation authorisation and the reason for the suspension.
 - (2) In each case where CASA has made an application to the Federal Court of Australia under section 30DE, what has been the outcome.
- 2706 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) identify all external maintenance organisations that conducted maintenance on VH-TFU between the CASA audit of Transair in November 2001 and the tragedy at Lockhart River on 7 May 2005.
 - (2) Did CASA audit these organisations during this period; if so, can the dates and related findings of these audits be provided.
 - (3) Has CASA received complaints about compliance with regulations by these organisations during this period; if so, can details of these complaints be provided, including the action taken by CASA in response to these complaints.
- 2707 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is it the case that section 28(2) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* provides that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) may take into account the financial position of an applicant when determining whether to issue an air operator's certificate (AOC).
 - (2) What action, if any, has CASA taken to examine the financial position of Transair when issuing AOCs to this operator.
 - (3) Has CASA established whether Transair has maintained a satisfactory credit rating with providers of material and services, such as spare parts suppliers and external maintenance providers.
- 2708 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Have ramp inspections of Transair aircraft undertaken since November 2001 revealed any problems, including fuel leaks; if so, can details be provided, including the date and the nature of each identified problem.
 - (2) Has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority received any complaints from airport owners since November 2001 about the condition of Transair aircraft; if so, can details provided, including the source, date and nature of each complaint.
- 2710 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) safety recommendation R20060002 issued on 24 January 2006 during the course of the investigation into the Lockhart River air tragedy in May 2005:
- (1) Is it the case that the co-pilot of the Transair flight had not been trained in global positioning system navigation or area navigation global navigation satellite system approaches.

- (2) Has the Government acted to ensure that co-pilots are required to hold an endorsement for any navigation aids being used to navigate an aircraft during flight.
- 2713 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) safety recommendation R20060005 issued on 10 February 2006 during the course of the investigation into the Lockhart River air tragedy in May 2005:
- (1) Why are maintenance and testing requirements for cockpit voice and flight data recording systems not defined in Australian regulations.
 - (2) (a) What is the timetable for the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's consideration of the ATSB recommendation relating to the maintenance requirements of cockpit voice and flight data recording systems; and (b) when will consideration of this matter conclude.
 - (3) What additional training in the maintenance of cockpit voice and flight data recording systems has been provided for airworthiness personnel.
- 2714 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—When will the Government act on Australian Transport Safety Bureau safety recommendation R20060006 arising from the May 2005 Lockhart River disaster in May 2005 and permit approved maintenance organisations to replay in-flight cockpit voice recorder data for legitimate maintenance and testing purposes.
- 2716 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Civil Aviation Order (CAO) 20.16.1 that requires operators to ensure that a copy of a load sheet is retained on the ground at the aerodrome of departure for aircraft engaged in regular public transport services:
- (1) Is the Minister aware that: (a) the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) has found that a copy of the load sheet for the Transair-operated flight from Bamaga to Lockhart River by VH-TFU on 7 May 2005 was not located at Bamaga; and (b) current and former employees of Transair have advised the ATSB that it was not routine practice for load sheets to be left at Bamaga.
 - (2) What action has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority taken in response to this ongoing breach of CAO 20.16.1.
- 2718 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is the Minister aware that Senator Abetz, the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services in the Senate on 6 November 2006, told the Senate on 6 November 2006 that the interim reports by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) into the Lockhart River air tragedy in May 2005 contained 'no suggestion' that the tragedy was due to any failure by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).
 - (2) Is it the case that the ATSB has not endorsed CASA's regulatory oversight of Transair.
 - (3) Is it the case that the ATSB interim factual report published on 31 August 2006 states that the investigation is ongoing and will include further work on 'regulatory oversight of the operator's activities, including approvals and surveillance undertaken'.

- (4) (a) Is the Minister aware that on 6 November 2006 Senator Abetz told the Senate that the CASA Director of Aviation Safety 'has assured himself that there is no imminent threat which would prevent Transair flights continuing at this time'; and (b) how did the Director of Aviation Safety assure himself.

- 2719 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to CASA 19 asked at additional estimates in February 2006, concerning the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) investigation of allegations about Transair operations: Is the claim that 'the company had an open culture and responses to the CASA investigation were cooperative and taken with a view to improving things if required' supported by the company's continuing non-compliance with aviation safety regulations evidenced by, the admission of fourteen breaches of safety rules in the company's Enforceable Voluntary Undertaking dated 4 May 2006, the necessity to issue show cause notices on 14 August 2006 and 26 September 2006, and the decision to cancel the company's air operators certificate on 24 October 2006.
- 2720 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can details be provided of all Requests for Corrective Action (RCA) issued to Transair since November 2001, including: (a) the date of issue; (b) the regulatory breach or breaches identified; (c) the timeline for corrective action; (d) the corrective action taken; and (e) the date the corrective action was taken.
- 2721 **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 Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), Mr Bruce Byron, to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on 30 October 2006, that Transair was not mentioned in reports presented to him before the May 2005 aviation tragedy at Lockhart River in May 2005: Why was no report made to Mr Byron about Transair's 'ongoing compliance and structural problems' identified at CASA audits in November 2001, August 2004 and February 2005.
- 2723 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to evidence by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Director of Aviation Safety, Mr Mick Toller, to the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on 19 February 2001, that Civil Aviation Regulation 206 (CAR 206) as contained in the *Civil Aviation Regulations 1988* that mandates an air operator's certificate for any form of commercial flying training, including training in an ultralight:
- (1) Does commercial flying training in an ultralight still fall within the scope of CAR 206.
 - (2) Do all other forms of commercial flying training in sports aviation aircraft still fall within the scope of CAR 206.
 - (3) Is it the case that it is still not possible to issue an exemption from CAR 206.
 - (4) Has CASA enforced CAR 206 in relation to commercial flying training in sports aviation aircraft; if not, why not.

Notice given 13 November 2006

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2724-2750)—

- (1) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, based on actual program expenditure compared with the program budget estimate, what were: (a) the 10 largest underspending programs; and (b) the 10 largest overspending programs, in the Minister's portfolio.
- (2) For each identified program in paragraph (1): (i) what was the budget estimate, (ii) what was the actual expenditure, (iii) what was the variance, and (iv) can an explanation for the variance be provided.

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2758 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) issued air operator's certificate (AOC) number BN426646-30 to Transair on 30 September 2005 authorising Transair to conduct regular public transport operations in aircraft including a Fairchild SA227-DC with the serial number DC-818B and registration mark VH-TFU.

- (2) Can the Minister confirm that a Fairchild SA 227-DC with the serial number DC-818B and registration mark VH-TFU operated by Transair was destroyed at Lockhart River on 7 May 2005 in a tragedy that cost 15 lives.
- (3) Why did CASA issue an AOC to Transair in September 2005 authorising the operator to carry passengers on an aircraft that had been destroyed in one of Australia's worst aviation disasters 4 months earlier.

2760 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) (a) How many ex-military aircraft are registered in Australia, by aircraft-type, by state/territory; and (b) how many of these aircraft are engaged in commercial operations, by aircraft-type, by state/territory.
- (2) Can an outline be provided of the regulatory regime that governs the operation of ex-military aircraft registered in Australia engaged in: (a) non-commercial; and (b) commercial operations.

2762 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Airworthiness Bulletin 02-018 issued on 20 October 2006 applicable to all BAC 167 Strikemaster and Jet Provost aircraft and relating to airworthiness information arising from a fatal crash of a Strikemaster aircraft near Bathurst on 5 October 2006:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the possible structural failure of other Strikemaster aircraft and Jet Provost aircraft registered in Australia prompted the bulletin.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the bulletin draws attention to United Kingdom Civil Aviation Authority (UKCAA) Mandatory Permit Directives (MPDs) relating to Strikemaster aircraft.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that some of these UKCAA MPDs concern cracking in wing structures on Strikemaster aircraft.
- (4) On what date(s) did CASA issue Airworthiness Directives (AD) AD/Strikemaster/3 and AD/Strikemaster/4 under Civil Aviation Safety Regulation (CASR) 39.001 as contained in the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1988 mandating compliance with UKCAA MPDs 1995-101 and 1995-109 respectively.
- (5) Is it the case that CASR 39.003 prohibits the operation of an Australian aircraft that is covered by an AD in breach of any requirement of the AD.
- (6) Has any Strikemaster aircraft registered in Australia operated in breach of AD/Strikemaster/3 and/or AD/Strikemaster/4.
- (7) Have any requirements been mandated, in the form of an AD or otherwise, in relation to the operation of Jet Provost aircraft in Australia; if so, what are the requirements; if not, why not.

Notice given 15 November 2006

2768 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the Outback Stores Initiative announced by the Government on 14 August 2006:

- (1) (a) Since the announcement was made, how many community stores have come under this program; (b) can a list be provided of those stores; and (c) given that the program is voluntary are all those stores, now under the program, voluntary participants.

- (2) What is the criteria by which stores are judged to be eligible to join the program.
- (3) How much of the \$48 million allocated to the program over 4 years has:
(a) been disbursed; (b) to whom; and (c) under which broader funding program; (for example, a health program or under Indigenous Business Australia).
- (4) (a) Can a breakdown be provided of the funding that has been spent on the program to date (for example, on new stores, supplies, transport or other requirements); and (b) is there a breakdown for the proposed use of the \$48 million over the 4 years.
- (5) (a) How often has the Board of Outback Stores met; and (b) where have these meetings been held.
- (6) (a) How many community stores have been visited by board members, or their delegates; and (b) can a list of the visits be provided.
- (7) Given that the Minister said that the expertise of both Woolworths and Coles will be available to offer invaluable support and technical assistance without commercial interest in the stores, if one of these major food chains is supplying community stores, who bears the loss if for any reason a store is subsequently unable to pay for those supplies.
- (8) (a) Where do the funds come from to meet any board expenses; (b) who provides secretariat support to the board; and (c) of what does that support comprise.
- (9) In what way do Woolworths and Coles provide support and technical assistance to the stores.
- (10) Given that one of the reasons given for the need for this program is concerns over poor financial management in community stores, how many stores, that are now coming under the program, had their management replaced or changed.
- (11) (a) Is the community store at Beswick Community (Wugularr) in the Northern Territory one of those in this program; and (b) can the Minister confirm or deny that this store has made a very substantial loss which the community are now being asked to repay.

Notice given 17 November 2006

2770 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that Airservices Australia declined to provide the department with a copy of legal advice it obtained in March 2002 relating to its capacity to enter into commercial ventures.
- (2) Did that legal advice question the capacity of Airservices Australia to enter into commercial ventures in the absence of specific legislative authority.
- (3) Can a copy of the legal advice be provided; if not, why not.
- (4) Was Airservices Australia empowered by its enabling legislation to enter into airspace management contracts with the Solomon Islands Government in April 1998 and May 2003.

- (5) Can details be provided of other documents Airservices Australia has declined to provide to the Minister or to the department relating to its commercial ventures.

2771 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that for each of the years 2000, 2001 and 2002, the Airservices Australia relationship manager suggested to his manager that an internal audit be conducted of various aspects of the administration of the contract, including the practice of making third party payments.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that no internal audit was conducted until July 2003.
- (3) Why were the audit proposals ignored for each of the years 2000, 2001 and 2002.
- (4) Who was the Airservices Australia relationship manager during this period.
- (5) Who managed the relationship manager.

2772 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Which consulting firm undertook the review of Airservices Australia's internal audit functions in June 2004.
- (2) When did the review commence.
- (3) How much did the review cost.
- (4) Can a detailed outline be provided of the review findings.
- (5) Can a copy be provided of the report of the review; if not, why not.

2773 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: (a) Can a copy be provided of the following reports relating to Airservices Australia's administration of the payment of air navigation fees: (i) the July to September 2003 Airservices Australia internal audit report, (ii) the August to October 2003 Airservices Australia, Office of Security Risk Management review report, and (iii) the June to November 2005 Airservices Australia internal audit report; and (b) if copies of any of the reports cannot be provided, why not.

2774 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the finding of the Australian National Audit Office in Audit Report no. 8 of 2006-07 that, until 2006, Airservices Australia reported to the Australian Parliament that the air navigation fee revenue collected on behalf of the Solomon Islands' Government was held on trust:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the revenue collected by Airservices Australia under its airspace management contract with Solomon Islands has not been held on trust.
- (2) Why did Airservices Australia fail to provide an accurate report to the Parliament about this matter.

- (3) Why did the Government not ensure that Airservices Australia provided an accurate report about this matter.

2775 **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. 2133 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 166), concerning the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Solomon Islands' Government:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that all third party payments were requested in writing by either email or letter.
- (2) Can a copy of all emails and letters requesting third party payments be provided.

2776 **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. 2134 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 167), concerning the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Solomon Islands' Government:

- (1) What advice did Airservices Australia receive about its potential liability in May 2006.
- (2) Can an itemised costing be provided of the legal advice worth \$22 733 sought and received in May 2006 in relation to the contract.
- (3) Has Airservices Australia sought any further legal advice in relation to its management of the contract; 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.
- (4) Has the Minister's department sought any legal advice following the tabling of reports by the Australian and Solomon Islands Auditors-General in late 2006; 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.

2777 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can details be provided, by financial year since the 1997-98 financial year, of all significant business opportunities within Australia or overseas notified by Airservices Australia to the Minister, including but not necessarily limited to notifications required under section 15(1) of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.
- (2) Can a copy of all written directions provided to Airservices Australia under section 15(3) of the Act be provided.

2778 **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. 2135 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 167), concerning the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Solomon Islands' Government: Can the Minister explain why, if his department has 'no involvement in the contract' and Airservices Australia is 'custodian of all information and documentation relevant to the administration of such agreements as that which exists between it and the Solomon Islands Government', an extract of the confidential draft report of the Auditor-General of the Solomon Islands was provided to the Minister's office by Airservices Australia on 28 April 2006.

- 2779 **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. 2129 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 163), which confirms that Airservices Australia has identified and reconciled \$2.2 million in third party payments associated with the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Solomon Islands' Government, can the following be provided: A schedule of all third party payments, by financial year, including: (a) the date of payment; (b) the quantum of payment; (c) the date of purported authorisation by a Solomon Islands official; (d) the form of purported authorisation (for example, letter or email); (e) the name of the Solomon Islands official who purported to authorise the payment; (f) the purpose of the payment; (g) the Airservices Australia officer who authorised the payment; (h) the recipient of the payment; and (i) the form of the payment (for example, cash, cheque, electronic funds transfer—if electronic funds transfer, the account to which the funds were paid).
- 2780 **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. 2131 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 165) concerning airspace management contracts between Airservices Australia and the Government of the Solomon Islands:
- (1) Is Airservices Australia a Commonwealth statutory authority incorporated for a public purpose by an Act of the Australian Parliament.
 - (2) Can details be provided of the precise term or terms of the contracts that would make the release of the contracts to the Australian Parliament unlawful.
 - (3) Can the contracts be released with the consent of the parties to the contracts; if so, has the Minister sought the consent of the parties to release the contracts.
- 2781 **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. 2132 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 166) concerning the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Government of the Solomon Islands:
- (1) When did the review of Airservices Australia's Performance Enhancement Program, including key performance indicators for officers involved in the administration or management of off-shore activities, commence.
 - (2) When did the review conclude.
 - (3) Can an outline be provided of the post-review and pre-review performance indicators.
- 2782 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the statement by the Minister, on 18 October 2006, in response to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:
- (1) What did the Minister mean when he said 'I am committed to the findings of the report'.
 - (2) (a) On what date did the Minister write to Airservices Australia requiring it to review the ANAO report and to provide him with a detailed response; and (b) can a copy of the letter be provided; if not, why not.

- (3) (a) On what date did Airservices Australia respond to the Minister's request; and (b) can a copy of the response be provided; if not, why not.

2783 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO), audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that, prior to the receipt of the draft ANAO report, Airservices Australia and the department disagreed on whether airspace allocated to other countries under the Chicago Convention but managed by Airservices Australia under contract, such as the Honiara Flight Information Region, was Australian-administered airspace.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that Airservices Australia and the department have now reached a shared understanding on whether airspace allocated to other countries under the Chicago Convention but managed by Airservices Australia under contract is Australian-administered airspace.
- (3) Can: (a) an outline of that shared understanding be provided; and (b) a copy be provided of all advice, including advice from the Australian Government Solicitor, dated 22 September 2006, sought by Airservices Australia and the department in relation to this matter.
- (4) For all airspace allocated to other countries under the Chicago Convention but managed by Airservices Australia under contract, can the Minister advise whether the airspace is Australian-administered airspace.

2784 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Can a copy be provided of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Airservices Australia and the Government of the Solomon Islands, signed in April 1998.
- (2) Can an outline be provided of all services provided by Airservices Australia, consistent with the MOU, with the exception of upper airspace management services provided under contract since 1998.

2785 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO), audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: Can the Minister confirm that a file relating to a 2003 review by Airservices Australia's Office of Legal Counsel of the management of the contract was unable to be located for ANAO examination; if so: (a) how did the file disappear; (b) when did the file disappear; (c) what documents were held on the file; and (d) what efforts were made to locate the file.

2786 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: Why did Airservices Australia fail to identify and assess the nature of the relationship established by the revenue collection and repatriation elements of its contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands, including the requirements and conditions that needed to be satisfied in remitting the air navigation fees and its fiduciary duties.

- 2787 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: Did Airservices Australia make third party payments in response to all requests for such payments between the years 1998 and 2003; if not, which requests were refused and, in each case, why were they refused.
- 2788 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:
- (1) On what date did the company secretary of Airservices Australia provide advice to the then Minister, Mr Anderson, on allegations of misuse of air navigation revenue published in the *Solomon Star* in June 2001.
 - (2) Did the advice to Mr Anderson reveal that Airservices Australia had made payments for the purchase of education, training, equipment repairs and vehicles.
 - (3) Did the advice address the question of Airservices Australia's obligations under its contract and/or the legality of third party payments under Solomon Islands law; if not, why not.
 - (4) Did Mr Anderson seek advice from Airservices Australia about its obligations under its contract and/or the legality of third party payments under Solomon Islands law; if not, why not.
 - (5) Can a copy be provided of the written advice to Mr Anderson in June 2001; if not, why not.
 - (6) Did Airservices Australia also provided verbal advice to Mr Anderson in or around June 2001; if so: (a) on what date and (b) was the advice provided over the telephone or at a meeting.
 - (7) If the verbal advice was provided at a meeting: (a) what was the location of the meeting; and (b) who attended.
- 2789 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: Can an outline be provided of the progress on implementing each of the additional Airservices Australia governance processes outlined on pages 70 to 71 of the report, including the adoption of anti-bribery guidelines.
- 2790 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that, despite the contract not authorising cash advances and payments, 17 transactions involving cash advances and payments totalling \$28 558 were made with Airservices Australia corporate credit cards between February 2000 and June 2003.
 - (2) Can full details be provided for each of the 17 corporate credit card transactions.

- (3) On what dates was the Airservices Australia relationship manager advised that the credit card transactions were not in accordance with the corporate credit card conditions of use.
- 2791 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that performance agreements for Airservices Australia staff have given weight to increasing commercial revenue and developing international business opportunities.
 - (2) Can a quantitative measure be provided of the performance bonuses paid to Airservices Australia staff associated with the contracts.
- 2792 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: In preparing advice on the authorisation of transactions by Solomon Islands officials in June 2001, why did the Airservices Australia Office of Legal Counsel not consider whether the officials had actual, and not just ostensible, authority.
- 2793 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: Did Airservices Australia advise the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands in September 2003 that it would manage the contract in accordance with the contract's conditions and would reconcile all financial transactions made under the contract; if so: (a) why has Airservices Australia continued to hold in its bank account air navigation fees that the Solomon Islands Government did not request to be remitted despite the contract requiring fees to be paid to the Solomon Islands Government shortly after the end of each month; and (b) why did Airservices Australia not undertake a reconciliation of all financial transactions until 2005.
- 2794 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO), audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:
- (1) Is the Minister concerned that the ANAO found that 'at no stage did Airservices Australia seek to satisfy itself that the revenue repatriation arrangements complied with Solomon Islands law and/or provided the necessary transparency to the Solomon Islands Government'.
 - (2) Why did Airservices Australia fail to satisfy itself that the revenue repatriation arrangements complied with Solomon Islands law and/or provided the necessary transparency to the Solomon Islands Government.
- 2795 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the report warns that 'it is important that Airservices Australia's commercial focus not overshadow the fact it remains a Commonwealth statutory authority incorporated by an Act of the Australian Parliament for a public purpose'.
- (2) Has Airservices Australia permitted its commercial focus to overshadow its statutory responsibilities.

2796 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: On what date were Airservices Australia's internal procedures amended to ensure that, prior to entering into future contracts, Airservices Australia takes necessary steps to identify the requirements and/or conditions that need to be satisfied when collecting and remitting statutory revenue.

2797 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) On what date did Airservices Australia commence consultation with the Solomon Islands Government to ensure that the manner in which Airservices Australia is paid for managing airspace in the Honiara Flight Information Region fully complies with the requirements of the Solomon Islands Constitution.
- (2) What action, if any, has been necessary to ensure the manner in which Airservices Australia receives payment is lawful.

2798 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Airservices Australia Board Governance Manual 2006: Has the Minister issued Airservices Australia with a statement of expectations: (a) if so: (i) on what date, and (ii) can a copy be provided; and (b) if not, why not.

2799 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Airservices Australia, Gifts and Benefits Policy 2006:

- (1) Does the policy provide for the Airservices Australia Office of Legal Counsel to maintain a permanent register of all facilitation payments made by Airservices Australia officers and employees and the circumstances of such payments.
- (2) Can a schedule be provided of all facilitation payments made by Airservices Australia officers and employees and the circumstances of such payments since 1998.

2800 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For each of the financial years 1996-97 to 2006-07 to date, can a schedule be provided containing details of all memoranda of understanding relating to the provision of commercial services entered into by Airservices Australia.

2801 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA): As at 30 September 2006: (a) how many staff are there at each classification level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch; (b) what is the average salary of staff at each classification level (including executive and senior level staff) by business unit, division or branch; (c) how many staff were employed under: (i) Australian Workplace Agreements, and (ii) the CASA Certified Agreement 2006-08; and (d) how many staff at each classification level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch, have previous service in the Royal Australian Air Force.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2802-2804)—

- (1) Has the Minister, the Minister's office, or any department, agency or authority for which the Minister is responsible received any advice from the Solomon Islands Government about its response to findings contained in the special audit into the financial affairs of the civil aviation division of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Development by the Solomon Islands Auditor-General, including the finding that contract breaches by Airservices Australia 'may warrant action to be taken by the Solomon Islands Government to recover monies from Airservices Australia that were lost through payments made to third parties'; if so, can details be provided.
- (2) Is the contract governed by Australian or Solomon Islands laws.

2802 Minister representing the Prime Minister

2803 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2804 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2806-2809)—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that in June 2001 the Minister and/or the Minister's department received a cablegram briefing from the Australian High Commission in Honiara concerning allegations published in the *Solomon Star* about the misuse of air navigation fees collected by Airservices Australia on behalf of the Solomon Islands Government.
- (2) Can the following details be provided: (a) a list of the cablegram recipients, including the Minister and/or departmental officers; and (b) the date the cablegram briefing was received.
- (3) Can a copy of the cablegram briefing be provided; if not, why not.
- (4) What action has been taken in response to the briefing.
- (5) Having received the briefing, why did the Minister not intervene to prevent the continuing payment of air navigation revenue to third parties in contravention of the contract between Airservices Australia and the Solomon Islands Government.

2806 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2807 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2808 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2809 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

- 2810 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Can the complete list of recipients of the June 2001 cablegram briefing from the Australian High Commission in Honiara to Australian Ministers and officials concerning allegations published in the *Solomon Star* about the misuse of air navigation fees collected by Airservices Australia on behalf of the Solomon Islands Government be provided.

Notice given 20 November 2006

- 2814 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can a copy be provided of the air operators certificate under which Transair was operating the aircraft VH-TFU on 7 May 2005.
- 2815 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can details be provided of each air operators certificate (AOC) issued to Transair since 1 July 2001, including: (a) number; (b) date of issue; (c) period of validity; (d) listed aircraft permitted to conduct regular public transport; and (e) listed aircraft permitted to conduct charter operations.
 - (2) In each case, if the AOC is not effective, can the Minister advise whether the AOC is not effective due to expiry, suspension, cancellation or any other specified reason.

Notice given 21 November 2006

- 2819 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—
- (1) What action is the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) taking against the directors of Westpoint Corporation Pty Ltd.
 - (2) Is the Minister aware of any proposed legislation or amendments that would have prevented the actions of the Westpoint directors.
 - (3) Is the Minister aware of any representation made by ASIC to have legislation amended that would have prevented mezzanine finance deals similar to those employed by Westpoint.
 - (4) Did ASIC believe that Westpoint mezzanine funds were regulated products.
 - (5) On what dates did KPMG sign off on Westpoint's accounts in the past 6 years.
 - (6) What action did the Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority (APRA) and ASIC take when they first discovered that Westpoint was acting as a bank without a licence.
 - (7) Why did APRA and ASIC take a long time to realise that Westpoint was breaking the law.
 - (8) Why has APRA not increased the limits for Financial Industry Complaints Service jurisdiction.
- 2820 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Tiwi Land Council (TLC):
- (1) What employment and training strategies have been developed between the companies Great Southern Plantations and Matilda Minerals and with the people of the Tiwi Islands to ensure that the people of the Tiwi Islands benefit from employment in these industries.

- (2) Does the TLC have an employment strategy when it negotiates with any new companies wanting to set up on the Tiwi Islands.
- (3) What role does the TLC have in investigating any environmental impact statement of these businesses.
- (4) To date, what is the value in dollars of logs that have been exported from the Tiwi Islands.
- (5) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, how much have each of the above businesses paid in royalties.
- (6) (a) To whom are royalties paid; and (b) into which accounts.
- (7) Where are royalties and associated expenditure recorded and reported.
- (8) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, can a list be provided of expenditure from any such accounts.
- (9) (a) How do community members apply to use such funds; (b) is there a formal application form; and (c) how are any applications considered.
- (10) Who approves expenditure and signs off on decisions.
- (11) Has the Tiwi Islands secondary college proposed site been changed; if so: (a) where is the new site; (b) is this a permanent or temporary move; (c) has this relocation been discussed and agreed to with the stakeholders or landowner; (d) how, if at all, will this affect the proposed budget for establishing the college; (e) if required, where will any additional funds come from; (f) how much in funding is coming from royalties or from companies operating on the Tiwi Islands; and (g) how will any changes affect the opening date or other arrangements.
- (12) Given that it is a stated role of the TLC Management Board to assess the impact and make recommendations to the TLC in regard to any new Commonwealth and state legislation and policy affecting the people of the Tiwi Islands, what meetings were held to discuss the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Act 2006*.
- (13) What recommendations were made by the Management Board to TLC about this legislation.
- (14) What discussions were held with the traditional owners and the Tiwi Island Local Government (TILG) about this legislation.
- (15) Has the TLC held any official meetings with any government departments about this legislation; if so: (a) when; (b) with whom; and (c) who was in attendance.
- (16) What consultations have been undertaken with the TILG on these issues.
- (17) Has TLC made any definite undertakings or signed any agreements with the Government over the 99 year leases.
- (18) (a) What rent is being paid by the TLC for its Darwin office; and (b) who owns the office.
- (19) For each of the years 2005 and 2006 to date, how many TLC meetings, including Management Board and full meetings, have been held: (a) on the Tiwi Islands; and (b) in the Darwin office.
- (20) (a) Where are the minutes of any meetings held; and (b) are the minutes easily available to stakeholders like the people of the Tiwi Islands and the TILG.

- (21) In relation to a 600 hectare subdivision for private investment and development of a residential village of 40 blocks with a marina and airfield on Melville Island, referred to in the TLC annual report under proposals considered by TLC: (a) what was this proposal; (b) who made the proposal; and (c) was any decision made regarding the proposal.
- (22) Given that the records of a meeting held on 20 September 2006 at Maxwell Creek Camp, show that the TLC and the TILG seemed to agree that improvements in communications between the two bodies was needed and that TILG/TLC would meet every 2 months with a date to be fixed for November 2006: (a) has this been done; and (b) has a communication strategy commenced.
- (23) How much does the Nguiu Club pay per annum on its present lease.
- (24) (a) Where is the current registered address for Pirntubula Pty Ltd; and (b) is this the principal place of business.
- (25) What is the stated business of Pirntubula.
- (26) From which source(s) does it get revenue.
- (27) On what does Pirntubula spend its money.
- (28) Can copies be provided of the latest Pirntubula reports.
- (29) Does the Minister consider that there is any potential for a conflict of interest in the same person being secretary of the TLC and Pirntubula.
- (30) Has Pirntubula made any payments to any of the companies that employ non-Tiwi members of the Management Board.
- (31) How are people of the Tiwi Islands informed of any proceedings/minutes of the company (for example, is it via computer access or are actual hard copies distributed).
- (32) Who owns the logs that are exported (for example, is it Great Southern Plantations, Pentarch or some other company).
- (33) (a) When logs are shipped, is payment usually made at the point of departure of the shipment or are they sold when they arrive at the destination; and (b) to whom is payment made.
- (34) What information on such sales is provided to the TLC.
- (35) Subsequent to the payment was any part of this income paid to any other person or business; if so, can documentation be provided; if not, what has happened to this income.
- (36) Is the term Red Tiwi, a Pentarch marketing term for the following three types of hardwood, stringybark, woolybutt and Melville Island bloodwood; if so: (a) what is the real market value of each; (b) for what amount are they being sold; and (c) what is the profit on these sales.
- (37) If the term Red Tiwi does not refer to one of the above three types of trees, in precise terms what is meant by Red Tiwi.
- (38) Given that at an estimates hearing of the Community Affairs Committee on 2 November 2006 (Committee *Hansard*, p. 44), it was stated that to date only one shipment of logs has made a profit of \$75 000, to which body or account will this money go.
- (39) After the Tiwi Islands Football Club has been given its \$40 000: (a) how will this income be distributed; and (b) who will distribute it.

- (40) How much, if anything, have the following companies or organisations been paid from the sale of logs from the Tiwi Islands: (a) Sylvatech Pty Ltd; (b) Great Southern Plantations; (c) Pirntubula; (d) Pentarch Forest Products Ltd; (e) Pentarch Ltd Group of Companies; (f) Stratus Shipping (a subsidiary of Pentarch); (g) Pensyl Ltd (a joint venture between Sylvatech and Pentarch Forest Products); and (h) the TLC.
- (41) For each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date: (a) how much has been paid by Pirntubula to Stratus Shipping Pty; and (b) can details be provided on what each payment was for.
- (42) For each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date: (a) how much has been paid to Pensyl Pty Ltd by Pirntubula; and (b) can details be provided on what each payment was for.
- (43) Who maintains records of the number or volume of logs exported from Port Melville.

Notice given 23 November 2006

2821 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-LQH at Toowoomba on 27 November 2001:

- (1) Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) conduct a review of the engine condition monitoring programs of other operators in Queensland following the fatal crash; if so:
 - (a) when did the review commence;
 - (b) how was the review conducted;
 - (c) when did the review conclude;
 - (d) how were operators selected for review;
 - (e) how many operators were reviewed; and
 - (f) how many operators were found to be failing to comply with relevant requirements.
- (2) Has CASA conducted a national review of compliance with engine condition monitoring requirements:
 - (a) if so:
 - (i) when did the review commence,
 - (ii) how was the review conducted,
 - (iii) when did the review conclude,
 - (iv) how were operators selected for review,
 - (v) by state/territory, how many operators were reviewed, and
 - (vi) by state/territory, how many operators were found to be failing to comply with relevant requirements; and
 - (b) if not, why not.

2822 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-LQH at Toowoomba on 27 November 2001: Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) audit of the operator's maintenance organisation in August 2001 identify problems with the operator's maintenance resources; if so: (a) what problems did it identify; and (b) what action did CASA take; if no action was taken, why not.

- 2823 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-LQH at Toowoomba on 27 November 2001:
- (1) Following the resignation of the operator's full-time maintenance controller in August 2001, did the operator's chief engineer fill that role with the approval of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).
 - (2) Was the chief engineer's initial appointment as maintenance controller approved by CASA on 3 August 2001, based on a telephone interview with a CASA inspector.
 - (3) Was the further appointment of the chief engineer as maintenance controller approved by CASA on 17 August 2001.
 - (4) Were CASA's approvals made in the absence of formal guidelines on the criteria, qualifications or competencies that should be considered when evaluating the suitability of a person to act in a managerial role for a maintenance organisation.
- 2824 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-LQH at Toowoomba on 27 November 2001:
- (1) Was the operator's fleet of aircraft maintained by external maintenance organisations until the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) approved a change in maintenance arrangements in early 2001.
 - (2) How did CASA satisfy itself that the operator was capable of conducting maintenance on its own aircraft when it issued the operator with a certificate of approval valid to September 2001.
 - (3) Is it the case that CASA took no action when the certificate of approval expired in September 2001 because it had been mistakenly annotated in the CASA database as being valid for 12 months.
 - (4) Was the certificate of approval renewed on 21 November 2001 on the basis of a telephone conversation with the operator; if so, why was the certificate of approval renewed on the basis of a telephone conversation.
- 2825 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-LQH at Toowoomba on 27 November 2001:
- (1) Were the aircraft's engines operating on a life extension to 5 000 hours time between overhaul (TBO) in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Airworthiness Directive AD/ENG/5 Amendment 7.
 - (2) Is it a requirement of the Airworthiness Directive that, if the engines were operating to a 5 000 hour TBO, they had to be subject to an engine condition trend monitoring (ECTM) program.
 - (3) Prior to the fatal crash, was CASA aware that the operator's maintenance controller had not completed ECTM training and was not qualified to conduct ECTM functions.

- (4) Was CASA aware that the operator had entered into an arrangement to have ECTM data analysed by the engine manufacturer's field representative but failed: (a) to ensure this arrangement was documented by the operator; and (b) to establish whether the ECTM data was being submitted for analysis on a regular basis.
- (5) Is it the case that in the 4 months prior to the fatal crash, ECTM data was not recorded or submitted for analysis in accordance with the engine manufacturer's requirements and AD/ENG/5.
- (6) Is the Minister aware that the ATSB supplementary report published in August 2006 found that ECTM data indicated that a potentially significant problem had been developing in the left engine in the months preceding the fatal crash and 'was both real and indicative of a trend significant enough to warrant a proactive response to identify and rectify a developing problem in the engine'.
- (7) Why did CASA surveillance fail to detect problems with the operator's ECTM program prior to the fatal crash of VH-LQH.

Notice given 24 November 2006

2830 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has the Minister read the report in the July 2006 edition of *Australian Aviation* which records the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Mr Bruce Byron as saying 'I am keen to outsource some of CASA's regulatory service functions'.
- (2) Which regulatory functions does Mr Byron want to privatise.
- (3) When did Mr Byron consult the Minister on his privatisation plans.
- (4) What is the timetable for the implementation of Mr Byron's privatisation agenda.

2831 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the claim by the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), Mr Bruce Byron, at the Corporate Governance in the Public Sector conference on 20 April 2004, that he had the agreement of the then Minister (Mr Anderson) to hold a formal meeting 'at least every two months' on the basis that regular structured communication is an essential element in ensuring CASA's governance arrangements operate successfully:

- (1) On what dates have regular formal meetings involving Mr Byron, the Minister and the Secretary of the department been conducted.
- (2) If regular formal meetings have been abandoned, can the Minister advise: (a) when; and (b) why these meetings were abandoned.

2832 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), Mr Bruce Byron, told a safety conference in November 2006 that when he joined CASA in 2004 'there were a lot of people, highly competent in their technical fields, who had risen up the hierarchy to management positions, but were simply out of their depth as managers'.

- (2) How did Mr Byron measure the performance of CASA management before concluding his managers were 'out of their depth'.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that Mr Byron claims that only one member of CASA's current management team was at CASA when Mr Byron joined the authority.
- (4) For each of the years to date since Mr Byron's appointment, how many CASA managers have left the authority.

Notice given 28 November 2006

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2839-2856)—With reference to the department and all agencies in the Minister's portfolio:

- (1) How many staff are engaged under a Certified Agreement (CA).
- (2) How many staff are engaged under the provisions of an Australian Workplace Agreement (AWA).
- (3) Does the department or portfolio agency have any staff engaged under the provisions of a common law contract; if so: (a) by level, how many staff are under these contracts; and (b) for what reason has the department or agency determined that common law contracts are preferred employment instruments over either CAs or AWAs.

2839 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2840 Minister representing the Treasurer

2841 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

2842 Minister for Finance and Administration

2843 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

2844 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

2845 Minister representing the Attorney-General

2846 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

2847 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

2850 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

2851 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

2852 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

2853 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

2854 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

2856 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

2859 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) By year since 1996, how many non-compliance notices have been issued by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority or any other relevant agencies to international aviation providers undertaking regular passenger transport in Australian controlled airspace.
- (2) In each case what was the: (a) reason for the issue of the notice; and (b) the name of the international carrier.

- 2860 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—By year since 1996, has Qantas Airways Ltd been banned from servicing any aviation components; if so, in each case: (a) why was the ban put in place; (b) which agency (domestic or international) made the determination to ban Qantas from servicing the components; (c) which components were Qantas banned from servicing; (d) for what period was Qantas banned from servicing the components; and (e) what remedial action did Qantas undertake prior to the ban being lifted.
- 2861 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the decision by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) on 25 November 2006 to suspend Transair's air operators certificate (AOC) under section 30DC of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* on the grounds that the operator had engaged, may be engaging and was likely to engage in conduct constituting, contributing to, or resulting in, a serious and imminent risk to air safety: Why did CASA publish the notice of the suspension on its website when it had failed to publish details of the earlier suspension of Transair's AOC which was initiated by CASA on 24 October 2006.
- 2862 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the decision by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) on 25 November 2006 to suspend Transair's air operators certificate (AOC) under section 30DC of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* on the grounds that the operator had engaged, may be engaging and was likely to engage in conduct constituting, contributing to, or resulting in, a serious and imminent risk to air safety: What is the impact of this suspension on: (a) the earlier suspension of Transair's AOC which was initiated by CASA on 24 October 2006; and (b) matters before the Administrative Appeals Tribunal related to the earlier suspension of Transair's AOC which was initiated by CASA on 24 October 2006.
- 2864 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the decision by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) on 25 November 2006 to suspend Transair's air operators certificate (AOC) under section 30DC of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* on the grounds the operator had engaged, may be engaging and was likely to engage in conduct constituting, contributing to, or resulting in, a serious and imminent risk to air safety:
- (1) Is a serious risk one where conduct has caused, or is reasonably likely to cause, an aviation accident or incident.
 - (2) On what basis did CASA determine the risk was serious.
 - (3) On what basis did CASA determine the risk was imminent.
 - (4) On what date did CASA first receive information about the serious and imminent risk.
 - (5) On what date did CASA seek from Transair a written explanation of events and/or undertakings necessary to alleviate the serious and imminent risk.
 - (6) In what form was the request made.
 - (7) On what date did the operator respond to that request.
 - (8) Which officer authorised the suspension action.
 - (9) On what date and at what time did CASA decide to suspend the AOC.
 - (10) (a) On what date and at what time; and (b) in what form, was the suspension notice served on the operator.

- (11) Can a copy of the suspension notice be provided; if not, why not.
- (12) If there was a delay between the decision to suspend the operator and the service of the suspension notice, what is the explanation for the delay.
- (13) On what date and at what time was the suspension effective.
- (14) On what date did CASA make an application to the Federal Court of Australia (FCA) seeking an order under section 30DE of the Act.
- (15) What order of the FCA did CASA seek.
- (16) Did CASA seek costs.
- (17) Can a copy of the application and supporting affidavit be provided; if not, why not.
- (18) What was the outcome of the application, including the details of any order made by the FCA.

2867 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Did the Defence Housing Authority (DHA) announce in June 2006 that it had purchased 52 blocks of land at Bruce in the Australian Capital Territory as part of 350 serviced blocks for the accommodation of Australian Defence Force personnel located at the new Headquarters Joint Operations Command (HQJOC) at Bungendore, New South Wales; if so, apart from the 52 blocks at Bruce, how many other blocks so purchased are on the north side of Canberra.
- (2) For both the Australian Capital Territory (broken down into north side and south side properties), and Queanbeyan, how many properties does DHA: (a) own; and (b) lease.
- (3) (a) How many personnel will be transferring from interstate to work at the new HQJOC building at Bungendore; and (b) how many will be accommodated in the northern part of the Australian Capital Territory (that is, north of the Molonglo River).
- (4) What is the comparable travel distance and time by private car to the Bungendore HQJOC site from: (a) Canberra City north; (b) Canberra City south; (c) Belconnen; and (d) Queanbeyan, by way of the Kings Highway and Macs Reef Road.
- (5) In consultations with the New South Wales Department of Main Roads concerning the assessment of need to upgrade both the Kings Highway and Macs Reef Road, what estimates of increased traffic flow were provided by the department for both routes.
- (6) What is the current estimate of increased daily traffic flow through the city of Queanbeyan from the Australian Capital Territory as the result of the HQJOC.
- (7) What advice on necessary upgrades was given by the New South Wales Department of Main Roads for each road and at what cost.
- (8) (a) What specific upgrades to either road have now been agreed to; (b) at what cost; and (c) what contribution will the Commonwealth be making either from the Department of Defence or other Commonwealth road funds.
- (9) (a) Did the former Minister state that no funding would be provided for roads in New South Wales for the purposes of Bungendore HQJOC traffic; and (b) is this still the case.

- (10) (a) What surveys have been conducted by the department into the road crash statistics for both Bungendore HQJOC routes over recent years; and (b) what were the results for both crashes and fatalities.

2870 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer given to question on notice W1 (o) asked during the 2006 Budget estimates hearing of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee:

- (1) Of the 28 cases listed under military justice, six of which concern sexual harassment: (a) how long has each of those cases been active; (b) at what stage are proceedings with respect to mediation, court hearings, or negotiation; (c) how many await applicant responses or input; and (d) how are the remaining 22 categorised.
- (2) Of the asbestos cases: (a) what is the age distribution of those from original date of lodgement; (b) how many cases are active with respect to court proceedings, mediation or negotiation; and (c) how many have already received disability compensation payments.
- (3) Of the F III claims, how many of those cases have already received a compensation payment under the act of grace scheme administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- (4) With respect to those cases listed under 'contract law': (a) who are the claimants; (b) where known, what are the sums sought; (c) how long has each case been active; and (d) what is the current stage of the process in each case.

2871 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer given to question on notice W1 (o) asked during the 2006 Budget estimates hearing of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee: (a) without identifying the claimant, of the eight cases listed for compensation under the heading of 'military justice': (i) what is the substance of each claim, and (ii) how long has each claim been active; and (b) of the eight cases listed under 'medical': (i) what is the nature of each claim for which payment is sought, and (ii) how long has each case been active.

Notice given 29 November 2006

2877 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to Table 5.7 on page 259 of the department's annual report for 2005-06: (a) what was the categorisation of investigations undertaken by the Service Police in the 1222 cases on hand for the Army as at 30 June 2006; (b) what percentage in each category resulted in the offence being proven; and (c) what disciplinary measures resulted.

2884 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many Australian Defence Force personnel have served overseas in: (a) East Timor; (b) Afghanistan; (c) Iraq; and (d) the Solomon Islands.
- (2) For each of those deployments: by percentage and disability category, how many personnel are now in receipt of, or have received, disability compensation; and of those: (a) how many are still serving; and (b) how many have been discharged as medically unfit.

- (3) How many from each deployment are now in receipt of: (a) a totally and permanently incapacitated pension; or (b) incapacity pay as being unable to work.
- (4) For all personnel who have served in the above deployments: (a) how many have entitlement to the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* and the *Military Compensation and Rehabilitation Act 1989* combined; and (b) how many have access only to the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2005*.

2893 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the decision by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) on 25 November 2006 to suspend Transair's air operator's certificate under section 30DC of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* on the grounds the operator had engaged, may be engaging and was likely to engage in conduct constituting, contributing to, or resulting in, a serious and imminent risk to air safety:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that a CASA spokesperson, Mr Peter Gibson, told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's *PM* program on 27 November 2006, that the information that prompted the suspension was 'new information, information which literally only came to light in the last few days. So in no way does it relate to the accident at Lockhart River'.
- (2) Is this statement accurate.

2894 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—With reference to the practice of providing, at the end of answers to questions on notice, the number of hours and the cost involved in producing the answer:

- (1) Why was this practice instituted.
- (2) Why did question on notice no. 1981 (*Senate Hansard*, p. 97) notice of which was given on 7 June 2006 and answered on 7 November 2006, allegedly cost approximately \$62.21 per hour to answer, while question on notice no. 2002 (*Senate Hansard*, p. 101) asked and answered on the same days allegedly cost \$32.94 per hour.
- (3) Why is there no consistency in the hourly rate and the cost of producing these answers.
- (4) What methodology is used to calculate the number of hours and the cost involved in producing answers to questions on notice.
- (5) Can a copy be supplied of the written instructions to staff detailing the methodology to be applied in determining the cost of producing answers to questions on notice; if not, why not.
- (6) Can an itemised account consistent with a methodology to justify the claimed costs in producing the answers to questions on notice 1981 and 2002 be provided; if not, why not.

Notice given 1 December 2006

2906 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of any contact between the department or the Australian Defence Force and the directors or staff of Knight Industries Pty Ltd.

- (2) Is the Minister aware of any attempts by the department to acquire the technology known as the Knight Direct Location System, also known as KDLS.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that the department has conducted testing on this technology or investigated it in any way.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that a military police officer was with police when Mr Peter Cowell was arrested in November 2004.

Notice given 4 December 2006

- 2908 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the Minister’s statement in his second reading speech on the Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2006 (Senate *Hansard*, 30 November 2006, p. 34) that he has ‘consulted widely on the detail and philosophy of this bill, not only with conservation groups but also with industry’: (a) Which conservation and industry groups were consulted; and (b) on what dates.

Notice given 6 December 2006

- 2921 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—By medical speciality, does the Government have data on districts of workforce shortage; if so, is Sale in Victoria a district of workforce shortage for specialist paediatrics.

Notice given 7 December 2006

- 2928 **Senator Conroy:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Can the Minister explain why the Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s (ABC) annual report for 2005-06 does not contain the graph, contained in previous annual reports, of the ABC’s operational appropriation in real terms compared with the 1985-86 financial year.
 - (2) With reference to a statement by the ABC at the supplementary budget estimates hearing of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee on 31 October 2005 (Committee *Hansard*, p. 83) that at the time the ABC had \$51 million less in real terms to make programs than in the 1995-96 financial year: (a) can an update be provided on this figure; (b) how much funding will the ABC receive from the Commonwealth to make programs for the 2006-07 financial year; and (c) in real terms, what is the equivalent figure for the 1995-96 financial year.
- 2929 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—
- (1) Did the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) ever place any restrictions, formally or informally, on Mr Murray Nugent or the companies he was involved with, specifically Reward Insurance Ltd and Australian Home Warranty Pty Ltd, on writing licensed builder home warranty insurance (LBHWI) from 1 July 1999 onwards.
 - (2) Can the Minister confirm that Mr Nugent continued to write LBHWI through Rewards Insurance Ltd after 1 July 1999.

- (3) Can the Minister confirm that APRA has the power to disqualify an individual from holding roles within the Australian insurance industry; if so, why has APRA never moved to disqualify Mr Nugent from operating in the insurance industry.
- (4) If Reward Insurance Ltd was under the minimum capital requirements for insurance companies from 2001 onwards, why did not APRA shut the company down.
- (5) Can an outline be provided of all investigations, recommendations and directions undertaken and instigated into Reward Insurance Ltd since 1999 by: (a) APRA; and (b) the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC).
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that investigations by APRA and ASIC into Reward Insurance Ltd and Mr Nugent have stalled since May 2005; if so, why.

Notice given 8 December 2006

- 2930 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the proposed clearing of regrowth rainforest at Field 28, North West Point on Christmas Island for phosphate mining:
- (1) Does the proponent, Christmas Island Phosphates (CIP), have a permit to kill, injure, or relocate the Christmas Island pipistrelle bat; if so, can a copy be provided of this permit and any attendant conditions; if not, does the Minister intend to issue such a permit.
 - (2) If the Minister does not intend to issue such a permit, why not.
 - (3) Will the Minister use ministerial call-in powers to require CIP to refer this proposal under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; if not, why not.
- 2931 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the proposed clearing of regrowth rainforest at Field 28, North West Point on Christmas Island for phosphate mining:
- (1) Is this activity exempt from the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* as a consequence of the leases being approved prior to the Act coming into force.
 - (2) Did Christmas Island Phosphates/Phosphate Resources Limited have to notify the Minister of their plans which will impact on the critically-endangered Christmas Island pipistrelle bat.
 - (3) Does the Minister have the power under the Act to declare this a controlled action; if so, does the Minister intend to declare this a controlled action; if not, why not.
- 2932 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the proposed clearing of regrowth rainforest at Field 28, North West Point on Christmas Island for phosphate mining:
- (1) Is the Minister aware that Phosphate Resources Ltd is about to remove an estimated 90 per cent of the foraging habitat of the remaining population of the Christmas Island pipistrelle bat, which was listed as critically-endangered on the same day as the orange bellied parrot.

- (2) Can the Minister identify what financial resources have been allocated to recovery efforts for the: (a) orange-bellied parrot; and (b) pipistrelle bat.

2933 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the proposed clearing of regrowth rainforest at Field 28, North West Point on Christmas Island for phosphate mining:

- (1) Does the proposed mining: (a) impact on the recovery plan for the Christmas Island pipistrelle bat; if not, why not; and (b) contravene the recovery plan for the Christmas Island pipistrelle bat; if not, why not.
- (2) Can a map be provided of the proposed mining area.
- (3) Has Parks Australia formally approved mining in this area in the past; if so, can a copy be provided of the relevant approval documents, including any conditions attached to the approval.
- (4) Does this approval contravene the recovery plan; if not, why not.

2934 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the proposed clearing of regrowth rainforest at Field 28, North West Point on Christmas Island for phosphate mining:

- (1) Did Christmas Island Phosphates/Phosphate Resources Ltd (PRL) notify the Minister of their plans which will impact on the Christmas Island pipistrelle bat; if so, what action did the Minister take on receiving this notification; if not, what action will be taken against PRL.
- (2) Will the Minister be declaring this area as critical habitat.
- (3) What procedures apply when listing of a threatened species postdates the granting of a lease or some other right.

2936 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to inspections of occupational health and safety (OHS) in Commonwealth workplaces and workers covered under Commonwealth agreements:

- (1) For each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, by state and territory, what was the number of OHS: (a) inspections; (b) investigations; (c) fines; and (d) prosecutions.
- (2) What administrative arrangements are currently in place for OHS regulation in Commonwealth workplaces and workers covered under Commonwealth agreements.

2937 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the presentation by the Minister of a number of Jobs Career Future awards for excellence in Indigenous job services:

- (1) Have any of the following successful organisations ceased receiving, or will they cease to receive, Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) funding as a result of the announcement by the Minister on 6 November 2006 to shut down all CDEPs in urban or major regional areas:
 - (a) Wagga Wagga CDEP, trading as Gannambarra Enterprises, which received the developing business opportunities award;
 - (b) Shoalhaven Community Development Aboriginal Corporation, trading as Koori Habitat, Nowra in New South Wales, which received the gaining employment for CDEP/Indigenous Employment Centres participants award;

- (c) Ngunnawal Aboriginal Corporation, which received the gaining employment or establishing a commercially viable business award;
 - (d) Kalano Community Association Inc., which received the special partnerships award; and
 - (e) Central Queensland Indigenous Development, which received the outstanding achievement in commercial benefit award.
- (2) Did any of these successful organisations know that they would have their CDEP funding cut in the week following the awards.
 - (3) On what date did/will the CDEP funding for the above organisations cease.
 - (4) Will the above organisations be able to continue all of their successful activities using the Structured Training and Employment Projects funds as provided under the new arrangements.

2938 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the cessation of Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) funding for organisations in urban and major regional cities, as announced by the Minister on 6 November 2006:

- (1) Can a list be provided of the names of the organisations that will cease receiving CDEP funding as a result of this announcement.
- (2) When will CDEP funding for those organisations cease.
- (3) For the 2006-07 financial year, how much CDEP funding, including both operational and activities funding, was each organisation allocated.
- (4) For the 2006-07 financial year, what is the total CDEP funding for those organisations.
- (5) What will the funding be used for instead.
- (6) Given that the announcement also provided that these organisations would have the opportunity to apply to be a Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP) brokerage service, will all the funding that is saved through the reduction of CDEP be spent on the expansion of STEP.
- (7) What functions of CDEP will a STEP brokerage service not carry out.

2941 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference the International Clinical Trials Registry Platform of the World Health Organisation (WHO):

- (1) When will the Government act on the recommendation made by the WHO in May 2006 that all medical studies that test treatments on humans, including the earliest studies, whether they involve patients or healthy volunteers, are registered at the beginning of the study with full disclosure of 20 key standardised points.
- (2) If the Government does not intend to mandate registration, how does it intend to : (a) ensure transparency in medical research; and (b) fulfil ethical responsibilities to patients and study participants.
- (3) Is the Government aware that the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, representing 11 prestigious medical journals, has instituted a policy whereby a scientific paper on clinical trial results cannot be published unless the trial has been recorded in a publicly-accessible registry at the trial's outset.

Notice given 14 December 2006

2943 **Senator Parry:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) Does question on notice no. 2383, which has been on the Senate Notice Paper since 15 August 2006, in large part inquire whether certain documents were: (a) discoverable; and (b) discovered by the Commonwealth for the 1987 trial of *Ryker (Faulkner) vs The Commonwealth and Flint*.
- (2) Did legal advice in 2002 concerning this case from Mr Henry Burmeister, Chief General Counsel, Australian Government Solicitor's Office to the Attorney-General deal with the opinions by Mr Clarence Stevens, QC on this case.
- (3) Is it a fact that the opinions of Mr Stevens, QC turned on the alleged non-discovery by the Commonwealth of these same documents; if so, were not these same questions examined by Mr Burmeister in preparing his advice.
- (4) When will an answer be provided to question on notice no. 2383.

Notice given 22 December 2006

2955 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to funding for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC):

- (1) How many staff of the department are working on preparations for APEC 2007.
- (2) How much was spent on travel (including all transport, accommodation, food and beverages, per diem and other costs) by staff of the department working on preparations for APEC 2007 for:
 - (a) domestic travel for the period up to and including May 2006;
 - (b) international travel for the period up to and including May 2006, including a breakdown of: (i) international destinations visited, (ii) the number of trips to each destination, and (iii) the class of travel;
 - (c) domestic travel for the period from 1 June 2006 to 31 October 2006; and
 - (d) international travel for the period from 1 June 2006 to 31 October 2006 including a breakdown of: (i) international destinations visited, (ii) the number of trips to each destination, and (iii) the class of travel.

Notice given 12 January 2007

2959 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the decision by the President of the United States of America (US), George W Bush, to send an additional 21 500 troops to Iraq and the Prime Minister's public response on 11 January 2006:

- (1) To what was the Prime Minister referring when he said that Australia would support the move.
- (2) What evidence did Mr Bush provide to the Prime Minister that indicated that these additional troops would achieve victory in the fight against terrorism.

- (3) What were the consequences for the stability of the Middle East to which the Prime Minister was referring.
- (4) Can the Prime Minister guarantee that there will be no impact on Australian troops as a result of this escalation in the deployment of US Armed Forces.
- (5) Why did the Prime Minister not rule out sending more Australian forces to Iraq.
- (6) What are the conditions necessary for a decision to be made to withdraw Australian troops from Iraq.

Notice given 15 January 2007

2960 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Why did the Prime Minister's recent announcement of rebates for bone mineral density scans exclude rebates for people under the age of 70 when osteoporosis typically occurs in women much earlier, at about the time of menopause.
- (2) What preventive measures has the Government adopted for osteoporosis, given that it is largely preventable through weight bearing exercise and calcium supplements.
- (3) (a) Why did the Government take calcium off the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for osteoporosis; and (b) was this against the advice of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee.
- (4) Has the Government considered providing blood vitamin D testing given the evidence that the high rate of hip fractures in old people is due to deficiencies in calcium and vitamin D.
- (5) Does the Government accept that people in wheelchairs are unable to do weight bearing exercise and warrant earlier access to bone mineral density scans; if so, will rebates be provided for such people.
- (6) What was the rationale for limiting the Medicare rebate on bone mineral density scans at minimum intervals of 2 years.

Notice given 17 January 2007

2966 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Is it the case that: (a) not all Australian ex-servicewomen who enlisted during World War II are entitled to a gold card but that Australian ex-servicemen are so entitled; if so, when will this anomalous and discriminatory situation be rectified; and (b) Australian ex-servicewomen have been afforded less recognition for their wartime contribution than their male counterparts; if so, when will this imbalance be rectified.
- (2) Does the Government agree that Australian servicewomen generally receive less pay per day than their male counterparts, despite being subjected to the same rules and regulations.

Notice given 23 January 2007

2968 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that participants at the Maralinga nuclear tests must independently prove that they were at the tests in order to be eligible for the new white cards; if so, why is this the case given that the Administrative Appeals Tribunal has ruled that the published document of the preliminary nominal roll was sufficient evidence that they were present.
- (2) Does the Government now dispute the fact that those on the roll were present at the tests; if so, on what basis.
- (3) If the Government has taken the position that the *Epidemiology Studies (Confidentiality) Act 1981* restricts the use of the roll for such purposes, is it the case that this restriction does not apply once the relevant study is completed.
- (4) To date, how many: (a) veterans have been issued with white cards; and (b) applications have been made for white cards.
- (5) What is the average length of time taken to process applications.
- (6) Are veterans who were on ships providing services to the tests entitled to white cards; if not, why not.
- (7) How many veterans received: (a) an act of grace compensation; and (b) Comcare compensation, for leukaemia prior to the closure of those schemes.
- (8) Given the number of veterans found in the study to have leukaemia, is the Government considering reinstating these schemes; if not, why not.

Notice given 25 January 2007

2970 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the approval given by the Therapeutic Goods Administration in 2005 for the establishment of human milk banks and the fact that 12 months later, no milk banks had commenced operating:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the substantial benefit to the health of premature babies of providing human milk banks, as recommended by the World Health Organisation and the United Nations Children's Fund.
- (2) Given that there are 11 human milk banks already operating in North America and the United Kingdom and 300 in Brazil, is the Government considering developing a program for the establishment of such banks in all Australian states; if so, at what stage is this process; if not, why not.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the John Flynn Private Hospital on the Gold Coast, Queensland is ready to operate, but needs \$350 000 per year in funding for this to be possible.
- (4) What does the Government consider to be appropriate funding sources for the establishment of human milk banks.

Notice given 29 January 2007

2971 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the Government's water policy—

- (1) In Australia, is the water that falls on a person's roof the property of that person or the property of government.
- (2) If it is not the property of the individual person, under what legislation in Australia are rights to water that falls on a person's roof vested in governments, as claimed under clause 2 of the National Water Initiative (NWI) Agreement.
- (3) Under clause 2 of the NWI Agreement, can governments, at their discretion, set entitlement regimes for the use of water that falls on a person's roof in Australia; if so, under what circumstances would state or federal governments issue a specific entitlement to persons who capture water from their roof and what would that entitlement be.
- (4) What magnitude of rainwater collected from roofs would be sufficient to warrant the issuing of specific entitlements to use this class of water as has been proposed by the National Water Commission.
- (5) Does the Government rule out setting an entitlement regime for persons to use water collected from roofs in rainwater tanks; if so, will the Federal Government ask the state governments to amend the NWI Agreement to make clear that no rights to water that falls on a person's roof are vested in governments.
- (6) Is it correct that section 7 of the Victorian *Water Act 1989* states, 'The Crown has the right to the use, flow and control of all water in a waterway and all groundwater'; if so, is it the Commonwealth's view that, for the purposes of the NWI, water from a person's roof comes under this definition.
- (7) Is it correct that section 392 of the New South Wales *Water Management Act 2000* states, 'the rights to the control, use and flow of ... all water occurring naturally on or below the surface of the ground, are the **State's water rights**'; if so, does water from a person's roof come under this definition.
- (8) Is it correct that section 19 of the Queensland *Water Act 2000* states, 'All rights to the use, flow and control of all water in Queensland are vested in the State', where: (a) 'water means... (a) water in a watercourse, lake or spring; (b) underground water; (c) overland flow water; (d) water that has been collected in a dam'; and (b) 'Overland flow water does not include ... water collected from roofs for rainwater tanks'; if so, does water from a person's roof come under this definition.
- (9) Is it correct that section 124 of the South Australian *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* states, 'the occupier of land is entitled to take surface water from the land for any purpose' and does surface water mean 'water flowing over land'.
- (10) Is surface water in South Australia: (a) water that is not captured and controlled; and (b) no-one's property.
- (11) Can water that falls on a person's roof in South Australia be surface water.

Notice given 1 February 2007

- 2973 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-TFU at Lockhart River in May 2005: Was the information available to the ATSB, which formed the basis for the ATSB's decision to refer Transair Pty Ltd to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions: (a) available from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) audit and monitoring processes; and (b) acted upon by CASA.

Notice given 6 February 2007

- 2979 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—Further to question on notice no. 2828 that refers to the issuing of conscientious objection certificates to employers:
- (1) Have there been any certificates issued to employers in states other than Victoria.
 - (2) To which businesses in Victoria have certificates been issued.
- 2980 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for Community Services—
- (1) Is it correct that the department intends to: (a) cease funding self-advocacy, citizen advocacy and systems (group) advocacy under the National Disability Advocacy Program (NDAP); and (b) focus instead only on individual advocacy as mentioned in the departmental report, *Enhancing the National Disability Advocacy Program* (consultation paper 2006); if so, what is the legislative basis for this new program.
 - (2) Does the Minister agree that: (a) this change is inconsistent with the department's responsibilities under the *Disability Services Act 1986*; and (b) the department should have sought the approval of Parliament to make a change that is so clearly inconsistent with its responsibilities under the *Disability Services Act 1986*.
 - (3) Since 1996, what, if any, new funds have been appropriated for the NDAP.
 - (4) For each of the years since 1986, can a copy of the budget appropriations be provided for the NDAP.
 - (5) What percentage of program growth does this represent.
 - (6) Since 1996, have any funding decreases, including any efficiency savings, been made to the NDAP; if so: (a) what is the cumulative funding saved as a result of these measures; and (b) from where has the funding saved as a result of the measures been appropriated.
 - (7) Are the department's current initiatives for the NDAP based on the evaluation of the program conducted by Social Options Australia (SOA) in July 2006; if so, does the department endorse the methodology, findings and recommendations of this evaluation.
 - (8) (a) Does the department have any concerns about the evaluation report produced by the SOA after conducting the evaluation in paragraph (7) ; if so, what are those concerns; (b) can the Minister provide copies of any departmental responses to the evaluation report; (c) does the department consider that the evaluation report provides a suitable basis for proposed changes to the NDAP; and (d) does the Minister agree that the evaluation report is highly critical of advocacy services funded under the NDAP; if so,

does the department consider that this evaluation report is a balanced and considered portrayal of the achievements of the NDAP.

- (9) What is the current level of unmet demand for advocacy assistance to persons with disabilities in Australia.
- (10) (a) Since 1996, what efforts, has the department engaged in to estimate the unmet demand for advocacy services in Australia; and (b) can the Minister provide a copies of any such estimates.
- (11) Does the department agree that in this respect it has failed in its administrative responsibility for the NDAP.
- (12) Is it the case that the department proposes to cease to fund, under the NDAP, organisations focused on systems advocacy as proposed in the department's consultation paper.
- (13) Does the department believe that systemic discrimination, abuse and neglect perpetrated on persons with disabilities have been eradicated from Australian life; if so: (a) how has this assessment been made; and (b) what conclusions have been drawn; if not, why is the department dismantling a service system established to challenge such discrimination, abuse and neglect.
- (14) What programs does the department employ to address structural discrimination, abuse and neglect of people with disabilities at the: (a) local; (b) regional; and (c) state levels.
- (15) In determining the geographic spread and mix of advocacy service types available to persons with disabilities, has the department taken into account advocacy for persons with disabilities funded by state and territory governments; if so, where and how is this reflected in the initiatives proposed in the department's consultation paper; if not, why not.
- (16) Does this represent a failure of the department to fulfil its joint planning responsibility with the states and territories under the Commonwealth State and Territory Disability Agreement.
- (17) Is the department concerned that its current unilateral approach may lead to distortions in the distribution of advocacy services for persons with disabilities across Australia.
- (18) What is the estimated cost per annum of the proposed central advocacy call centre.
- (19) Will the funds to operate the call centre be taken from the existing funding of the NDAP.
- (20) Is the Minister confident that the national call centre will be able to keep up with projected demand for advocacy services; if so, what programs does the department have in place to ensure that projected demand is met.
- (21) Does the department intend to conduct a competitive tender for all existing funding under the NDAP.
- (22) When will this tender be conducted.
- (23) Will the tender be based on particular specifications for each service to be funded; if so, what will those specifications be.
- (24) What planning regions will be used to determine the distribution of funding for the NDAP.
- (25) What funds have been set aside for each region.
- (26) How has the department liaised with state government disability service agencies on all aspects of the proposal.

2982 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the June 2004 Report by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services, *Corporate Insolvency Laws – a Stocktake*, which made a number of recommendations to address the non-payment of employee entitlements, including superannuation contributions and workers compensation payments by phoenix companies, especially in the building and construction industry.
- (2) Is the Ministers aware of the work of the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) through the Assetless Administration Fund in cracking down on the systematic misbehaviour of company officers who deliberately avoided their responsibilities to creditors, including employees, who had missed out on entitlements due to their actions. (see ASIC Media Release 07-05 of 8 January 2007 *Phoenix crackdown reaps results*, ASIC Media Release 07-02 of 5 January 2007 *Nine directors banned* and ASIC Media Release 06-420 of 5 December 2006 *ASIC bans 9 directors*).
- (3) Does the Minister agree that companies and their officers that have been found guilty of engaging in phoenix arrangements could also be failing to comply with the payment of employee entitlements such as superannuation, long service leave and workers compensation premiums.
- (4) (a) Does the Office of Workplace Services (OWS) monitor the work of ASIC in relation to phoenix companies, including the Assetless Administration Fund and related enforcement programs; and (b) follow-up on matters related to it which may arise from the ASIC investigations.
- (5) Is there a memorandum of understanding between ASIC and OWS in place so that: (a) these matters can be properly followed up; and (b) workers do not miss out on entitlements which are properly owed to them, or employers are prosecuted for failing to pay entitlements.
- (6) (a) Can details be provided of any measures that have been taken in association with the Council of Australian Governments to enhance the detection of phoenix activity and the prosecution of offenders; and (b) has the Minister raised the adequacy of arrangements for checking business names of companies on state business names registries against the ASCOT database with an appropriate ministerial forum, as recommended in the June 2004 report on insolvency by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services.
- (7) (a) Can the Minister advise how much of the additional \$62 million allocated to the General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS) enhancements that apply to insolvencies after 1 November 2005 has been spent; and (b) are there any plans for further GEERS enhancements to employee entitlements under the Government's proposed new insolvency laws.

2983 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the report of 13 December 2006 by the Australian Institute of Medical Scientists *Review of Australia's Blood Fractionation Arrangements*, found that competitive tendering and offshore fractionation of Australian donated blood plasma will undermine access to intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg) by:

- (a) increasing the costs to the Australian health services in the regulation of plasma fractionated off shore;
 - (b) increasing the price of plasma due to increased international handling costs (e.g. transport, special storage and warehousing);
 - (c) reducing the amount of plasma available due to lower yields achieved by offshore fractionation technology;
 - (d) increasing the vein to vein time between donation of plasma and clinical use as a finished blood product;
 - (e) elevating the risk of disturbance of supply (transportation by shipping) the consequences of which are costly and highly disruptive; and
 - (f) undermining of the volunteer ethos of blood donation and the high regard in which the Australian Red Cross Blood Service is held.
- (2) Will the Government be adopting recommendation 10 of the Review which states: 'Australia should maintain its reservation regarding the procurement of blood fractionation services under the Australia - United States Free Trade Agreement. The reservation exempts the procurement of plasma fractionation services from the government procurement provisions in Chapter 15 of the Agreement. The CSL Act should also be maintained.'; if not: (a) why not; and (b) how will the Government ensure that access to intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg) does not deteriorate by becoming more expensive, less available and less reliable.
- (3) What plans does the Government have to maintain and encourage volunteer blood donation.

Notice given 8 February 2007

2985 **Senator Hutchins:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) When did the Minister first receive the proposal from Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Wright to identify the remains of Australians killed at Fromelles and Pheasant Wood in France during World War I.
- (2) Will the Minister consider the proposal.
- (3) Can a breakdown be provided of the \$150 000, for Dr Tony Pollard's geophysical survey, quoted on page 5 of the *Australian* of 8 February 2007.

2986 **Senator Hutchins:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) How many entitlement cards have been allocated to Australian participants in British nuclear testing.
- (2) Have any entitlement cards been allocated to Commonwealth Police officers; if so: (a) how many; and (b) to whom were they allocated.

Notice given 15 February 2007

Senator Ray: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2987-3016)—(a) Has the Minister, Assistant Minister or Parliamentary Secretary in the portfolio been provided with a pay television package by the department for: (i) the electorate office, (ii) the ministerial office in the home state, and/or (iii) home; and (b) if so, what was the cost of each pay television package.

2987 Minister for Finance and Administration

2988 Minister for Finance and Administration

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Notice given 22 February 2007

3020 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—

- (1) Does the department provide funding to non-government organisations whose objectives or activities include the culling of either native or introduced animals living in the wild; if so, can details be provided of the: (a) names of the organisations; (b) amount of funding; and (c) names of the funding programs.
- (2) Do any of these organisations qualify for funding either primarily or partially on the basis that their objectives or activities include the killing of animals (for example, pest control); if so, which organisations receive these moneys: (a) primarily; or (b) partially, on this basis.
- (3) What steps does the department take, prior to paying these moneys, to ensure that any killing of animals undertaken will be: (a) conducted humanely; and (b) economically cost effective, (for example, if moneys are paid to an organisation to assist it with the killing of cane toads, what steps are taken to ensure that: (i) the toads are killed as quickly and painlessly as

possible, and (ii) the killing of the cane toads will have a beneficial effect in terms of reducing the damage perceived to be caused by the toads).

- (4) Does the department provide these organisations with any guidelines and/or advice on the most humane killing techniques and methods for each particular species; if so: (a) who prepares these guidelines and/or advice; (b) on what information and expert advice is it based; and (c) in what form are the guidelines and/or advice provided.
- (5) Does the department assess the effectiveness of these organisation's activities in terms of addressing the perceived problem.
- (6) What steps does the Government take, after paying these moneys, to ensure that: (a) any killing of animals undertaken was: (i) conducted humanely, and (ii) justifiable in terms of its benefits to the Australian public; and (b) such moneys are not paid again to the same organisation for the same purpose, if any killing of animals: (i) was undertaken inhumanely, or (ii) has resulted in no discernable benefit to the Australian public.

Notice given 23 February 2007

3027 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) With reference to sub section 93(1)(b)(ii) of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*, how many British subjects coded as being eligible to vote on 25 January 1984 still remain on the Electoral Roll as non-Australian citizens.
- (2) Given the current interest in and debate concerning Australian values and an obligation and commitment to Australia, is the Government of the view that voting in federal elections should only be available to citizens of Australia.
- (3) Since some non-citizens can vote in elections but not others; since at the local level voting in some jurisdictions is also given to property owners, and in others to non-citizen residents; and, in light of trends in other democracies to widen the franchise to permanent residents or other categories: does the Federal Government consider it opportune to review the varied rights to vote in the three tiers of government in Australia.

Notice given 26 February 2007

Senator Lundy: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3028-3029)—With reference to the proposal to pipe water from Googong Dam to Goulburn, announced on 24 January 2007, by the Liberal Party of New South Wales:

- (1) Has the Minister or the Assistant Minister/Parliamentary Secretary ever had contact with the Leader of the Liberal Party of New South Wales, Mr Peter Debnam or other members or representatives of the New South Wales Opposition in relation to the proposal; if so, in each case: (a) who instigated the contact; (b) who was involved in the contact; (c) when and where did the contact occur; (d) what was the nature of the contact; (e) what was the purpose and outcome of the contact; (f) who was present and in what capacity; and (g) do written records of the contact exist; if so, can copies be provided.
- (2) Has the Minister, Assistant Minister/Parliamentary Secretary or the department had contact with other members of the Commonwealth Government in relation to the proposal; if so, in each case: (a) who instigated the contact; (b) who was involved in the contact; (c) when and where did the contact occur; (d) what was the nature of the contact;

(e) what was the purpose and outcome of the contact; (f) who was present and in what capacity; and (g) do written records of the contact exist; if so, can copies be provided.

- (3) Has the department been asked to do or commission any work in relation to any such proposal; if so: (a) when was the work commenced and finished; (b) by whom was the work done; (c) who instigated the work or instructed the department to commission the work; (d) what was the outcome or findings of the work; (e) was the nature of the work financial modelling or engineering feasibility analysis; (f) can the product of that modelling be provided; if not, why not; (g) what was the total cost of the work; and (h) what is the estimated cost of the proposal or proposals.

3028 Minister for Finance and Administration

3029 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

3030 **Senator Lundy:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the intended transfer of the land on which Googong Dam is situated to the Australian Capital Territory Government or its utility, ACTEW Corporation Limited:

- (1) On what date did the Minister and/or the Assistant Minister first become aware of the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (2) (a) Who made the Minister and/or the Assistant Minister aware of this; and (b) in what manner were they made aware.
- (3) On what date and from whom has the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department sought legal advice on the view that the Commonwealth never intended to make the transfer.
- (4) What was the cost of that legal advice.
- (5) On what date did the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department receive that legal advice.
- (6) On what date did the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the Executive as a whole adopt the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (7) Why was this view adopted.
- (8) On what date and in what manner did the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department notify the Minister for Local Government Territories and Roads, his staff or the Department for Local Government, Territories and Roads that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (9) (a) What contact has the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department had with the Member for Eden Monaro in relation to the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land; (b) what was the date of the contact; (c) what was the nature of the contact; (d) what was the purpose of the contact; (e) what was the outcome of the contact; (f) who instigated the contact; and (g) if written records of the contact are held, can copies be provided; if copies cannot be provided, why not.
- (10) (a) What contact has the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department had with the Prime Minister, or his Assistant Minister or their offices in relation to the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land; (b) what was the date of the contact; (c) what was the nature of the contact; (d) what was the purpose of the contact; (e) what was the outcome of the contact; (f) who instigated the contact; and (g) if written

records of the contact are held, can copies be provided; if copies cannot be provided, why not.

- (11) (a) What contact has the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department had with Senator Gary Humphries in relation to the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land; (b) what was the date of the contact; (c) what was the nature of the contact; (d) what was the purpose of the contact; (e) what was the outcome of the contact; (f) who instigated the contact; and (g) if written records of the contact are held, can copies be provided; if not, why not.

3031 **Senator Lundy:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the intended transfer of the land on which Googong Dam is situated to the Australian Capital Territory Government or its utility, ACTEW Corporation Limited:

- (1) On what date did the Minister and/or the Parliamentary Secretary first become aware of the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (2) (a) Who made the Minister and/or the Parliamentary Secretary aware of this; and (b) in what manner were they made aware.
- (3) On what date and from whom has the Minister and/or the Parliamentary Secretary sought legal advice on the view that the Commonwealth had never intended to make the transfer.
- (4) What was the cost of that legal advice.
- (5) On what date did the Minister and/or the Parliamentary Secretary receive that legal advice.
- (6) On what date did the Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary and/or the Executive as a whole adopt the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (7) Why was this view adopted.
- (8) On what date and in what manner did the Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary and/or the department notify the Minister for Local Government Territories and Roads, his staff or the Department for Local Government, Territories and Roads that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (9) (a) What contact has the Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary and/or the department had with the Member for Eden Monaro in relation to the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land; (b) what was the date of the contact; (c) what was the nature of the contact; (d) what was the purpose of the contact; (e) what was the outcome of the contact; (f) who instigated the contact; and (g) if written records of the contact are held, can copies be provided; if copies cannot be provided, why not.
- (10) (a) What contact has the Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary and/or the department had with the Prime Minister, or his office in relation to the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land; (b) what was the date of the contact; (c) what was the nature of the contact; (d) what was the purpose of the contact; (e) what was the outcome of the contact; (f) who instigated the contact; and (g) if written records of the contact are held, can copies be provided; if not, why not.

Senator Lundy: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3032-3033)—

- (1) With reference to the land upon which the Googong Dam is situated: (a) who owns the land; and (b) who manages the land.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the management of this land requires the manager to outlay funds as part of that management role: if so, for each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, how much funding has been outlaid.
- (3) If the land is not managed by the Commonwealth, what is the: (a) type; and (b) quantum, of assistance or payment for management services that the Commonwealth pays to the manager.
- (4) With reference the water in Googong Dam: (a) who owns the water; and (b) who manages the water.
- (5) Is the Minister aware that the management of this water requires the manager to outlay funds as part of that management role: if so, for each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, how much funding has been outlaid.
- (6) If the water is not managed by the Commonwealth, what is the: (a) type; and (b) quantum of assistance or payment for management services that the Commonwealth pays to the manager.

3032 Minister for Finance and Administration

3033 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

Senator Lundy: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3034-3035)—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm the intent of the Government to transfer the infrastructure of Googong Dam to the Australian Capital Territory Government or its utility, ACTEW Corporation Limited (ACTEW): if so, what pieces of infrastructure would be subject to such a transfer.
- (2) Since 1989, has it always been the intent of the Commonwealth to transfer these pieces of infrastructure to the Australian Capital Territory Government and/or ACTEW; if not: (a) since 1989, what pieces of infrastructure have been included or excluded; and (b) what is the reason for their inclusion or exclusion.

3034 Minister for Finance and Administration

3035 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

Notice given 27 February 2007

3036 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) Did the Minister announce that projects to be funded under the first tranche of the Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities would be known by late 2006; if so, what is the reason for the delay.
- (2) Given that the first tranche of funding of \$55.6 million is just over a third of the amount that universities collected each year via compulsory university fees, how does the Government anticipate institutions will make up the shortfall.
- (3) Given that the first tranche of funding equals \$55.6 million, as opposed to the \$40 million originally set aside for the first year of funding, what is the revised funding pattern for year 2 and year 3.

3037 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) For each month since inception, how many calls have been received by the Child Care Access Hotline: (a) in total; and (b) by state and territory.
- (2) How many full-time equivalent staff are allocated to operate the hotline.
- (3) For the 2006-07 financial year and across the forward estimates period, what is the total budget allocation for the hotline.
- (4) To date, how much has been spent on the hotline.

Notice given 28 February 2007

3040 **Senator Lundy:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Can the Minister advise when all the residents of Dunlop, Australian Capital Territory, will be able to have ADSL2+ broadband connected to their homes.

Notice given 1 March 2007

3042 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the breast cancer cluster which led to the evacuation of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's studios in Toowong, Queensland:

- (1) What causal role did extremely low frequency electro-magnetic fields (ELFEMF) have.
- (2) Has ELFEMF been eliminated as a cause or contributory factor; if so, on what grounds.
- (3) (a) What were the ELFEMF levels measured in the studios; and (b) how much higher than background ELFEMF were the levels.
- (4) (a) When were those measurements taken; (b) exactly where were they taken; and (c) by whom.
- (5) What are the ELFEMF levels to be expected in a media studio.
- (6) Do ELFEMF levels affect melatonin production; if so: (a) how; and (b) how might this relate to breast cancer.

Notice given 7 March 2007

3043 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the World Heritage nomination of Albany Old Gaol/Amity Heritage Precinct:

- (1) Who were the consultants that prepared nomination for the Commonwealth Government.
- (2) Did the consultants identify the Albany Old Gaol/Amity Heritage Precinct as a possible convict settlement site.
- (3) Given that the above site is the oldest European heritage precinct settlement in Western Australia, clearly established under convict labour, why was this location not included by the Minister in the nomination.
- (4) Given that the Western Australian Government and the city of Albany have already approved icon heritage status to Albany Anzac (with state and federal funding) and the implicit relationship between the Albany Waterfront project and the Residency Museum/Eclipse Museum/Old Gaol Heritage Precinct, was the Western Australian Minister for Housing and Works; Heritage; Indigenous Affairs; Land Information, the Honourable

Michelle Roberts MLA and the city of Albany consulted as to the precinct's inclusion for nomination.

- (5) Is the Minister now prepared to include the Heritage Precinct as an addendum to the nomination.

Notice given 8 March 2007

3045 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) For each of the years 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006, what were the retention rates among personnel that served overseas in the: (a) Royal Australian Navy; (b) Australian Army; and (c) Royal Australian Air Force.
- (2) For each of the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006, what were the retention rates among combat units that served in Iraq.
- (3) For each of the years 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006, what were the retention rates among combat units that served in Afghanistan.
- (4) Are overseas deployments having an affect on the Australian Defence Force's attrition/retention rates; if so, why.

Notice given 14 March 2007

3046 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is it the case that Australia Post requires a driver's licence for identification for international parcel post despatch despite the fact that South Australian licences indicate that the document is not to be used for that purpose.
- (2) Is it the case that requests for licence identification are illegal; if so, what action will be taken to: (a) stop the practice; and (b) prosecute offenders.
- (3) Does Australia Post hold data obtained as a result of the request for driver's licences; if so: (a) by what authority is data held; (b) for what purpose is the data used; and (c) are those persons whose data has been held: (i) advised that this is the case; if not, why not, (ii) advised of the use of the data; if not, why not, and (iii) advised that their name and details can be removed on request; if not, why not.

Notice given 16 March 2007

3047 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the *Tobacco Advertising Prohibition Act 1992*:

- (1) Which categories of contraventions of the Act fall within the statutory reporting obligation.
- (2) Does the Minister report only on contraventions that have resulted in a prosecution or a conviction or does the Minister report also on instances where the department considers that a contravention has occurred but no prosecution has followed.
- (3) For each of the years 2005 and 2006: (a) how many complaints did the department receive about alleged breaches of the Act; and (b) what action, if any, was taken in relation to each of these complaints.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that: (a) in 2006 the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) ruled that radio broadcaster 3AW had broadcast three tobacco advertisements in one program that were not an accidental or incidental accompaniment to the broadcast of other matter; and (b) ACMA stated that this conduct could constitute an offence under

the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* because the broadcast of a tobacco advertisement in contravention of the *Tobacco Advertisement Prohibition Act 1992* was a breach of licence conditions; if so, why was this not noted in the report on the number and nature of any contraventions of the *Tobacco Advertising Prohibition Act* occurring in the preceding 12 months tabled in the Senate on 7 February 2007, pursuant to subsection 34A of the Act.

- (5) Can the Minister explain how each of the following recent promotional campaigns are permitted to be published under the Act: (a) the catalogue of Gripp Jeans, a Melbourne clothing brand, showing two separate images of young women smoking; (b) the advertisement for Wheels and Dollbaby, a Sydney fashion label, in the March 2007 issue of the Australian *Harper's Bazaar* that shows a young blonde with a cigarette; and (c) the recent billboard from Everlast, a sports clothing company, that shows a teenage boy with a cigarette in his mouth.

Notice given 20 March 2007

3048 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) What is the total of payments that the National Association of Forest Industries (NAFI) has received in sponsorship for its annual conference to be held on 21 March 2007 from (a) the department; (b) the Australian Greenhouse Office; and (c) the Forest and Wood Products Research and Development Corporation.
- (2) For each of the past 4 financial years, what is the total of payments from Commonwealth Government agencies to NAFI for any purpose.

3049 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to the asylum seekers currently being assessed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Indonesia of which some are under the care of the International Organisation for Migration as funded by the Australian Government:

- (1) (a) If granted protection by Australia would the asylum seekers be given permanent protection visas or temporary protection visas; and (b) if granted temporary protection visas, what would be the length of those visas.
- (2) Have the Indonesian authorities and/or the UNHCR requested that a solution be found for this group of people.
- (3) Does Australia intend to accept any of this group of people in its refugee or humanitarian intake; if so: (a) how many; and (b) in what time frame would these people be accepted.

3050 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to a group of 82 Sri Lankan asylum seekers currently being processed in Nauru:

- (1) While on Christmas Island, when and how were the asylum seekers first informed that they could contact a lawyer.
- (2) What facilities were made available to the asylum seekers in order to facilitate this contact.
- (3) Did the asylum seekers express, to any departmental officers or contracted staff, a wish that they wanted to contact a lawyer or migration agent.

- 3051 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to a group of 82 Sri Lankan asylum seekers currently being processed in Nauru, what were the total costs of: (a) the charter flight to transport the asylum seekers from Christmas Island to Nauru; and (b) any charter flights to transport personnel to Nauru to facilitate the arrival of the asylum seekers.
- 3052 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 2887, and in particular the answer to parts (1)(a) and (b), can information be provided on overseas recruitment to the Australian Defence Force, and not information on recruitment of an untrained nature which was not specified in the question.
- 3054 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—
- (1) What is the current rate that the Government of Nauru charges for asylum seekers brought to Nauru for processing, including costs for visas, charges and other expenses.
 - (2) What penalties or recurring payments are charged by Nauru for asylum seekers that are processed on Nauru for more than 3 months.
 - (3) Since 2001, what is the total amount of visa payments made to Nauru for all asylum seekers that have been taken there for processing.

Notice given 21 March 2007

- 3058 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Can the Minister advise whether four women sentenced to death, namely Samar Sa'ad 'Abdullah, Wassan Talib, Zeynab Fadhil, and Liqa' Qamar, (aged between 25 and 31) were executed in the Green Zone in Baghdad on 8 March 2007, International Women's Day, as planned.
 - (2) Is the Minister aware that executions of women were formally prohibited under Iraqi law from 1965 on the grounds that women are life givers and life nurturers, but were reinstated in August 2004 by the interim Government of Iraq.
 - (3) What, if any, representations has the Australian Government made to the Iraqi Government with respect to the decision of Iraq to reinstate executions of women.
 - (4) Is the Minister aware that Amnesty International questions the circumstances that led to the sentencing of these women by the Central Criminal Court of Iraq between 2005 and 2006.
 - (5) Is the Minister aware that the Government of Iraq has decided to honour four Iraqi officers that have been accused of raping a young woman.
 - (6) What action has been taken against soldiers from the United States of America accused of the gang rape and burning of a 14 year old Iraqi girl.
 - (7) Can the Minister confirm: (a) that in late December 2006, three female students from Mustansiriyah University were kidnapped by militias and, despite the payment of a ransom, their bodies were found in a morgue on 22 December 2006 bearing signs of rape and torture; and (b) that official sources denied the incident although students from the university confirmed it.

- (8) Can the Minister confirm that, since 2003, there have been 1 053 documented cases of rape by the occupation forces, militias and police that took place in Iraq, as reported in a recent interview with Mohamed Iraqi MP, Al Dainey on Al Sharqiya TV.
- (9) What is the Australian Government doing in order to liberate and protect the rights of Iraqi women.
- (10) Is the Minister aware of the report of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq *Human Rights Report — 1 November – 31 December 2006* which indicates, in paragraph 8, that ‘Law enforcement agencies do not provide effective protection to the population of Iraq and increasingly militias and criminal gangs act in collusion with, or have infiltrated the security forces. Operations by security and military forces, including by MNF I, continued to result in growing numbers of individuals detained and without access to judicial oversight’.
- (11) (a) Can the Minister confirm that, during 2006, a total of: (i) 34 452 Iraqi civilians were killed, and (ii) 36 685 Iraqi civilians were wounded; and (b) in each case, how many of these were women.
- (12) Is the Minister aware of reports of torture, ill-treatment and lack of judicial process at the hands of Iraqi authorities.
- (13) Is the Minister aware: (a) of reports that adequate safeguards against torture and ill-treatment are not in place in Multinational Force detention facilities; and (b) that thousands of people continue to be held without charge or trial.
- (14) What representations has the Australian Government made to the Government of Iraq with respect to human rights and justice in Iraq.
- 3059 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—
What are the implications of cyberspace commercial activities for: (a) the integrity of the Australian taxation system; (b) consumer protection of Australian citizens; and (c) copyright and defamation laws.
- 3061 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) For each of the years since 2000, how many approved child care services has the department found to be non-compliant with the requirement to issue child care receipts pursuant to section 219E of the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999* and associated statutory rules.
- (2) Of these non-compliant services: (a) how many have been sanctioned under the relevant Act; and (b) what penalties were imposed on the services.
- 3062 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) For each of the years since 2000, how many approved child care services has the department found to be non-compliant with the requirement to keep children’s attendance records pursuant to section 219F of the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999* and associated statutory rules.
- (2) Of these non-compliant services: (a) how many have been sanctioned under the relevant Act; and (b) what penalties were imposed on the services.

- 3063 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) For each of the years since 2000, how many approved child care services have refused consent for an authorised officer to enter their premises to inspect documents required to be kept by the service pursuant to section 219K of the *A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Administration) Act 1999* and associated statutory rules.
 - (2) Of these non-compliant services: (a) how many have been sanctioned under the relevant Act; and (b) what penalties were imposed on the services.
- 3064 **Senator Hurley:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to projects where funding is provided as part of the Water Smart Australia Programme and Raising National Water Standards, can an outline be provided, for each state, of the projects, detailing: (a) the cost of each project, including the total cost, Commonwealth contributions, and other contributions where known; (b) each organisation that is responsible for an individual project, for instance a state government, local council or private company; and (c) the expected completion date of the project if the project is not completed already.

Notice given 22 March 2007

- 3066 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—
- (1) Does the Wet Tropics World Heritage Management Plan provide for a transport corridor such as that required for the proposed highway.
 - (2) Will the Kuranda Range Highway, if approved, result in more physical damage to the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area than existed at the time that it was listed.
 - (3) (a) Does the proposed highway compromise the values for which the area was listed; and (b) does it undermine the physical integrity of the site.
 - (4) Does this proposal contravene any of the provisions of the World Heritage Convention, in particular Article 6.3.
- 3068 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Can an update be provided on the progress of discussions on a reciprocal health care agreement between Croatia and Australia that commenced in May 2006.
 - (2) Did the department provide the Croatian Ministry of Health with a questionnaire in order to ascertain the extent of similarities between the Australian and Croatian health care systems; if so, has this exchange occurred; if not, can advice be provided on the reasons for the delay in this process.

Notice given 23 March 2007

- 3069 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What is the Government's position on the public order and security cooperation agreement signed in March 2007 between Angola and Zimbabwe.

- (2) (a) Is the Minister aware of reports that 2 500 Angolan paramilitary police have been sent to Zimbabwe to assist the regime of President Mugabe in cracking down on unrest; and (b) can the Government verify whether these Angolan forces have in fact been deployed.
- (3) If there are in fact Angolan paramilitary police working with President Mugabe's regime: (a) what is the Government's position on that deployment; and (b) will the Government consider punitive action against Angola.

Notice given 26 March 2007

3070 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 2490 (Senate *Hansard*, 30 November 2006, p. 196):

- (1) With reference to the Request for Quote (RFQ) issued by the department on 2 June 2005 relating to the supply of equipment to constitute 100 000 PanFlu VacPacs: (a) what were the selection criteria for tenderers; (b) who were the selected tenderers, other than Crystal Healthcare; (c) on what dates were these tenderers first approached; (d) if Crystal Healthcare was part of the select number of companies approached, what are the documented reasons for not including them at the Expression of Interest (EOI) stage; (e) what were the circumstances that led to the decision to subsequently approach Crystal Healthcare; and (f) did the correspondence to other tenderers indicate that procurement may be split.
- (2) With reference to the indication of the Minister in the answer to question on notice no. 2490 that the invitation to Crystal Healthcare to submit a tender was not because there had been a poor response at the EOI stage and the denial that this information had been communicated to Crystal Healthcare by an officer of the department: (a) why was Crystal Healthcare contacted by the department by telephone after the EOI stage; (b) was this contact unsolicited; if so, what was the reason for the contact; (c) why was the company not required to submit a Statement of Capability in response to the RFQ; and (d) why was the company awarded a contract for the initial supply, despite not having submitted a Statement of Capability, without being required to follow Commonwealth Procurement Guidelines (CPGs), such as proper evaluation of financials, ability to deliver and technical capability.
- (3) With reference to the Financial Management and Accountability (FMA) Regulation 8(2) as stated at 7.12 of the CPGs which requires an official who takes action that is inconsistent with the CPGs to make a written record of reasons for doing so, can the following be provided: (a) the written record explaining why the preferred supplier was not selected from those who responded to the original EOI; (b) reasons why Crystal Healthcare was selected without any analysis against a set of selection criteria; and (c) the original procurement plan approved for the above procurement before any approach was made to the market.
- (4) With reference to the answer to paragraph (4) of question on notice no. 2490, in which the department confirmed that it awarded a contract to Crystal Healthcare by telephone on 3 June 2005, was there any indication to Crystal Healthcare at that time that the contract would be split; if so, can evidence be provided of this explanation.

- (5) Can the department confirm that it continually asked Crystal Healthcare for assurances that it would be able to deliver the full contract of 100 000 packs within 4 weeks of the contract being signed; if so: (a) did Crystal Healthcare provide these assurances; and (b) was Crystal Healthcare subsequently informed that it had been awarded the contract because it could deliver within the specified timeframes.
- (6) While the department now cites cost factors as a reason for its contract decisions, can the Minister confirm that this was not an issue at the time of contract discussions and that the department was concerned, rather, with the capacity to deliver on time.
- (7) Can documents be provided that indicate the strategy developed by the department to respond to the threat of an outbreak, and the criteria for engagement of companies to deliver the vaccine.
- (8) Can the department confirm that Crystal Healthcare was advised by two officers of the department, between 3 June and 5 June 2005, that Crystal Healthcare had been awarded the contract; if so, what are the precise details of their advice to Crystal Healthcare.
- (9) With reference to the answers to paragraphs (6) and (12) of question on notice no. 2490, in which the Minister advised at (6) that at 'at no stage did the Department indicate that Crystal Healthcare was to commence work immediately' and at (12) that 'equipment was required rapidly, the decision was made to procure the first 2 000 packs immediately', which of these two statements is accurate.
- (10) (a) Given that section 8.31 of the CPGs requires agencies to provide sufficient time for potential suppliers to make a submission, and advises that this should not be less than 10 days unless a genuine emergency renders that time limit impractical, and the answer to paragraph (9) of question on notice no. 2490 that urgency did not exist, why was Crystal Healthcare given only 1 day to respond to the RFQ; and (b) in accordance with FMA Regulation 8(2), can all documentation be provided that details the reasons for the department's decision to give Crystal Healthcare only 1 day to respond.
- (11) Can the Minister confirm that correspondence dated 6 June 2005 from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Biosecurity and Disease Control Branch, confirmed that the department had accepted Crystal Healthcare's quotation for the supply of the material referred to in the proposal; if so, where in that letter is there an indication that the department was not proceeding with the full RFQ.
- (12) Why does the correspondence of the Acting Assistant Secretary refer to an 'initial order' and to the original EOI and RFQ if the decision to split the order had already been made by the department.
- (13) How and when did the department indicate to Crystal Healthcare that it was not proceeding with the entire contract.
- (14) Can documentation be provided that confirms that it was the department's intention not to proceed with the full contract prior to confirming the provision of PanFlu VacPacs with Crystal Healthcare.
- (15) Why did the RFQ provided to Crystal Healthcare not indicate such a decision but instead referred specifically to 'an initial supply' and then to the fact that 'the remaining items do not need to be placed in... VacPacs... requests to form the PanFlu VacPacs will be made at a later time'.

- (16) Did the department fully comply with the CPGs and all other guidelines, regulations and required procedures when it awarded Crystal Healthcare the contract over the telephone on 3 June 2005.
- (17) Is it normal practice for the department to issue a purchase order without a signed contract; if so: (a) can recent examples of this circumstance be provided; and (b) what are the details in each of these cases.
- (18) Is it the case that between 3 June and 4 June 2005 there was contact, on a number of occasions, between an officer of the department, and Mr Roger Bullen, a director of Crystal Healthcare, about a discrepancy in the number of gloves referred to in the RFQ; if so: (a) can the Minister confirm that Mr Bullen was advised that the number of gloves to be supplied for the initial order was 2 000 000 rather than 1 000 000 and that the total number of gloves to be supplied was 100 000 000; (b) how does this advice correspond with the statement of the department that it was only proceeding with the initial order; and (c) can the Minister provide the log telephone conversations with Mr Bullen on 3 June and 4 June 2005.
- (19) Did Crystal Healthcare receive misleading advice.
- (20) Can minutes or other documents be provided that demonstrate that the decision to split the order had already been made.
- (21) Why was not the department's position clarified in accordance with the CPGs.
- (22) Can the Minister explain the discrepancy between the answer to question on notice no. 2490 at paragraph (10) and the RFQ provided to Crystal Healthcare that clearly anticipates that the same supplier would provide the initial 2 000 VacPacs and provide further VacPacs 'on delivery as stock rotation may be required if long term storage occurs'.
- (23) Can the Minister confirm that the RFQ referred only to a single supplier and does not refer to two contracts, that is an initial contract and a subsequent contract with an undetermined supplier.
- (24) Did the process by which the department issued an RFQ on 2 June 2005 that referred to the awarding of one contract for the supply of the relevant equipment and then, by e-mail dated 9 June 2005, after the contract had been awarded to Crystal Healthcare on 3 June 2005 under the RFQ of 2 June 2005, indicate that the department was seeking to revise the tender requirements and/or re-tender comply with the CPGs.
- (25) What precisely were the 'emerging priorities' referred to in an e-mail from an officer of the department dated 9 June 2005.
- (26) Can the Minister explain on what basis or grounds the department can revise tender requirements or re-tender after: (a) the contract had been awarded to Crystal Healthcare; and (b) the closing date in the RFQ, which was advertised as 3 June 2005.
- (27) With reference to the e-mail received by Crystal Healthcare on 9 June 2005 from an officer of the department that referred to 'complexities that came to light on Friday, 3 June 2005': (a) what were, or are, these complexities; and (b) why were these complexities not communicated to Crystal Healthcare by the department immediately, or at any other time, as required by section 8.3 of CPGs.

- (28) Why did officers of the department continue to deal with Crystal Healthcare until 9 June 2005 on the basis that the contract had been awarded to it and the supply of equipment to the timeframes specified by the department was critical.
- (29) Why did the RFQ issued on 9 June 2005 fail to provide any indication or information about the complexities that justified the re-tendering.
- (30) Given that Crystal Healthcare's pricing for the initial supply of 2 000 VacPacs was based on the RFQ details provided by the department, can the Minister explain following the departments decision to re-tender: (a) why Crystal Healthcare was not given the opportunity to resubmit its pricing for the 2 000 PanFlu VacPacs; and (b) why the department decided against re-tender for the 2 000 PanFlu VacPacs.
- (31) With reference to the answer to paragraph (12) of question on notice no. 2490 on the timing of the decision to revise the tender arrangements, can all internal records and communications, including minutes of meetings, correspondence, e-mails, tender assessments and other reports relating to the comparison and evaluation of the tenders be provided.
- (32) (a) With reference to the answer to paragraph (12)(b) of question on notice no. 2490, if the tenders were 'so dissimilar as to prevent any meaningful comparison', 'particularly for storage costs': (i) why did not the department on 3 June 2005 re-tender before awarding the contract to Crystal Healthcare, (ii) why was Crystal Healthcare awarded the contract on 3 June 2005, (iii) why were the other tenderers unsuccessful in respect to the original RFQ, (iv) why was not the issue of storage or storage costs raised with Crystal Healthcare by the department, and (v) what communications were issued by the department in relation to storage or storage costs to other tenderers; (b) for each of the subparagraphs above, can copies of all correspondence or other communications sent by the department to other tenderers on these issues be provided; and (c) if storage and storage costs were an issue, why did the specifications in the RFQ issued on 9 June 2005 not change.
- (33) Can the Minister provide copies of all material relating to the evaluation of Crystal Healthcare's response to the RFQ dated 9 June 2005.
- (34) Why was Crystal Healthcare not invited to re-submit its proposal based on the department's claimed change in tender specifications relating top storage.
- (35) With reference to the RFQ of 9 June 2005 that required storage in an Australian capital city: (a) is it the case that in order for the department to comply with the CPGs, it should have communicated a change in the storage requirement specifications to all tenderers before the close of the tender; if so, why did the department fail to do so; (b) on what date was the department first asked by any tenderer to consider storage outside a capital city; and (c) did the tenderer Cleanroom Garments comply with the capital city requirement in its response to the RFQ dated 2 June 2005, and the RFQ dated 9 June 2005; if so can documentary evidence of this compliance be provided.

- (36) Is it the case that between 9 June 2005 and 27 September 2005, when a faxed letter was received indicating that Crystal Healthcare had been unsuccessful, departmental officers continued to represent to Crystal Healthcare that its proposal was still being considered by the department; if so: (a) can full details be provided from departmental logs or other records of all contact between the department and Crystal Healthcare between those two dates; (b) why was Crystal Healthcare not informed earlier, when a decision had clearly been made; and (c) was Crystal Healthcare given misleading advice.

3072 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) (a) Can the Minister provide, for each of the 11 zones across the four sectors of the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (SESSF), the following figures for the orange roughy: (i) target quota, (ii) bycatch quota, and (iii) trigger limit; and (b) for each of the above categories, will the Minister identify: (i) where each of the quotas and/or trigger limits are published, and (ii) how the quantities were determined.
- (2) Is it the case that the East Coast Deepwater trawl sector has been identified as having an orange roughy trigger limit in the Orange Roughy Conservation Programme, published by the Australian Fisheries Management Association (AFMA) on 7 December 2006; if so, why does the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery (non-quota species) Total Allowable Catch (2007 Fishing Year) Determination (cited as 2007 SESSF D2), made under section 15 of the SESSF Management Plan 2003, allocate a 50 tonne bycatch quota.
- (3) Can the Minister explain whether the Orange Roughy Conservation Plan Workshop to be hosted by the AFMA in Melbourne on 12 April 2007 is open to participants other than orange roughy quota holders; if not, why not.

3073 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—Can the Minister provide, for each year since 1990, by state and territory, the number of grocery stores and supermarkets in Australia.

Notice given 27 March 2007

3076 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many project managers worked for the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) at its inception.
- (2) (a) How many project managers are currently employed by the DMO, including trainee project managers; (b) how many of these are on a retention bonus: (i) in total, and (ii) as a percentage of the total number of project managers.
- (3) What is the average retention bonus.
- (4) How are retention bonuses calculated.
- (5) (a) Who is the project manager for the Landing Helicopter Dock (LHD) project; (b) is this project manager paid a retention bonus; if so, how much per year: (i) in total, and (ii) as a percentage of the project manager's salary; and (c) what is the lifetime of this project manager's Australian Workplace Agreement.
- (6) Does any project manager receive a performance bonus as well as a retention bonus.

- (7) (a) How are performance bonuses: (i) calculated, and (ii) paid; and
(b) under what conditions are they paid.

3078 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—With reference to section 3.2 of the 2006-07 Agency Budget Statements for Tourism Australia (TA) (*Industry, Tourism and Resources Portfolio Budget Statements 2006-07*, p. 196) that states that TA's appropriations have decreased since the 2005-06 financial year and that this is primarily due to the expiry of promotional funding introduced in the 2002-03 financial year to counteract the fall in tourism since 11 September 2001:

- (1) How much of the funding allocation has been spent on establishing TA as the new tourism agency.
- (2) What were the costings associated with establishing: (a) Tourism Events Australia; (b) the Australian Experiences Unit; (c) the Industry Implementation Advisory Group; and (d) the rolling out of the domestic tourism campaign.
- (3) What was the expenditure for: (a) launching the international campaign; (b) the conceptual work for the campaign; (c) strategic planning; and (d) the revitalised Brand Australia campaign in the 14 key overseas markets referred to in the department's Tourism White Paper Fact Sheet.
- (4) What costs have been incurred for actioning the first two rounds of the: (a) Australian Tourism Development Program; and (b) Tourism and Conservation Partnerships Initiative.
- (5) What costs have been associated with the Business Ready Program for Indigenous Tourism.

3079 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—With reference to the range of consumer marketing activities of the Agency Budget Statements listed on page 188 of the department's *Portfolio Budget Statements 2006-07* which includes the Visiting Journalist, Aussie Specialist Travel Agent and Aussie Enthusiast Trade Support programs:

- (1) Can a list be provided of all marketing programs in which Tourism Australia is involved.
- (2) For each of these programs what is the: (a) total costing; (b) staffing costs; (c) recurrent costs; and (d) administration costs.

3080 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—With reference to table 2.3 in the Agency Budget Statements for Tourism Australia (TA) contained in the department's *Portfolio Budget Statements 2006-07* (p. 192) that demonstrates that TA, in each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07, acquired approximately \$0.3 million through cost recovery arrangements:

- (1) (a) Can a list be provided of programs that include some cost recovery; and (b) for each of these programs, the amount that it acquired through cost recovery measures.
- (2) How are cost recovery charges set for these programs.
- (3) What methodology is used to determine what is subject to a cost recovery charge.
- (4) If charging was increased across the range of Tourism Australia programs, what would be the impact to revenue.

- 3081 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—(a) Can a list be provided of all Tourism Australia programs; and (b) for each of these programs, what is the cash forward estimate for each of the financial years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10.
- 3082 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Aboriginal Benefit Account:
- (1) For each of the past 10 financial years: (a) what has been the total amount available for expenditure through discretionary grants; and (b) what proportion of that money: (i) has been allocated to initiatives and/or grants, (ii) has been granted specifically for economic development initiatives, and (iii) has been granted specifically for Indigenous art initiatives including, but not limited, to Aboriginal arts centres, infrastructure needs, commercial training and development strategies.
 - (2) (a) How many grants have been approved by the Minister but have not yet been administered; and (b) for each of these grants: (i) what year was the grant approved, and (ii) what was the amount of the grant.

Notice given 28 March 2007

- 3083 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—Can the Minister confirm that no weapons containing depleted uranium will be used by: (a) Australia defence forces; or (b) foreign forces in exercises in Australia in 2007 or in subsequent years.
- 3084 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Stronger Families and Communities Strategy Partnership:
- (1) For each year since the inception of the partnership: (a) how many times have the members of the partnership met face to face; and (b) how much has the department expended in support of the partnership's work and of this expenditure, what amount corresponds to travel costs.
 - (2) What is the budget allocation to support the partnership: (a) in the 2006-07 budget year; and (b) for each financial year of the forward estimates.
- 3086 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Australian Council for Children and Parenting:
- (1) For each year since the inception of the council: (a) how many times has the council secretariat met face to face; and (b) how much has the department expended in support of the council's work and of this expenditure, how much has been on travel.
 - (2) What is the budget allocation to support the council secretariat: (a) in the 2006-07 budget year; and (b) for each financial year of the forward estimates.
- 3087 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—When will the report on the review of the In Home Care Program be published.

3088 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the Macquarie Island World Heritage Area and Nature Reserve:

- (1) Will the Government commit to the detailed eradication plan for rabbits and rodents on Macquarie Island; if so, when will the plan be enacted; and, if the plan will not be enacted, why.
- (2) Will the Government provide sufficient resources to ensure the ecological future of the island; if so: (a) what amount of funding will be provided; and (b) will this funding be ongoing.
- (3) (a) What action is the Government taking to ensure that the World Heritage listing of the island is preserved; and (b) does the Minister agree that unless action is taken the World Heritage status of the island will be at risk.
- (4) Is it the case that the rabbit and rodent population on the island has increased; if so: (a) to what extent; and (b) what is the current rabbit and rodent population.
- (5) Has the rabbit and rodent population caused land degradation and a loss of plant and animal species; if so: (a) to what extent; and (b) which species are threatened or lost.

3089 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1690 (*Senate Hansard*, 14 June 2006, p. 193) concerning crew levels of all ships in the Royal Australian Navy, can updated information be provided using the same format as the previous answer.

Notice given 29 March 2007

3091 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) Can separate figures be provided, for Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel and Defence staff, which detail the number of personnel that have been posted overseas for: (i) less than 6 months, and (ii) more than 6 months; and (b) which locations have these staff been posted to and for what purposes.
- (2) (a) For each location referred to: (i) what is the estimated cost, for each of the financial years 2006-07 and 2007-08, for supporting each of these postings, including service charges from other agencies and costs of locally engaged staff, and (ii) how many staff are locally engaged; and what security procedures apply to their selection.
- (3) (a) Can separate figures be provided, for ADF personnel and administrative staff, by rank and location, that detail the number of personnel currently seconded or attached to forces of other nations; and (b) of these personnel, how many are deployed as part of military activity outside the homeland of these forces.
- (4) How many personnel of other nations are currently seconded to the ADF, by nationality.

3093 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) Given that the current bilateral agreement for prisoner transfers between Australia and the United States of America (US) relates to the former and not the current military commission process, when, if at all, does the Australian Government propose to enter into a bilateral agreement for the transfer of prisoners from Guantanamo Bay.

- (2) How will any bilateral agreement entered into with the US for the transfer of prisoners from Guantanamo Bay be enforced by Australian law.
- (3) Is there a proposal to amend the *International Transfer of Prisoners Act 1997* or promulgate new regulations to cover the situation of Mr David Hicks where there is no mirror offence in Australian law.
- (4) Will the text of any agreement entered into with the US be incorporated into the Act or enabling regulations.
- (5) Will the agreement be tabled and referred to the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances or the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties for scrutiny.
- (6) Can the Attorney-General confirm that, in the agreement, important terms relating to prisoner transfers, such as visitation rights, recognition of time served, and pardon (prerogative writs) will be enshrined in the implementing Australian law.
- (7) Given that the constitutionality of the current military commission process has been appealed to the US Supreme Court, if the Court decides that the military commission process is unconstitutional and, therefore, any sentences produced by it are null and void: (a) if Mr Hicks is transferred to Australia to serve his sentence, will he still have to serve the sentence in Australia; and (b) will Mr Hicks be entitled to compensation.
- (8) Given: (a) that under the International Transfer of Prisoners Act there is no right of appeal in Australia and; (b) the Attorney-General's statement on 28 March 2007 that there will be no commutation or pardon of Mr Hicks' sentence; what, if any, administrative law rights will be available to Mr Hicks if he is transferred to South Australia to serve his sentence as a detainee of the Commonwealth.
- (9) Given that Mr Hicks has never undergone an independent mental health assessment, is the Government prepared to accept the US military commission's findings in respect of Mr Hicks' voluntariness, or otherwise, to enter into a plea bargain and consent to a prison transfer.
- (10) Given that rule 910 of the Manual for Military Commissions requires a military judge to ensure that any plea entered into is voluntary, what, if any, attempts has the Australian Government made to ensure that an independent psychiatric assessment of Mr Hicks is completed, as provided for under rule 706.
- (11) What effect, if any, will the *Proceeds of Crime Act 2002* have on Mr Hicks.

3094 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) With reference to the description of the activities of the Coordination and Public Affairs Division (CPA) on page 33 of the department's annual report for 2005-06, how many staff were dedicated, in whole or in part, to the management of the: (a) Kovco Board of Inquiry; and (b) the Sea King Board of Inquiry.
- (2) (a) What was the total cost to the CPA of each of the inquiries identified in (1); and (b) what were the costs of: (i) members' fees, (ii) members' travel and support, (iii) witnesses' expenses, (iv) counsel, (v) transcripts, and (vi) staff support from the CPA.

- (3) With reference to each of the Boards of Inquiry identified in (1): (a) what public relations support was provided; (b) what was the cost of the support, in each case, (c) how many media releases were drafted for: (i) the Minister, and (ii) the Board; (d) how many media inquiries were logged; and (e) how many briefs were prepared and provided to the Minister's office.
- (4) With reference to the Kovco matter not involving the Board of Inquiry (BoI): (a) what travel was undertaken by staff of the CPA; (b) on how many occasions was contact made with Private Kovco's family with respect to his death, the return of his body, and funeral arrangements; (c) what arrangements were discussed with the organisers of the 2006 ANZAC Day commemoration in Victoria; (d) how much was spent for transport and other support, not associated with the BoI, of Private Kovco's family; and (e) what was the cost of the state funeral accorded to Private Kovco.
- (5) (a) How many journalists are employed by the CPA; and (b) at what annual cost are they employed, including salary and all other costs, such as accommodation, travel and support.
- (6) (a) In the 2006-07 financial year to date, how many media releases have been drafted in the CPA for the: (i) Minister; (ii) Minister Assisting, and (iii) Parliamentary Secretary; and (b) approximately how many staff are engaged in the production of these media releases.
- (7) Of the 49.5 hours of vision referred to as having been prepared in the 2005-06 financial year, how many hours included images of the Minister.
- (8) (a) In the 2006-07 financial year to date: (i) which non-Defence journalists have travelled to operational areas, (ii) which media establishments are these journalists from, and (iii) to which operational areas have they travelled; (b) what was the cost of each trip to the department and the Australian Defence Force (ADF); and (c) how many of these journalists, or journalists sponsored by other agencies, were supported by the department and the ADF, in whole or in part, during that travel.
- (9) Is there a current hospitality funding allocation to the CPA or are funds made available from other sources; if so: (a) how much has been spent; (b) on whom has it been spent; and (c) on what date, and for what purpose.
- (10) For the financial year 2006-07 to date, what is the current internal allocation within the CPA for staff travel and accommodation.
- (11) (a) How many training courses or ad hoc training sessions have been delivered to senior staff attending estimates and other parliamentary committees; (b) who prepares and delivers these courses; and (c) what evaluation of these courses has been conducted to date.
- (12) What is the current estimated cost of maintaining the Defence web page.

Notice given 5 April 2007

3095 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) 'MOU on Handling and Slaughtering of Australian Live Animals' signed on 3 October 2006 by the Minister and the Egyptian Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Mr Amin Ahmed Abaza:

- (1) Does the MOU relate to all animals exported from Australia to Egypt.

- (2) Can the Minister confirm that there is no distinction made in the MOU in regard of agreed terms for the treatment of Australian sheep, for example whether they are sent to abattoirs or sold privately for home slaughter.
- (3) (a) Can the Minister confirm that, in Egypt, no enforceable legislation exists to prohibit cruelty to animals, within slaughterhouses or elsewhere, or to ensure that the conditions of the MOU are complied with; and (b) given that there is a lack of animal protection laws and that significant animal welfare issues are documented in Egypt, on what basis did the Minister believe that the conditions of the MOU would be complied with.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that he and departmental officials were advised by representatives of Animals Australia, prior to the signing of the MOU, that the treatment and handling of sheep in Egypt did not comply with World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) guidelines due to the prevalent practice of on-selling to private buyers and the inept and unregulated handling and slaughter practices that are used, even in major abattoirs, in Egypt.
- (5) What assurances about animal welfare standards in Egypt, if any, were made to the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service, and to the Australian Government, prior to the granting of an export permit for a consignment of approximately 40 000 sheep from Australia to Egypt in October and November 2006.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that he was advised, in correspondence from Animals Australia dated 22 November 2006, that the welfare of the first shipment of sheep to Egypt since the signing of the MOU was at risk as the import was specifically for Eid-al-Adha (the 'Feast of Sacrifice'), the major religious festival during which sheep are sacrificed in the street and in homes; if so: did the Minister: (a) confirm the information contained in the correspondence; and (b) take action by sending Australian Government representatives to Egypt to monitor the treatment of the sheep that arrived in Egypt in November 2006 in order to assess the adherence to the MOU; if not, why not, given the statement, in the document 'Frequently asked questions—Live trade export – Egypt on the department's website, that 'initial shipments will be closely monitored for compliance with the MOU provisions'.
- (7) Prior to the signing of the MOU, was there any assessment conducted by the Australian Government of market places, abattoirs, transport or handling standards in Egypt, and particularly any assessment of likely adherence to OIE animal welfare guidelines, and therefore the MOU, in regard to sheep; if so, can details of these assessments be provided.
- (8) What assurances were made, by either Mr Abaza or other representatives of the Government of Egypt, to Australian Government representatives in regard to the enforcement of the animal welfare provisions detailed in that MOU, and in particular the adherence to the OIE guidelines for the humane treatment and slaughter of Australian livestock.
- (9) Given that during additional estimates hearings of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee in February 2007, Mr Craig Burns, Executive Manager of the International Division of the department, stated, under questioning about the MOU, that the 'focus' is on the way Australian animals are treated in 'abattoirs and official handling facilities' (Committee *Hansard*, 14 February 2007, p. 57P) in Egypt, and that the footage aired on television of the Animals Australia investigation related to 'leakage from

that official system' (p. 56P), can the Minister confirm that: (a) in Egypt no official slaughter and handling system is in place for sheep; and (b) for each of the years 2004, 2005 and 2006, Australian sheep have only been exported from Australia to Egypt in the lead-up to the Eid-al-Adha religious festival, and that a large proportion of these sheep are likely to be privately transported and slaughtered.

- (10) Given that the Minister has viewed and is aware of the eye witness, video and photographic evidence, gathered by Animals Australia in Cairo in December 2006, that show multiple and consistent breaches of the OIE guidelines, and therefore the MOU, what measures has the Government taken to investigate the documented breaches.
- (11) What measures can the Australian Government take to compel compliance with welfare requirements within an MOU, apart from refusing to supply livestock.
- (12) (a) What assurances, if any, has Egypt provided that any other shipment of animals from Australia to Egypt will be treated humanely; and (b) if such assurances have been made, does the Minister believe that the conditions of the MOU will be complied with in future given that the Egyptian Government has no capacity to enforce the conditions of the MOU in slaughterhouses or in private premises.
- (13) What further measures will the Australian Government put in place to ensure, and to assure the Australian public, that Australian animals exported to Egypt will be treated in accordance with the OIE guidelines.
- (14) Will the Australian Government refrain from issuing any further export permits for animals from Australia to Egypt if no additional and effective measures are in place to protect these animals.
- (15) Is the Minister aware that the Egyptian Government Organisation of Veterinary Services Animal Welfare Office has recently renewed its policy and practice of authorising the shooting and use of strychnine on stray dogs in the streets of Cairo.
- (16) Given that the Australian Government has, in recent years, negotiated MOUs with Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Eritrea and Jordan on the trade in live animals which relate to the agreed off-loading of animals into the importing country in the event of a suspected disease issue, and were intended to protect against a rejection of Australian livestock similar to the *Cormo Express* incident and given the breaches of the MOU between Australia and Egypt that have been acknowledged in public statements by the Minister, and the apparent disregard by Egypt of the MOU, what confidence does the Minister have that similar MOUs entered into with the remaining countries will be honoured in the event of a suspected major on-board disease event.
- (17) Will the Australian Government report the failure of the Egyptian Government to adhere to the minimum animal handling and slaughter guidelines to the OIE.

Notice given 10 April 2007

3097 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) Indigenous Trials:

- (1) (a) For each of the COAG Indigenous community trials in Wadeye and in North Eastern Tasmania, what is the amount that the department has expended in support of the trials to date, disaggregated to show administered funds and departmental expenses; and (b) for the administered funds, can the figures be further disaggregated to indicate the amount expended on individual activities or programs, not including funds for programs that would have been administered irrespective of the COAG trial.
- (2) Have the trials formally ended; if so, when did they end.
- (3) How will the department respond to the recommendation of consultants Morgan Disney & Associates that government staff receive cross-cultural training.
- (4) (a) What cross-cultural training is currently being provided to staff in Indigenous Coordination Centres (ICC) and to all staff working in Indigenous-specific divisions of the department; and (b) is an outside body contracted to deliver this training; if so, can details be provided of the: (i) name of the contractor, (ii) date and duration of the training program(s), (iii) the nature of the program(s), and (iv) how many ICC staff have taken part in each program.

3098 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) Indigenous Trials:

- (1) (a) For the COAG Indigenous community trial in the Australian Capital Territory, what is the amount that the department has expended in support of the trial to date, disaggregated to indicate administered funds and departmental expenses; and (b) for the administered funds, can the figure be further disaggregated to indicate the amount expended on individual activities or programs, not including funds for programs that would have been administered irrespective of the COAG trial.
- (2) Have these trials formally ended; if so, when did they end.

3099 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) Indigenous Trials:

- (1) (a) For the COAG Indigenous community trials in the East Kimberley region, what is the amount that the department has expended in support of the trial to date, disaggregated to indicate administered funds and departmental expenses; and (b) for the administered funds, can the figure be further disaggregated to indicate the amount expended on individual activities or programs, not including funds for programs that would have been administered irrespective of the COAG trial.
- (2) Have these trials formally ended; if so, when did they end.

3100 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) Indigenous Trials:

- (1) (a) For the COAG Indigenous community trials in the Murdi Paaki region, what is the amount that the department has expended in support of the trial to date, disaggregated to indicate administered funds and departmental expenses; and (b) for the administered funds, can the figure be further disaggregated to indicate the amount expended on individual activities or

programs, not including funds for programs that would have been administered irrespective of the COAG trial.

- (2) Have these trials formally ended; if so, when did they end.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that the Murdi Paaki Regional Council has helped to devise a number of community action plans for communities in the Murdi Paaki region; if so, what role has the department played in putting those plans into action.

3101 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the Council of Australian Governments' (COAG) Indigenous Trials:

- (1) (a) For the COAG Indigenous community trials in the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yakunytjatjara (APY) Lands region, what is the amount that the department has expended in support of the trial to date, disaggregated to indicate administered funds and departmental expenses; and (b) for the administered funds, can the figure be further disaggregated to indicate the amount expended on individual activities or programs, not including funds for programs that would have been administered irrespective of the COAG trial.
- (2) Have these trials formally ended; if so, when did they end.

3102 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Indigenous Trials:

- (1) (a) For each of the COAG Indigenous community trials in the Cape York and Shepparton regions, what is the amount that the department has expended in support of the trials to date, disaggregated to indicate administered funds and departmental expenses; and (b) for the administered funds, can the figures be further disaggregated to indicate the amount expended on individual activities or programs, not including funds for programs that would have been administered irrespective of the COAG trial.
- (2) Have these trials formally ended; if so, when did they end.

3104 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the Minister's press release of 23 February 2007, 'Telstra sale to benefit Indigenous broadcasting', in which a \$90 million Backing Indigenous Ability program was announced as part of the Connect Australia initiative, including \$51.8 million over four years to develop an Indigenous television service and restore ageing radio infrastructure:

- (1) How much of this funding was, or has been, expended in each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date.
- (2) At what stage is the development of the Indigenous television service; if the service is not currently transmitting, when is it estimated that it will be.
- (3) In what ways has the radio infrastructure been upgraded.
- (4) Was a needs assessment conducted in remote Indigenous communities in relation to radio infrastructure and/or television services; if so, can details be provided of: (a) the date and contents of this assessment; and (b) if the assessment was conducted by an outside contractor(s), their name and the value of the contract.
- (5) Was the \$90 million figure based on the results of a needs assessment or survey; if not, how was it determined.

3105 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Can a list be provided of Job Network providers that currently service remote areas.
- (2) For each financial year since 2002-03: (a) how many Job Network providers have serviced remote areas; (b) what amount of the total funding allocated to Job Network providers have these providers received; (c) how many job outcomes have these providers achieved, including: (i) at first instance, (ii) at 13 weeks, and (iii) at 26 weeks; and (d) what global percentage of the Job Seeker Account amount available have these providers used.
- (3) (a) To date, how much has been spent of the 2006-07 Budget measure, 'Strengthening Indigenous Communities – enhanced opportunities for employment and participation in remote communities', worth \$17.9 million over 4 years and \$3.7 million in the first year; (b) of this amount, how much has been directed to: (i) Job Network, (ii) Centrelink, and (iii) the department; and (c) for each of the above, as a result of the funding, what extra work or activity has been generated.

3106 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the decision to transfer responsibility for the provision of municipal services from the Davenport Community Council to the Port Augusta City Council:

- (1) Prior to the announcement, how many face to face consultations did the department have with: (a) the Davenport Community Council; and (b) the Port Augusta City Council.
- (2) (a) What responsibility does the department have for ensuring that funding continues for the Wami Kata aged care facility and the Lakeview Accommodation Centre; and (b) what steps have been taken to ensure this funding continues.
- (3) Has the department secured formal agreement from the Port Augusta City Council that it will become the external service provider for municipal services to the Davenport community.
- (4) Is the Port Augusta City Council providing municipal services to the Davenport community; if so, what services is it currently providing.
- (5) Can a list be provided of any municipal services that the Davenport Community Council provided to the Davenport community that the Port Augusta City Council is not currently providing.
- (6) On what date did, or will, municipal funding for the purpose of servicing the Davenport Community: (a) cease for the Davenport Community Council; and (b) increase for the Port Augusta City Council.

3107 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the report prepared by PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) on the findings of the review of the Community Housing and Infrastructure Program (CHIP), *Living in the sunburnt country*:

- (1) On what date was the first draft of the report: (a) presented to the department; and (b) seen by the Minister or the Minister's office.

- (2) Did the: (a) department; or (b) Minister, make comments or suggestions for changes to the draft for PWC to consider or incorporate into the report; if so, on what date(s) were these comments or suggestions made.
- (3) (a) On what date did PWC submit a revised draft of the report; (b) was the revised draft submitted to the department, the Minister's office or both; and (c) on receipt of the revised draft, were further comments or suggestions made by either the Minister's office or the department.
- (4) With reference to consultations with each of the Indigenous organisations listed on page 11 of the report, can specific dates be provided for each of these consultations.
- (5) (a) Given that there are 616 Indigenous housing organisations across Australia, was the Minister satisfied with PWC consulting only eleven, or approximately 1.5 per cent, of these; (b) which remote communities, and on what dates, did PWC visit as part of the consultation process.
- (6) Was Mr Graeme Morris, an employee of PWC, involved in the preparation or writing of the report.

3108 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 173 of the 2006-07 supplementary budget estimates of the Community Affairs Committee:

- (1) Can details also be provided, for the 2005-06 financial year, of the amount of municipal services funding that each of the organisations received.
- (2) For each organisation where the funding has not been transferred to a new body: (a) where has that funding gone; (b) which organisation is now providing municipal services for that area; and (c) was there a period where those communities were not provided with municipal services.
- (3) For the period since 1 July 2006, can updated information be provided using the same format as the previous answer, also incorporating information requested in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this question.

Notice given 11 April 2007

3109 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to an edited extract of a speech by Mr Alistair Nicholson QC, former Chief Justice of the Family Court, 'Our own laws condemn Hicks' trial' (*Age*, 2 April 2007, p. 11), in which he comments that past actions of the Attorney-General and others in the Government may have constituted a war crime and/or an offence under Division 268 of the schedule of the *Criminal Code Act 1995*, will the Australian Federal Police commence proceedings against the Attorney-General and others in the Federal Government for these actions; if not, why not.

3110 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) Did the Attorney-General receive advice from the Law Council of Australia with respect to the obligations of the Attorney-General under Division 268 of the schedule of the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (the Code) with respect to the detention and proposed trial of Mr David Hicks.
- (2) Can the Attorney-General confirm that the Code creates the offence of denying a person who is protected by the Geneva Conventions a fair trial, an offence the sentence for which is 10 years imprisonment.

- (3) Does the Attorney-General agree with the opinion of Law Council that:
 - (a) (i) Mr Hicks is a person protected by the Conventions; if not, why not, and (ii) did the Government seek alternate legal advice on the matter, if not, why not, if so, what was that advice; (b) both the first and the second military commission established for the purpose of trying Guantanamo Bay detainees could not provide a fair trial; if not, why not; and (c) under the Code, to 'counsel' or 'urge' another party to conduct a trial that does not meet the mandated standards can constitute a war crime.
- (4) In refusing to request the Government of the United States of America (US) to repatriate Mr Hicks and by pressing the US Government to proceed with his trial before the military commission, are the Attorney-General and others members of the Government guilty of a war crime and a crime against Australian law.

Notice given 17 April 2007

3111 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State— Can a list be provided, for each year since 1997, that details the makes and models of all non-standard private plated vehicles approved for senators and members of parliament, and for each make and model, how many vehicles were approved, and what was the Green Vehicle Guide rating attributed to it.

Senator Allison: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3112-3113)—

- (1) What research, if any, is being conducted on deep groundwater mapping in Australia.
- (2) What does the Government understand to be the capacity for deep groundwater to provide fresh water supplies for agriculture and urban use in Australia.
- (3) Since 2003, what amount of funding has the Government provided for projects to lower the water table as a form of salinity mitigation.
- (4) Is it the case that drainage projects to lower the water table are now considered largely ineffective.
- (5) (a) What salinity mitigation strategy is considered most effective; and (b) what assessment has been made of the extent, from this form of salinity mitigation, of: (i) dehydration of soils, and (ii) damage to the health of soils.
- (6) (a) What research has been conducted on degraded agricultural soil mapping; and (b) what assessment has been made of the extent in compacted and/or degraded soils of: (i) loss of carbon, (ii) loss of microbes and nutrients, (iii) the reduction in the capacity for water storage, (iv) the reduction in the seepage of fresh water from soil into surface dams and river systems, (v) the reduction in deep soil water percolation, (vi) increases in surface runoff from precipitation, and (vii) salination, as caused by the concentration of soil by the lateral flow of water through degraded soil.
- (7) What research is being conducted into the science of soil health.
- (8) What involvement does the department have with Healthy Soils Australia.

3112 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

3113 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

Senator Allison: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3114-3115)—With reference to Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS) debts:

- (1) What would be the annual costs of freezing the Consumer Price Index on the HECS debts of people that are: (a) not in the workforce; and (b) in part time employment.
- (2) Is a HECS debt cancelled once a person: (a) reaches the age of 65 years; or (b) dies.
- (3) In what circumstances, if any, has, or will, the Government recover a HECS debt from a deceased estate.

3114 Minister representing the Treasurer

3115 Minister representing the Treasurer

Senator Allison: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3116-3117)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the study, 'Comparison of treatment effects between animal experiments and clinical trials: systematic review', reported in the British Medical Journal of 27 January 2007 (p. 197), which indicates that much biomedical research conducted on animals is of poor methodological quality and that there is a lack of concordance between animal experiments and clinical trials.
- (2) Can the Minister give assurances that this is not also the case in Australia; if so, on what grounds can these assurances be made.

3116 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

3117 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

3118 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) How many Papua New Guinean citizens has Australia trained as doctors and health workers in the period: (a) since independence was achieved in 1975; and (b) between 1996 and 2006.
- (2) How many Solomon Islander citizens has Australia trained as doctors and health workers in the period: (a) since independence was achieved in 1978; and (b) between 1996 and 2006.
- (3) How many East Timorese citizens has Australia trained as doctors and health workers in the period since independence was achieved in 2002.

3119 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1086 (Senate Hansard, 3 November 2006, p. 114):

- (1) Since the answer was provided, what new contraceptives, including oral contraceptives, have been listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS); if none have been listed, can details be provided of any recommendations which have been made by the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee for listing of contraceptives on the PBS, including the current status of any recommendations or applications.
- (2) What data is available on the clinical and economic impact of alternative contraceptive methods in regard to side effects and reducing unintended pregnancy.
- (3) (a) What factors determine the choice of type and level of use of contraceptives; and (b) are contraceptive prices one of these factors; if so, in what way do they impact on the choice.

- (4) What is the average cost of: (a) the different categories of contraceptives covered by the PBS; and (b) contraceptives not covered by the PBS.
- (5) What information is available, if any, on the level of: (a) individual expenditure on contraceptives; and (b) public subsidy for contraceptives, available in Australia compared to other Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries.
- (6) How does the cost of contraceptives in Australia compare with other OECD countries.
- (7) What evidence is available regarding the cost and rates of use of contraception in different populations.
- (8) Is it the case that NuvaRing is not listed on the PBS; if so, why.
- (9) What work has the Government undertaken to examine the need for a broader range of cheaper and more accessible forms of contraception as a method of reducing the need for terminations.

3120 **Senator Hutchins:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—For each year since 1996, what were the funding allocations to programs relating to multi-resistant organisms.

3121 **Senator Hutchins:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—For each year since 1996, how much has the Government allocated for research into multi-resistant organisms and methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*.

Notice given 18 April 2007

3122 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the Natural Heritage Trust:

- (1) (a) Where is the \$300 million capital base invested and what relevant legislative provisions govern the application of the trust; (b) from this investment, what actual earnings have been made and what is the future assumed earnings rate applied to the capital.
- (2) (a) Since the 1997-98 financial year, what have been the uncommitted and unobligated amounts in the trust; and (b) for each amount, what were the rollovers or carry forwards.
- (3) For the financial years up to and including 2010-11 what are the uncommitted and unobligated amounts in the trust.

3123 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Can details be provided, for each passport category and subcategory, of the number of recipients, the revenue received, and the indexation factor applied, for: (a) the 5 financial years to 2006-07; and (b) the financial years from 2006-07 to 2010-11, as a projection.

3124 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for the Arts and Sport—With reference to the 2006-07 Budget measure ‘Australian Institute of Sport – integrated sports system’, can details be provided of the total uncommitted and unobligated administered and departmental costs in the 2006-07 budget and across the forward estimates for the financial years up to and including 2010-11.

- 3125 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) Can details be provided of the uncommitted and unobligated forward estimates for each financial year up to and including 2010-11 for: (a) the Workplace Productivity program; (b) the Budget measure ‘Capital Development Pool – additional funding to support learning and teaching’; (c) the Budget measure ‘New Apprenticeships – extension of incentives to Diploma and Advanced Diploma qualifications; and (d) the Budget measure ‘Tutorial Voucher Initiative – continuation’.
 - (2) Can details be provided of the total uncommitted and unobligated administered and departmental costs in the 2006-07 Budget and across the forward estimates for each financial year up to and including 2010-11 for the ‘Skills for the Future’ initiatives: (a) ‘Work Skills Vouchers’; (b) ‘Support for Mid-Career Apprentices’; (c) ‘Business Skills Vouchers for Apprentices’; (d) ‘Incentives for Higher Technical Skills’; and (e) ‘More Engineering Places at University’.
- 3126 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—Can projections be provided for each financial year up to and including 2010-11, for each onshore and offshore visa class and, where applicable, subclass, of: (a) the number of applicants; (b) the number of applications expected to be approved; and (c) the total revenue raised.
- 3127 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to additional funding provided for the establishment of 25 Australian Technical Colleges announced in the *Mid-year Economic and Fiscal Outlook for the 2006-07 financial year*:
- (1) Can details be provided, for each of the financial years up to and including 2009-10, of the uncommitted and unobligated forward estimate amounts of the funding.
 - (2) Is the funding ongoing; if so, can the yearly funding profile be detailed.
 - (3) Of the amount budgeted for the initiative in the 2006-07 financial year, what amount has been spent.
 - (4) What is the total funding for Australian Technical Colleges across the forward estimates.
- 3128 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to the ‘Voluntary student unionism’ 2006-07 Budget measures ‘transitional arrangements’ and ‘small business incentives for regional campuses’:
- (1) For each of the measures, can details be provided, for each financial year up to and including 2009-10, of the uncommitted and unobligated forward estimates amounts.
 - (2) Is the funding for each measure ongoing; if so, can the yearly funding profile be provided.
 - (3) Of the amount budgeted for the measures in the 2006-07 financial year, how much has been spent.
- 3129 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the statement on page 27 of the department’s annual report for 2003-04 that ‘Recommendation 3 of the Defence Procurement Review was to implement a rigorous “two pass” approval process for new equipment acquisitions.

As a result of this recommendation, the review proposed – and the government agreed to – an enhanced role for Finance in advising on the cost estimates and financial risks involved with these proposals. To fulfil its new role, Finance has established a new Defence Capability Assessment Branch within Budget Group, which works closely with the Department of Defence to help implement the new “two pass” system for government consideration of proposals to improve the Defence Force’s capability’:

- (1) Since the formation of the Defence Capability Assessment Branch, what projects has it advised on cost estimates and financial risks involved with new equipment acquisitions.
- (2) What benchmarking analysis has been conducted on the effect of the branch: (a) on the approved cost and timelines of approved projects and the final cost and timelines of approved projects; and (b) on the approved cost and timelines of approved projects reviewed by the branch versus those acquisitions not reviewed by the branch.
- (3) What were the results of each of the analyses referred to in paragraph (2).

3130 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
With reference to the department’s Outcome 3, ‘Efficiently functioning parliament’:

- (1) For each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 as a projection: (a) how many travel allowance (TA) forms were processed; and (b) of these forms, how many were varied in the acquittals process.
- (2) For the 2005-06 financial year, how many of the 356 Outcome 3 staff worked on processing of TA forms and what proportion of the total hours worked in support of the outcome were spent on processing of TA forms.
- (3) (a) What are the direct costs, for instance salary, and indirect costs, for instance stationary purchases, of processing the TA forms; and (b) what cost-benefit analysis has been undertaken to assess the need to reform and streamline these processes.

3131 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
With reference to the department’s Outcome 3 and, specifically, the Member of Parliamentary Staff (MOPS) Gateway:

- (1) (a) When will the service be delivered; (b) what additional functionality will it deliver; and (c) what resources are expected to be freed once it is introduced.
- (2) (a) What was the original project budget; and (b) what is the current expected budget.
- (3) Was the improved automated call centre system implemented by 31 December 2006; if not why not and when is it expected to be implemented; if so, what benchmarks are expected to be set for improved performance.
- (4) What was the cost of the 104 MOPS courses provided in the 2005-06 financial year.

3132 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Can a list be provided that details each Commonwealth agency subject to the efficiency dividend and the rate of the dividend applied to it.
- (2) Which Commonwealth agencies are not subject to the 1.25 per cent efficiency dividend and, for each of these agencies, why is the dividend not applied.

- (3) Which Commonwealth agencies are subject to the efficiency dividend at a rate less than 1.25 per cent and, for each of these agencies: (a) what is the efficiency dividend rate; (b) to what base is it applied; and (c) for what reason is the reduced rate applied.
- (4) For each of the financial years up to and including 2009-10, what is the aggregate cost of the efficiency dividend for: (a) all Commonwealth agencies; and (b) all Commonwealth programs to which it applies.
- (5) (a) Can a list be provided, by portfolio, of all Wage Cost Indexes and the weighting between Safety Net Adjustments (SNA) and Consumer Price Index adjustments for each Commonwealth Own Purpose Outlay (COPO); and (b) for each COPO: (i) for the 5 financial years to 2005-06 what has been the percentage and dollar amount of indexation, and (ii) for each of the financial years up to and including 2009-10, what is the projected indexation percentages and dollar amounts of indexation.
- (6) What indexation arrangements and guarantees will be put in place to ensure programs are no worse off once SNAs are abolished.

3133 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) (a) Can the forward estimates profile for Official Development Assistance (ODA) contained in the Budget estimates be provided; and (b) of this profile, what component has been committed to current ODA programs.
- (2) What is the uncommitted and unobligated amount currently provided for these programs in the budget forward estimates for each financial year up to and including 2009-10.

3134 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Can a spreadsheet be provided that details:
 - (a) for each of the measures listed in the 2006-07 Budget Paper No. 2, the amount remaining unspent; and
 - (b) the uncommitted and obligated forward estimates in relation to: (i) the measure 'securing borders against illegal foreign fishing', each of the following: 'quarantine risk management and boat destruction', 'increased aerial surveillance for Customs', 'use of the Southern Ocean patrol vessel in northern waters', 'expansion of the Joint Offshore Protection Command Headquarters', 'enhanced regional engagement', 'enhanced engagement with Indigenous communities', 'project team for replacement of the Customs fleet' and 'rapid response vessel for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park', and (ii) the measure 'Coastal surveillance – increased patrolling of maritime approaches'.
- (2) Can a list be provided that details the forward estimates for the 2004-05 or 2005-06 Budget measures:
 - (a) 'National Community Crime Prevention Programme – Australia-wide';
 - (b) for the Australian Customs Service: (i) 'National security – enhancing monitoring and analysis of closed circuit television', (ii) 'Aviation Security – improving circuit television at airports', and (iii) 'additional funding';
 - (c) 'Imports - additional revenue compliance activities'; and
 - (d) 'Providing for Australia's Security – biometrics for border control - automated border processing'.

- 3135 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the Budget measure ‘Sydney Law Courts – providing additional funding for refurbishment’, can details be provided of the total uncommitted and unobligated administered and departmental costs in the 2006-07 Budget and across the forward estimates for each financial year up to and including 2010-11.

Notice given 19 April 2007

- 3136 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—Can a copy be provided of any reports, surveys or findings supplied to the department by Campbell Research and Consulting Pty Ltd relating to the evaluation of the impact of accreditation on the delivery of quality care to residents of aged care homes.
- 3137 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—With reference to the Prime Minister’s announcement on 11 February 2007 of the ‘Securing the Future of Aged Care for Australians’ funding package:
- (1) In the current forward estimates periods, for each of the financial years up to and including 2010-11, what savings will accrue from abolishing: (a) the pensioner supplement; and (b) the adjusted basic daily care fee.
 - (2) For the financial years 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11, what is the projected budget for the Conditional Adjustment Payment.
 - (3) With the implementation of the Aged Care Funding Instrument, what savings will accrue by reducing low-care subsidies in order to fund higher subsidies for the new mid/high-care categories.
 - (4) Has the Government conducted any research on the potential financial effect of rebadging the pensioner supplement as capital funding; if so, can a copy of this research be provided.
 - (5) In regard to the department’s modelling for the funding: (a) what was the assumption behind the building costs per bed; and (b) can copies of the department’s modelling be provided.
 - (6) Excluding the one-off \$96 million, \$3.50 per high-care resident to be paid from 1 July 2007 to 19 March 2008, the \$82 million over 4 years to go to the new supplements in the Aged Care Funding Instrument commencing from 20 March 2008 and the \$411 million over 5 years for community care places, can the Minister detail where the balance of the \$1.51 billion announced will be allocated, by year and program.
- 3138 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the statement of the Prime Minister on Radio 3AW on 23 March 2007 that the Minister had contacted Mrs Georgette Fishlock and that she was given an ex-gratia payment of \$10 000 for the support of her son:
- (1) From which Budget measure was this payment made.
 - (2) Since 1 January 2004: (a) how many other carers have received an ex-gratia payment; and (b) what amounts of ex-gratia payments have been made.
 - (3) What are the eligibility criteria for ex-gratia payments.
 - (4) Since 23 March 2007, how many other carers have: (a) applied for an ex-gratia payment; and (b) received the payment and, in each case, how much have these payments been.

- (5) Can an outline be provided of the process for the review of the eligibility criteria for the carer payment or allowance.
- 3139 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—For each year since the inception of the Child Care Benefit, what was the average amount paid as fee relief per: (a) family; and (b) child.
- 3140 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—For each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, what was the average amount of Child Care Benefit paid by child care service type.
- 3141 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—Of the families receiving the Child Care Benefit, how many are in the income range: (a) below \$34 310; (b) between \$34 310 and \$40 000; (c) between \$40 000 and \$50 000; (d) between \$50 000 and \$60 000; (e) between \$60 000 and \$70 000; (f) between \$70 000 and \$80 000; (g) between \$80 000 and \$90 000; (h) between \$90 000 and \$98 000; and (i) above \$98 000.
- 3142 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—How many of the families receiving the Child Care Benefit within each of the maximum, minimum and partial rates have: (a) one; (b) two; (c) three; or (d) more than three, children in care.
- 3143 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—(a) Can a breakdown be provided, by age, that details the number of children under the age of 12 receiving the Child Care Benefit (CCB); and (b) for each age, what is the total amount of CCB being paid.
- 3144 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—For each state and territory, how many families use each approved form of child care service type.
- 3145 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) (a) How many people in Australia have autism or related disorders; (b) of this number, how many people: (i) receive disability services funded through the Commonwealth-State/Territory Disability Agreement (CSTDA), and (ii) do not receive disability services funded through the CSTDA.
 - (2) (a) Who represents people with autism/ASD on the National Disability Advisory Council (NDAC); and (b) what relationship do these members have with autism/ASD representative groups.
- 3146 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) Can details be provided of the dates, form and purpose of all communications in 2006 and 2007 between Mr Russel Egan Jr and/or the Superior Care Group or their representatives, with: (a) the department; and (b) the Minister's office.

- (2) With reference to page 8 of the report of the investigation into the bed licence allocations in the South Coast Aged Care Planning Region, which describes a meeting attended by the Assistant Secretary, Residential Program Management Branch of the Ageing and Aged Care Division of the department, Mr Egan Jr, the former Senator Santo Santoro and a member of his staff: (a) who convened the meeting; (b) where was it held; and (c) can a copy be provided of the 'dot point' background brief for this meeting.
- (3) How many other meetings were convened, with whom and when, between the then Minister and unsuccessful 2005 Aged Care Allocation Round applicants.

3147 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—With reference to the report of the Australian Advisory Board on Autism Spectrum Disorders, *The prevalence of autism in Australia — can it be established from existing data?*, released on 5 March 2007,

- (1) Given that data from Centrelink was regarded as especially useful, why did Centrelink not provide researchers with a breakdown, by state, of the number of people with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) who receive a Carer Allowance, a Disability Support Pension or other benefits.
- (2) (a) Will a breakdown of the number of Carer Allowances relating to autism spectrum disorders be available to researchers in future; and (b) can Centrelink data for autism-related Carer Allowances be provided annually.
- (3) (a) Is Pervasive Developmental Disorder - Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOSS) a severe and pervasive disorder; and (b) does Centrelink identify persons diagnosed with PDD-NOS; if not, why not.

3148 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the Australian Political Parties for Democracy program, can a copy be provided of:

- (a) all grant applications made under the program to date;
- (b) reports or other documentation generated in assessing each of these grant applications and any related correspondence with the applicant, including e-mails and records of phone conversations.
- (c) a list of grant applications which have been funded, including the amount and duration of the funding; and
- (d) all reports received to date under clause 5.2 of the Grant Deed.

3149 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—

- (1) Is the Government committed to meeting the 2010 biodiversity target set by the Convention on Biological Diversity, namely to achieve a significant reduction in the rate of biodiversity loss.
- (2) How will the Government evaluate its progress in relation to this target.
- (3) Will interim reports be provided between the years 2007 and 2010; if not, why not.

Notice given 23 April 2007

- 3150 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to the ‘Skills for the Future’ advertising campaign:
- (1) For the 2006-07 financial year: (a) what is the expected cost of the campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of this cost for: (i) television placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) mail outs, and (v) research.
 - (2) When did the television advertising screening begin, and when will it end.
 - (3) What is the timing for the campaign.
- 3151 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the ‘Helping people move into work’ advertising campaign:
- (1) For each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date: (a) what was the cost of the campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of this costs for: (i) television placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) mail outs, and (v) research.
 - (2) When did the television advertising screening begin, and when will it end.
 - (3) What is the timing for the campaign.
- 3152 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the ‘Welfare to Work’ advertising campaign:
- (1) For each of the financial years 2006-07 and 2007-08: (a) what is the expected cost of the campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of this costs for: (i) television placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) mail outs, and (v) research.
 - (2) What is the timing for the campaign.
- 3153 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the ‘Telstra 3 Share Offer’ advertising campaign:
- (1) For the 2006-07 financial year: (a) what is the expected cost of the campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of this cost for: (i) television placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) mail outs, and (v) research.
 - (2) When did the television advertising screening begin, and when did it end.
- 3154 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the ‘Eliminating Violence Against Women’ advertising campaign:
- (1) For each of the financial years 2006-07 and 2007-08: (a) what is the expected cost of the campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of this cost for: (i) television placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) mail outs, and (v) research.
 - (2) When did the television advertising screening begin, and when did it, or when is it planned to, end.
 - (3) What is the timing for the campaign.

- 3155 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the ‘Keeping the System Fair’ advertising campaign:
- (1) For each of the financial years 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08: (a) what was the, or is the expected, cost of the campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of this cost for: (i) television placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) mail outs, and (v) research.
 - (2) What is the timing for the campaign.
- 3156 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—With reference to the ‘Financial Literacy’ advertising campaign:
- (1) For each of the financial years 2006-07 and 2007-08: (a) what is the expected cost of the campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of this cost for: (i) television placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) mail outs, and (v) research.
 - (2) What is the timing for the campaign.
- 3157 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—With reference to the ‘Access Card’ advertising campaign:
- (1) For each of the financial years 2006-07 and 2007-08: (a) what is the expected cost of the campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of this cost for: (i) television placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) mail outs, and (v) research.
 - (2) What is the timing for the campaign.
- 3158 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the ‘Telecommunications Safeguards’ advertising campaign:
- (1) For each of the financial years 2006-07 and 2007-08: (a) what is the expected cost of the campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of this cost for: (i) television placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) mail outs, and (v) research.
 - (2) When did the television advertising screening begin, and when will it, or when is it planned to, end.
 - (3) What is the timing for the campaign.

Notice given 24 April 2007

- 3159 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) What is the total amount of money spent on policing illegal fishing activities in Australia.
 - (2) What is the cost per day to detain an illegal fisherman in Australia.
 - (3) (a) How many people are currently detained in Australia for illegal fishing-based offences; and (b) what is the average length of detention for such people.
 - (4) For each year since 2000, how many people have been prosecuted for illegal fishing activities in Australia.
 - (5) How many people are currently awaiting a court appearance in Australia for illegal fishing activities.

- (6) Of the people referred to in paragraph (5): (a) how many are Indonesian citizens; and (b) for the remaining people, can a list be provided that disaggregates the number of people by nationality.
 - (7) On average, how many days does it take for a person arrested for illegal fishing activities to appear before a court to be charged.
 - (8) (a) How many Indonesian citizens are in Australian jails for non-payment of illegal fishing fines; and (b) for each of these people, what sentence are they serving.
 - (9) What are the long-term plans for policing illegal fishing activities in Australian waters and what are the projected funding implications.
- 3160 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the passenger movement charge at airports and seaports: For each of the financial years from 2000-01 to 2005-06 and each of the financial years up to and including 2010-11: (a) how much revenue was, or is projected to be, collected; and (b) how many movements were, or are projected to be, levied.
- 3161 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the department's Output Group 2.2 'Workplace relations implementation', and specifically to Output 2.2.1, 'Industry and Australian government employment advice', Output 2.2.2, 'Assistance to the Employment Advocate', Output 2.2.3, 'Workplace relations services', Output 2.2.4, 'Office of Workplace Services', and Output 2.2.8, 'Building Industry Taskforce': For each of the outputs, can a list be provided of each subprogram or measure and: (a) its associated budgeted and actual spending for each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date; and (b) the current 4-year forward estimates of spending, including any supplementation through additional estimates.
- 3162 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—In regard to the WorkChoices initiative and its implementation: For each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date: (a) what was the budgeted and actual spending for any advertising, including production, placement and polling costs; and (b) can details be provided of the current 4-year forward estimates of spending, including any supplementation through additional estimates.
- 3163 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—
- (1) What is the annual budgeted and actual spending for the Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group employees for the life of the scheme.
 - (2) If there is variation between the annual budgeted and actual spending referred to in paragraph (1), can detailed reasons be provided as to why.
 - (3) When are claims under the scheme likely to be resolved.
- 3164 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to each of the department's Outcome 4 programs, Program 4.1, 'Primary Care Education and Training', Program 4.2, 'Primary Care Financing, Quality and Access', Program 4.3, 'Primary Care Policy, Innovation and Research' and Program 4.4, 'Primary Care Practice Incentives': Can a list be provided of each subprogram or measure and: (a) its associated budgeted and actual spending for each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to

date; and (b) the current 4-year forward estimates of spending, including any supplementation through additional estimates.

- 3165 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to each of the departments Outcome 9 programs, Program 9.1, ‘Chronic Disease – Treatment’, Program 9.2, ‘E-Health Implementation’ and Program 9.3, ‘Health Information’: Can a list be provided of each subprogram or measure and: (a) its associated budgeted and actual spending for each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date; and (b) the current 4-year forward estimates of spending, including any supplementation through additional estimates.

Notice given 26 April 2007

- 3166 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the Government’s report, *Tracking to the Kyoto Protocol target*, which shows that Australia will exceed its Kyoto target of 108 per cent of 1990 levels by 2010 by approximately 7 million tonnes under the present proposed abatement measures:

- (1) Does the Government still intend to meet the Kyoto target; if so, what measures will be adopted to abate the reported 7 million tonnes of excess carbon dioxide emissions by 2010.
- (2) (a) What target for emissions has the Government adopted for 2020; and (b) how does this target compare with the Kyoto target, and how will it be met.

- 3167 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—

- (1) Has the Government considered the discussion paper prepared by the state governments in August 2006 which reported on the impact of reducing the levels of 2005 greenhouse emissions by 19 per cent by 2030; if so, does the Government agree with the paper.
- (2) (a) Does the Minister accept modelling that shows that if greenhouse emissions were reduced by 19 per cent by 2030: (i) that there would be an increase in the cost of electricity of between \$1 and \$2 a week per household, and (ii) that it would take just 2 months extra to achieve the level of gross domestic product that would otherwise be achieved by 2030; and (b) if the Minister does not accept this modelling, can a detailed answer be provided as to its shortcomings.
- (3) (a) Does the Minister accept modelling in the May 2006 report of Frontier Economics, *Options for moving towards a lower emissions future*, that the cost of reducing greenhouse emissions from the electricity sector by 40 per cent by 2030 would be: (i) an increased cost of between \$5 billion to \$8 billion over 25 years in an economy expected to grow by \$1 600 billion in that time, and (ii) an increase in average electricity prices of between 43 and 71 cents per person per week; and (b) if the Minister does not accept this modelling, can a detailed answer be provided as to its shortcomings.

- 3168 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) Can details be provided of the Renewable Energy Development Initiative grants made to date.

- (2) What evidence is there that the scope of the measure has been limited by: (a) the grants of up to 50 per cent of project costs; and (b) the cap of \$5 million.
- (3) When is it anticipated that the \$100 million budget for these grants be: (a) fully committed; and (b) fully expended.
- (4) Has the Government considered targeted grants for the development and commercialisation of renewable energy technologies that were the result of Australian research but appear likely to be lost to overseas interests.
- (5) Which of the following measures suggested by the Business Council of Sustainable Energy are being considered for adoption: (a) an increase in the Mandatory Renewable Energy Target from 9 500 gigawatt hours (GWh) to 15 500 GWh by 2010; (b) more stringent and extensive minimum energy efficiency standards for appliances and buildings; (c) extension and expansion of the New South Wales Greenhouse Gas Abatement Scheme by 6 megatonnes per year in 2010; (d) extension and expansion of the Queensland Gas Scheme to double its contribution by 2010; and (e) an extensive clean energy fund of \$1.5 billion to deploy clean energy technologies.
- (6) For each measure in paragraph (5) that is not being considered, why is it not being considered.

3169 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What country has the Japanese company INPEX Browse, Ltd nominated as its country of residence for the purposes of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.
- (2) Is it possible that income derived in Australia may not incur Australian income tax if the taxpayer has its country of residence in an offshore location and arrangements between Australia and that country are governed by a double taxation treaty.

Senator Milne: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3170-3172)—With reference to the statement by Origin Energy spokesperson, Mr Tony Wood, in the article 'Eureka moment puts sliced solar cells on track' (*Science Magazine*, vol. 315, 9 February 2007, p. 785) that the company plans to announce a commercial plant to manufacture SLIVER cells that will 'likely be in Europe or North America to be closer to markets and to take advantage of government incentives for alternative energy':

- (1) Has the Minister, the department, or its officers, discussed SLIVER cells and the future of their development with Origin Energy; if so, can a list be provided of correspondence and meetings with Origin Energy, including the dates, participants and a summary of issues discussed.
- (2) Can a list be provided of solar technologies which were invented, since 1996, in Australia but have been commercialised overseas.
- (3) (a) What analysis has been made of the potential for SLIVER cells and other solar technologies to generate sustainable cost competitive power; and (b) can a list be provided of reports or papers where this analysis is documented, including the title, author, date and a description of the analysis.
- (4) What action will, or has, the Minister taken to ensure that SLIVERs are developed to their full potential.

- (5) Should Australian inventions, such as SLIVERS, be commercialised in Australia.
- (6) (a) What government incentives are available in Europe and North America for alternative energy that are not available in Australia; and (b) will the Australian Government introduce comparable alternative energy incentives.

3170 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

3171 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

3172 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

Notice given 27 April 2007

3173 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Can assurances be provided that the United States of America (US) will not take military action against Iran.
- (2) What communication, if any, has the Government had with the US Government regarding possible military action against Iran.
- (3) Has the Government provided advice to the US Administration on Australia's position on military action against Iran; if so, what was the advice.

Notice given 30 April 2007

3174 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the actual and estimated tariff revenue from textiles, clothing and footwear imports for each up the financial years from 2004-05 to 2009-10, detailed in Table D2 of the 2006-07 Budget Paper No. 1 (p. 38), can a breakdown be provided of these figures for: (a) clothing and finished textiles; (b) cotton sheeting, fabric, carpet and footwear; and (c) sleeping bags, table linen and footwear parts.

3175 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to the Tax Expenditures Statements for 2005 and 2006:

- (1) Why have the estimates of revenue forgone under the research and development (R&D) tax concession (B53 in the 2005 report and B57 in the 2006 report) been substantially reduced between each of the statements for each of the financial years from 2002-03 to 2004-05.
- (2) Why have the forward estimates of revenue forgone under the R&D tax concession been substantially reduced between each of the statements for each of the financial years from 2006-07 to 2009-10.
- (3) Can details be provided of the parameter changes underlying the R&D tax concession that have led to the reduced estimates described in paragraphs (1) and (2).
- (4) Can details be provided of the parameter changes underlying the amendments to estimates of revenue forgone under the premium tax concession for additional R&D expenditure (B54 in the 2005 report and B58 in the 2006 report) for each of the financial years from: (a) 2002-03 to 2004-05; and (b) 2006-07 to 2008-09.

3176 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to the 125 per cent research and development (R&D) tax concession and the premium tax concession for additional R&D expenditure:

- (1) What sources of information are used to predict take-up of each of the concessions and the expenditure by firms on eligible R&D initiatives.
- (2) (a) In the 2005-06 financial year, how many firms claimed each of the concessions; and (b) how did these numbers differ from estimates made by Treasury or the Australian Tax Office prior to the 2005-06 financial year.
- (3) For the 2006-07 financial year, what is the expected change in the number of firms claiming each of the concessions.

3177 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to the research and development (R&D) refundable tax offset for small companies:

- (1) (a) For each of the financial years from 2002-03 to 2005-06, what was the actual expenditure on the tax offset; and (b) for each of the financial years from 2006-07 to 2009-10, what is the estimated expenditure on the tax offset.
- (2) Can details be provided of any parameter changes that have affected estimates for this program from the financial years 2002-03 to 2006-07.
- (3) What is the estimated change in the number of companies accessing the concession for each year of the forward estimates.
- (4) What sources of information are used to predict take-up of the tax offset and the expenditure by firms on eligible R&D initiatives.

Notice given 2 May 2007

3178 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Can the uncommitted forward estimates for each financial year up to and including 2010-11 be provided for: (a) the Do Not Call Register; and (b) Digital Australia.

3179 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Can the uncommitted forward estimates for each financial year up to and including 2010-11 be provided for the following 2006-07 Budget measures: (a) 'Australian Securities and Investments Commission – broadening surveillance capability'; (b) 'Australian Securities and Investments Commission – enforcement funding'; and (c) 'Tax Practitioner Legislative Framework – implementation'.
- (2) Can the forward estimates for each financial year up to and including 2010-11 be provided for the Inspector-General of Taxation.

3180 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—Can the uncommitted forward estimates for each financial year up to and including 2010-11 be provided for the 2006-07 Budget measure 'Health and social services access card - introduction', consistent with the format presented on page 295 of the 2006-07 Budget Paper No. 2.

3181 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—Can the uncommitted forward estimates for each financial year up to and including 2010-11 be provided for the Carrick Institute and each of the Carrick Awards for Australian University Teaching.

3182 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—Can the forward estimates for each financial year up to and including 2010-11 be provided for the Prime Minister's Community Business Partnership.

3183 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—(a) How many cigarette sticks were purchased duty free in each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06; and (b) of this number, how many were purchased by: (i) inbound passengers, and (ii) outbound passengers.

Senator Sherry: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3184-3185)—Can the uncommitted forwards estimates for each financial year up to and including 2010-11 be provided for the 2006-07 Budget measure 'Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – Budget Sustainability'.

3184 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

3185 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

Notice given 3 May 2007

3186 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—In relation to the international and domestic travel arrangements of the Minister and his staff: Does the Minister or his personal or ministerial staff ever travel domestically or internationally by business class; if so: (a) under what circumstances; and (b) does the department have specific guidelines in place in respect of these circumstances.

3187 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to a statement by the Secretary of the department, during the additional estimates hearings of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee on 13 February 2007, in relation to a question on the repatriation of Mr David Hicks to Australia, that 'there was an arrangement reached in relation to the former military commission arrangements. Now that they have changed, that agreement needs to be slightly redrafted' (Committee *Hansard*, 13 February 2007, p. 108):

- (1) What adjustments need to be made to the agreement.
- (2) When will these adjustments be finalised.
- (3) Why has the agreement not been made public.

Notice given 7 May 2007

3188 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—

- (1) Has the department received the Tasmanian Government's options proposal for the ongoing management of healthy Tasmanian devils in the wild, including plans to release them on Tasmanian offshore islands, particularly Maria Island.
- (2) In light of concerns raised by community groups, will the department seek public comment on these proposals.
- (3) Does the Government agree with proposals to release Tasmanian devils on various offshore islands.
- (4) Does the Government consider the island release option an essential part of the long-term recovery plan for the Tasmanian devil in the wake of the transmissible facial tumour disease.
- (5) What ongoing assistance is the Government offering to the research effort into devil facial tumour disease and for ongoing efforts to safeguard the species survival in the wild.

3189 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) For each of the following elements of the Global Integration industry statement, can details be provided of cost estimates, additional to the existing forward estimates, for each financial year up to and including 2016-17: (a) the Global Opportunities Program; (b) Australian Industry Productivity Centres; (c) changes to the Research and Development Tax Concession; (d) Commercial Ready Plus; (e) the Intermediary Access Program; (f) the National Nanotechnology Strategy; (g) the Niche Manufacturing National Research Flagship; (h) the Australian Business Number Business Names Registration Project; (i) the Building Entrepreneurship in Small Business Program; and (j) the Food Innovation Grants Program.
- (2) For each of the elements listed in paragraph (1), can details of any funding already included in the forward estimates and the name of the programs which the funding was allocated to prior to the announcement of the Global Integration industry statement be provided.

Senator Carr: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3190-3191)—With reference to the changes to the Research and Development Tax Concession announced as part of the Global Integration industry statement, can details be provided of the projected take-up, that is the number of additional firms accessing the 175 per cent concession, for each financial year up to and including 2016-17.

3190 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

3191 Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer

3192 **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. 2717, what conclusions has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority reached about the adequacy of its oversight of Transair Pty Ltd.

Notice given 8 May 2007

3193 **Senator Lundy:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Has the Minister, the Minister's office, or the department had contact with members of the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly Opposition in relation to the provision of Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel and/or assets to provide a temporary crossing of the river at Tharwa; if so: (a) what was the nature of the contact, that is, was it by paper or electronic correspondence, telephone conversation or meeting; (b) who instigated the contact and when; (c) what was the purpose and outcome of the contact; and (d) when did the contact occur.
- (2) If the contact referred to in paragraph (1) was a meeting, who was present at the meeting and in what capacity.
- (3) Do written records of the contact exist; if so, can the records be provided; if not, why not.
- (4) With reference to the contact referred to in paragraph (1): (a) what assets were: (i) sought, and (ii) offered; (b) what number and designation of personnel was: (i) sought, and (ii) offered; (c) what was the total projected cost of ADF assistance: (i) sought, and (ii) offered; (d) was the Government asked to meet the full cost of the assistance sought; if so, is the Government willing to meet this cost; and (e) have members of the ADF or any other entity been commissioned by the Commonwealth to carry out surveying

and/or engineering work to determine the location and suitability of the type of temporary crossing sought or offered; if so, what findings have been made.

Notice given 9 May 2007

- *3194 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Have any flyovers and/or bombing runs been conducted over the Northern Territory by planes taking off from the United States of America base in Guam; if so, how many.
 - (2) Of the bombs that have been dropped over the Northern Territory: (a) are any of the bombs ‘bunker busting’ bombs; and (b) is tungsten or uranium a component of the bombs.
 - (3) Are cluster bombs a part of the Australian Defence Force inventory.
- *3195 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—
- (a) What is the total number of Australian Defence Force personnel who have been deployed in Afghanistan and Iraq since 2001; and (b) of these personnel, how many have been discharged as a result of physical and/or psychological conditions.
- *3196 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the upgrade of the southern Tasmanian Esperance Coast road, funded under Auslink’s Strategic Regional Programme:
- (1) Why have works commenced on the upgrade of the road even though the development has not undergone standard statutory local planning assessment procedures.
 - (2) Why did works start on the upgrade of the road in March 2007 even though the high-level implementation timeline for the project, as outlined in the council’s application for funding under AusLink, stated that works were not to commence until November/December 2007.
 - (3) Was there a signed contract between Huon Valley Council and AusLink when the works began on the upgrade of the road.
 - (4) How was Huon Valley Council able to obtain AusLink funding for the upgrade without council approval of a development application to construct the road.
 - (5) Why was the tendering process required by AusLink limited to tenders by local contractors.
 - (6) Given that the upgrade of the road includes the replacement of a bridge, which bridge is to be replaced.
 - (7) What exemptions under Auslink guidelines, if any, were sought by Huon Valley Council for the funding of the upgrade of the road.
 - (8) What is the link between the AusLink funded upgrade of the road and the Huon Valley Council’s intention to build a new road around the Dover foreshore to bypass the Kent Road bridge.
 - (9) Which local roads in the Dover township have been allocated Auslink funding in order to bring it to a standard suitable to act as an access road for the Esperance Coast Road when the upgrade is completed.
 - (10) Why have upgrade works started on Crown land – Coastal reserve areas and in areas of vulnerable coastal margin without any impact statements, or a roadworks program governed by the Commonwealth Coastal Policy.

- (11) What studies were undertaken, when and by whom, to warrant the upgrade of the road being approved by AusLink.
- (12) What evidence is available that demonstrates that the project does not contravene the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
- (13) (a) Is the Minister aware that areas of swift parrot habitat, a species listed in the Act, adjacent to the upgrade of the road have been removed without any formal impact assessment; and (b) what course of action will be taken to deal with the removal of areas of this habitat.
- (14) Which authority is responsible for managing the Esperance Coast Road works on the upgrade of the road in regard to threatened species habitat, vegetation removal, infilling of natural gullies and encroachment of adjacent tidal zone.

ORDERS OF THE SENATE

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Amendment to an order of continuing effect

1 Departmental and agency contracts—Order for production of documents

That paragraph (7) of the order be amended to read as follows:

- (7) The Finance and Public Administration Committee consider the ongoing operation of the order and report on relevant developments from time to time.

(Agreed to 1 March 2007 upon adoption of recommendation 13 in the Finance and Public Administration Committee's second report on the operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (2003-06).)

Committees

2 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 Water Resources
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 Affairs

Attorney-General
Immigration and Citizenship

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

Transport and Regional Services
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

(Agreed to 9 February 2006, amended 8 February 2007.)

**3 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.)

4 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.)

5 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.)

6 Substitute members of committees—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2007 sittings:

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 7 February 2007.)

7 Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—Authorisation to meet

That the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties be authorised to hold private meetings otherwise than in accordance with standing order 33(1) during the sittings of the Senate.

(Agreed to 18 October 2006.)

8 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

9 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.)

10 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.

11 2006-07 Supplementary Budget estimates—Answers to questions

The dates set by standing committees for answering questions taken on notice during the 2006-07 Supplementary Budget estimates are as follows:

Group A:

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts	Friday, 15 December 2006
Finance and Public Administration	Friday, 15 December 2006
Legal and Constitutional Affairs	Wednesday, 13 December 2006
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport	Tuesday, 12 December 2006

Group B:

Community Affairs	Friday, 15 December 2006
Economics	Friday, 15 December 2006
Employment, Workplace Relations and Education	Friday, 15 December 2006
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	Thursday, 14 December 2006.

Standing order 74(5) takes effect 30 days after these dates.

12 2006-07 Additional estimates—Answers to questions

The dates set by standing committees for answering questions taken on notice during the 2006-07 additional estimates are as follows:

Group A:

Community Affairs	Friday, 30 March 2007
Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts	Wednesday, 4 April 2007
Finance and Public Administration	Friday, 30 March 2007
Legal and Constitutional Affairs	Friday, 30 March 2007

Group B:

Economics	Thursday, 5 April 2007
Employment, Workplace Relations and Education	Friday, 30 March 2007
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	Thursday, 29 March 2007
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport	Thursday, 5 April 2007.

Standing order 74(5) takes effect 30 days after these dates.

13 2006-07 Additional estimates—2007-08 Budget estimates—Hearings

That—

- (1) ...
- (2) Estimates hearings by legislative and general purpose standing committees for 2007 be scheduled as follows:

2006-07 additional estimates:

Monday, 12 February and Tuesday, 13 February and, if required, Friday, 16 February (*Group A*)
Wednesday, 14 February and Thursday, 15 February and, if required, Friday, 16 February (*Group B*).

2007-08 Budget estimates:

Monday, 21 May to Thursday, 24 May (*Group A*)
Monday, 28 May to Thursday, 31 May (*Group B*)
Monday, 12 November and Tuesday, 13 November (*supplementary hearings—Group A*)
Wednesday, 14 November and Thursday, 15 November (*supplementary hearing—Group B*).

- (3) Committees consider the proposed expenditure in accordance with the allocation of departments to committees agreed to by the Senate.
- (4) 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.

- (5) Committees report to the Senate on the following dates:
- (a) Wednesday, 21 March 2007 in respect of the 2006-07 additional estimates; and
 - (b) Tuesday, 19 June 2007 in respect of the 2007-08 Budget estimates.

(Agreed to 7 December 2006 as part of a longer order—see also ‘Meeting of the Senate’ below, amended 8 February and 26 March 2007.)

Meeting of Senate**14 Meeting of Senate**

That—

- (1) The days of meeting of the Senate for 2007 be as follows:

Autumn sittings:

Tuesday, 6 February to Thursday, 8 February
 Monday, 26 February to Thursday, 1 March
 Tuesday, 20 March to Thursday, 22 March
 Monday, 26 March to Thursday, 29 March

Budget sittings:

Tuesday, 8 May to Thursday, 10 May

Winter sittings:

Tuesday, 12 June to Thursday, 14 June
 Monday, 18 June to Thursday, 21 June

Spring sittings:

Tuesday, 7 August to Thursday, 9 August
 Monday, 13 August to Thursday, 16 August

Spring sittings (2):

Monday, 10 September to Thursday, 13 September
 Monday, 17 September to Thursday, 20 September

Spring sittings (3):

Monday, 15 October to Thursday, 18 October
 Monday, 22 October to Thursday, 25 October
 Monday, 5 November to Thursday, 8 November
 Monday, 26 November to Thursday, 29 November
 Monday, 3 December to Thursday, 6 December.

(Agreed to 7 December 2006 as part of a longer order—see also ‘Estimates’ above.)

***15 Hours of meeting and routine of business—Variation**

That, on Thursday, 10 May 2007:

- (a) the hours of meeting shall be from 9.30 am to 6 pm and 8 pm to adjournment; and

- (b) the routine of business from 8 pm shall be:
- (i) Budget statement and documents—party leaders to make responses to the statement and documents for not more than 30 minutes each, and
 - (ii) adjournment.

(Agreed to 9 May 2007.)

16 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.)

17 Adjournment debate on Tuesdays—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2007 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 6 February 2007.)

Orders for production of documents

18 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.)

19 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.)

20 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.)

21 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.)

22 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.)

23 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.)

24 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

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
25.10.1995	Administrative decision-making—Effect of international instruments	Minister representing the Attorney-General
13.05.1998	Waterfront reform	Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Development (Senator Alston); Minister representing the Minister for Workplace Relations and Small Business (Senator Alston); and Minister representing the Prime Minister (Senator Hill)
07.03.2000	Environment—Queensland—Tree clearing	Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Hill)
03.04.2000	Aged care—Riverside Nursing Home	Minister representing the Minister for Aged Care
27.06.2000	Tax reform—Petrol pricing	Assistant Treasurer (Senator Kemp)
09.11.2000	Environment—Tasmania	Minister representing the Minister for Sport and Tourism (Senator Minchin)
04.12.2000	Taxation—Opinion polls	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
05.03.2001	Taxation	Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Kemp)
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

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
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
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

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
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
13.10.2003	Finance—Calculation of the IBNR levy	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
14.10.2003	Animal Welfare—Live sheep export	
16.10.2003	Environment—Sepon Mine	Minister representing the Minister for Trade (Senator Hill)
28.10.2003	Science and Technology—Assisted reproductive technology	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
28.10.2003	Education—Higher education—Regional impact statement	Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
25.11.2003	Finance—Deposit bonds	
01.12.2003	Taxation—First home owners, ‘bracket creep’ and Intergeneration Report	Minister representing the Treasurer
03.12.2003	Health—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme	
03.12.2003	Environment—Sepon mine	
10.02.2003	Science and Technology—Assisted reproductive technology	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
24.03.2004	Superannuation—Departing temporary residents	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
24.03.2004	Australian Federal Police Commissioner—Statement	Leader of the Government in the Senate
01.04.2004	Immigration—Ministerial discretion	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
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	

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
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

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.

TEMPORARY CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES

Senators Barnett, Chapman, Crossin, Ferguson, Forshaw, Hutchins, Kirk, Lightfoot, Sandy Macdonald, Marshall, Moore, Murray, Troeth and Watson

CATEGORIES OF COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

- **Legislative and General Purpose†**
 - 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
- **Legislative Scrutiny**
 - Regulations and Ordinances
 - Scrutiny of Bills
- **Standing (Domestic)**
 - Appropriations and Staffing
 - House
 - Library
 - Privileges
 - Procedure
 - Publications
 - Selection of Bills
 - Senators' Interests

Select Committees

Administration of Indigenous Affairs
 Lindeberg Grievance
 Mental Health
 Scrafton Evidence

Joint Committees▪ **Standing**

Electoral Matters
 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
 Migration
 National Capital and External Territories
 Parliamentary Library
 Treaties

▪ **Statutory**

Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity
 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

Details appear in the following section, with committees listed in alphabetical order.

† The restructure of legislative and general purpose standing committees, agreed to by the Senate on 14 August 2006, came into effect on 11 September 2006. Eight standing committees were established (combining the functions of the previous 16 legislation and references committees) with eight members instead of six.

COMMITTEES

Administration of Indigenous Affairs—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/indigenousaffairs_ctte/index.htm

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

Members

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

Reports presented

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

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

Appropriations and Staffing—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/APP_CTTE/index.htm

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, Heffernan, Parry 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*)

- * 44th report—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2007-08 (*tabled 9 May 2007*)

Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity—Joint Statutory Committee*Members*

Senators Bishop, Crossin, Fierravanti-Wells and Parry and Mr Baird, Ms Hall, Mrs Hull, Mrs May and Mr Wilkie

Australian Crime Commission—Joint Statutory Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/acc_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Ian Macdonald (*Chair*), Mr Kerr (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Bishop, Parry and Polley and Mrs Gash, Mr Hayes, Mr Richardson and Mr Wood

Current inquiry

Future impact of serious and organised crime on Australian society (*adopted 4 December 2006*)

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*)

Examination of the annual report for 2004-05 of the Australian Crime Commission (*tabled 19 October 2006*)

Inquiry into the manufacture, importation and use of amphetamines and other synthetic drugs (AOSD) in Australia (*tabled 28 February 2007*)

Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings—Joint Statutory Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jcbpp/index.htm>

Members

The President, the Speaker and Senators Faulkner and Parry and Mr Bartlett, Mr Cadman, Mr Hardgrave, Mr Murphy and Ms Vamvakinou

Community Affairs—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/clac_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs; Health and Ageing

Members

Senator Humphries (*Chair*), Senator Moore (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Adams, Allison, Boyce, Carol Brown, Patterson and Polley

Participating members

Senators Barnett, Bartlett, Bernardi, Bishop, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fielding, Forshaw, Heffernan, Hogg, Hurley, Hutchins, Joyce, Kemp, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Marshall, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Nash, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Siewert, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Watson, Webber, Wong and Wortley

Current inquiries

Patient Assisted Travel Schemes (*referred 28 March 2007; reporting date: 20 September 2007*)

Mental health services in Australia (*referred 28 March 2007; reporting date: 30 June 2008*)

Aged Care Amendment (Residential Care) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*referred 29 March 2007; reporting date: 17 May 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Community Affairs Legislation Committee

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*)

Reports presented by the former Community Affairs References Committee

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*)

Reports presented by the Community Affairs Committee

Aged Care Amendment (Residential Care) Bill 2006 (*tabled 9 October 2006*)

Child Support Legislation Amendment (Reform of the Child Support Scheme—New Formula and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 10 October 2006*)

Breaking the silence: A national voice for gynaecological cancers (*tabled 19 October 2006*)

Inquiry into legislative responses to recommendations of the Lockhart Review—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 27 October 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 6 November 2006*)

Legislative responses to recommendations of the Lockhart review (*presented to the Deputy President on 30 October 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 6 November 2006*) and corrigendum (*tabled 6 November 2006*)

Funding and operation of the Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement (tabled 8 February 2007)

Private Health Insurance Bill 2006 [Provisions] and 6 related bills [Provisions] (tabled 28 February 2007)

Aged Care Amendment (Security and Protection) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Watson, on 9 March 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 20 March 2007) and additional comments by the Australian Democrats (presented to the Deputy President on 12 March 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 20 March 2007)

Additional estimates 2006-07, March 2007 (tabled 21 March 2007)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2007), March 2007 (tabled 22 March 2007)

Gene Technology Amendment Bill 2007 (presented to the Deputy President on 1 May 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2007)

Food Standards Australia New Zealand Amendment Bill 2007 (presented to the Deputy President on 1 May 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2007)

- * Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Legislation Amendment (Child Support Reform Consolidation and Other Measures) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (tabled 9 May 2007)

Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/corporations_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Chapman (*Chair*), Ms AE Burke (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bernardi, 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)

Continuing oversight of the operations of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*statutory responsibility*)

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)

Corporations Amendment (Takeovers) Bill 2006 [Exposure draft] (*presented to the Deputy President on 23 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*)

Statutory oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*tabled 1 March 2007*)

Corporations Amendment (Insolvency) Bill 2007 [Exposure draft] and Corporations and Australian Securities and Investments Commission Amendment Regulations 2007 [Exposure draft] (*tabled 29 March 2007*)

Economics—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/economics_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Treasury; Industry, Tourism and Resources

Members

Senator Ronaldson (*Chair*), Senator Stephens (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bernardi, Chapman, Hurley, Joyce, Murray and Webber

Participating members

Senators Adams, Allison, Barnett, Bartlett, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Conroy, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fielding, Fifield, Forshaw, Hogg, Kemp, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Marshall, Ian Macdonald, Sandy Macdonald, McGauran, Milne, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Watson and Wong

Current inquiry

Private equity markets (*referred 29 March 2007; reporting date: 20 June 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Economics Legislation Committee

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*)

Report presented by the former Economics References Committee

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*)

Reports presented by the Economics Committee

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 4) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 4 October 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 October 2006*)

Petrol prices in Australia—Interim report (*tabled 9 October 2006*)

Petrol prices in Australia (*tabled 7 December 2006*)

Tax Laws Amendment (Simplified Superannuation) Bill 2006 [Provisions] and related bills [Provisions] (*tabled 7 February 2007*)

Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 7) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 27 February 2007*)

Qantas Sale (Keep Jetstar Australian) Amendment Bill 2007 (*tabled 20 March 2007*) and correction (*tabled 28 March 2007*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2007), March 2007 (*tabled 22 March 2007*)

Additional estimates 2006-07, March 2007 (*tabled 22 March 2007*)

Tax Laws Amendment (2007 Measures No. 2) Bill 2007 [Provisions]—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 30 April 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2007*)

Tax Laws Amendment (2007 Measures No. 2) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 3 May 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2007*)

Corporations (NZ Closer Economic Relations) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 3 May 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2007*)

* Liquid Fuel Emergency Amendment Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*tabled 9 May 2007*)

Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/em/index.htm>

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Mrs Mirabella (*Chair*), Senator Sterle (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Adams, Carr, Fierravanti-Wells and Murray and Mr Ciobo, Mr Danby, Mr Forrest and Mr Griffin

Current inquiries

Civics and electoral education (*referred 24 March 2006*)

Certain aspects of the administration of the Australian Electoral Commission (*referred 28 March 2007*)

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—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Employment and Workplace Relations; Education, Science and Training

Members

Senator Troeth (*Chair*), Senator Marshall (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, Birmingham, George Campbell, Lightfoot, McEwen and Stott Despoja

Substitute members

Matters relating to the schools and training portfolios—Senator Allison to replace Senator Stott Despoja

The current level of academic standards of school education—Senator Crossin to replace Senator George Campbell

Participating members

Senators Allison, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fielding, Fifield, Forshaw, Hogg, Humphries, Hutchins, Joyce, Kemp, Ludwig, Lundy, McLucas, Ian Macdonald, McGauran, Milne, Moore, Murray, Nash, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Patterson, Payne, Polley, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Stott Despoja, Trood, Watson, Webber, Wong and Wortley

Current inquiries

Workforce challenges in the Australian transport sector (*referred 6 September 2006; reporting date: 9 August 2007*)

The current level of academic standards of school education (*referred 8 February 2007; reporting date: 15 August 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee

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*)

Reports presented by the former Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee

- 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*)

Reports presented by the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee

Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2006 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 9 October 2006*)

Perspectives on the future of the harvest labour force (*tabled 19 October 2006*)

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 30 November 2006*)

Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 20 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*)

Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 20 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*)

Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work and Vocational Rehabilitation Services) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 20 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*)

Additional estimates 2006-07, March 2007 (*tabled 21 March 2007*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2007), March 2007 (*tabled 22 March 2007*)

Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2007 Measures No. 1) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 1 May 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2007*)

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/ecita_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Environment and Water Resources; Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Members

Senator Eggleston (*Chair*), Senator Bartlett (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Birmingham, Kemp, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Webber and Wortley

Substitute member

Australia's Indigenous visual arts and craft sector—Senator Crossin to replace Senator Lundy

Participating members

Senators Adams, Allison, Bernardi, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Crossin, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Forshaw, Heffernan, Hogg, Humphries, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Marshall, Sandy Macdonald, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Moore, Nash, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Siewert, Stott Despoja, Watson and Wong

Current inquiry

Australia's Indigenous visual arts and craft sector (*referred 15 August 2006; reporting date: 12 June 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee

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*)

Reports presented by the former Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

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*)

Reports presented by the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee

Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2006, Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television) Bill 2006, Communications Legislation Amendment (Enforcement Powers) Bill 2006 [Provisions], Television Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] and a background paper by the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts on the two channels of spectrum for new digital services (*presented to the Deputy President on 6 October 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 October 2006*)

Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 21 November 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 November 2006*)

Additional estimates 2006-07, March 2007 (*tabled 21 March 2007*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2007), March 2007 (*tabled 22 March 2007*)

Conserving Australia: Australia's national parks, conservation reserves and marine protected areas (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 12 April 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2007*)

Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2007 [Provisions] and Radio Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2007 [Provisions]—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 30 April 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2007*)

Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2007 [Provisions] and Radio Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 7 May 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2007*)

Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/fapa_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

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

Members

Senator Fifield (*Chair*), Senator Forshaw (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Boyce, Carol Brown, Fierravanti-Wells, Moore, Murray and Watson

Participating members

Senators Barnett, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Bob Brown, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fielding, Heffernan, Hogg, Joyce, Kemp, Ludwig, Lundy, Marshall, Sandy Macdonald, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Ronaldson, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Trood, Webber and Wong

Current inquiry

Operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (*ordered 20 June 2001; terms of reference amended 18 June 2003 and 1 March 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

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*)

Reports presented by the former Finance and Public Administration References Committee

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*)

Reports presented by the Finance and Public Administration Committee

Medibank Private Sale Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 27 November 2006*)

Electoral and Referendum Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 20 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*)

Departmental and agency contracts: Second report on the operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (2003-06) (*tabled 27 February 2007*)

Transparency and accountability of Commonwealth public funding and expenditure (*tabled 1 March 2007*)

Human Services (Enhanced Service Delivery) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*presented to the President on 15 March 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 20 March 2007*)

Additional estimates 2006-07, March 2007 (*tabled 21 March 2007*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2007), March 2007 (*tabled 22 March 2007*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfad/index.htm>

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Senator Ferguson (*Chair*), Mr Edwards (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Crossin, Eggleston, Hutchins, Kirk, Sandy Macdonald, Moore, Payne, Stott Despoja, Trood and Webber and Mr Baird, Mr Barresi, Mr Danby, Mrs Draper, Mrs Gash, Mr Gibbons, Mr Haase, Mr Hatton, Mr Jull, Mrs Moylan, Mr Prosser, Mr Scott, Mr Sercombe, Dr Southcott, Mr Snowden, Mr CP Thompson, Ms Vamvakinou, Mr Wakelin and Mr Wilkie

Current inquiries

Australian Defence Force regional air superiority (*referred 14 June 2005*)

Australia's trade with Mexico and the region (*adopted 11 October 2006*)

Review of the Defence annual report 2005-06 (*adopted 7 February 2007*)

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*)

Review of the Defence Annual Report 2004-05 (*tabled 18 October 2006*)

Review of Australia-New Zealand trade and investment relations (*tabled 7 December 2006*)

Australia's relationship with Malaysia (*tabled 26 March 2007*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/FADT_CTTE/index.htm

Portfolios

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

Members

Senator Payne (*Chair*), Senator Hutchins (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bishop, Ferguson, Forshaw, Hogg, Sandy Macdonald and Trood

Participating members

Senators Adams, Allison, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Heffernan, Hurley, Joyce, Kemp, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Marshall, McGauran, Mason, Milne, Nash, Nettle, Parry, Polley, Ray, Scullion, Siewert, Sterle, Stott Despoja, Watson, Webber and Wortley

Current inquiries

Australia's public diplomacy (*referred 7 November 2006; reporting date: 12 June 2007*)

Australia's involvement in international peacekeeping operations (*referred 8 November 2006; reporting date: 16 August 2007*)

Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006 (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date: 10 May 2007*)

Review of reforms to Australia's military justice system by the Australian Defence Force (*adopted under standing order 25(2)(b), 22 June 2006*)

Reports presented by the former Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

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*)
 Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment Bill 2006 (*tabled 7 September 2006*)

Reports presented by the former Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

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*)

Reports presented by the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee

Customs Amendment (2007 Harmonized System Changes) Bill 2006 [Provisions] and Customs Tariff Amendment (2007 Harmonized System Changes) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 11 October 2006*)

Defence Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 27 October 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 6 November 2006*)

Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Bill 2006 [Provisions] and Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 8 November 2006*)

Blue water ships: Consolidating past achievements (*tabled 7 December 2006*)

Non-Proliferation Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 (*tabled 8 February 2007*)

Additional estimates 2006-07, March 2007 (*tabled 21 March 2007*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2007), March 2007 (*tabled 22 March 2007*)

Reforms to Australia's military justice system—Second progress report (*tabled 29 March 2007*)

House—Standing Committee

Members

The President (*Chair*), the Deputy President and Senators Carr, Crossin, Lightfoot, Parry and Stephens

Intelligence and Security—Joint Statutory Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/pjcis/index.htm>

(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*), Mr Byrne (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Faulkner, Ferguson, Nash and Ray and Mr Ciobo, Mr Kerr and Mr McArthur

Current inquiries

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

Terrorist organisation provisions of the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (*statutory responsibility*)

Review of administration and expenditure: Australian intelligence organisations – No. 5 (*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*)

Annual report of committee activities 2005-06 (*tabled 11 September 2006*)

Review of the re-listing of Al-Qa'ida and Jemaah Islamiyah as terrorist organisations (*tabled 16 October 2006*)

Review of security and counter terrorism legislation (*tabled 4 December 2006*)

Review of the re-listing of ASG, JuA, GIA and GSPC (*tabled 26 February 2007*)

* Review of the re-listing of Tanzim Qa'idate al-Jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn (the al-Zarqawi network) as a terrorist organisation (*tabled 9 May 2007*)

Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/legcon_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Attorney-General; Immigration and Citizenship

Members

Senator Barnett (*Chair*), Senator Crossin (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Kirk, Ludwig, Parry, Payne and Trood

Participating members

Senators Allison, Bernardi, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fielding, Fifield, Fierravanti-Wells, Heffernan, Hogg, Humphries, Hurley, Joyce, Kemp, Lightfoot, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Sandy Macdonald, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Murray, Nettle, Patterson, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Watson and Webber

Reports presented by the former Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee

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 (Transitional and Consequential) 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*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 7 September 2006*)

Reports presented by the former Legal and Constitutional References Committee

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*)

Reports presented by the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee

Migration Amendment (Visa Integrity) Bill 2006 (*tabled 11 September 2006*)

Provisions of the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005—Interim report (*tabled 14 September 2006*)

Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005 [Provisions], Corporations Amendment (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporations) Bill 2006 [Provisions] and Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Consequential, Transitional and Other Measures Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 9 October 2006*)

Privacy Legislation Amendment (Emergencies and Disasters) Bill 2006 (*tabled 12 October 2006*)

Crimes Amendment (Bail and Sentencing) Bill 2006 (*tabled 16 October 2006*)

Inquiry into the provisions of the Copyright Amendment Bill 2006—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 10 November 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 November 2006*)

Copyright Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 13 November 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 November 2006*)

Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (2006 Budget Measures) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 22 November 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 November 2006*)

Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Bill 2006 [Provisions] and Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 28 November 2006*)

Unfinished business: Indigenous stolen wages (*tabled 7 December 2006*)

Crimes Legislation Amendment (National Investigative Powers and Witness Protection) Bill 2006 (*tabled 7 February 2007*)

Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Superannuation Contributions) Bill 2006 (*tabled 8 February 2007*)

Customs Legislation Amendment (Augmenting Offshore Powers and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 8 February 2007*)

Migration Amendment (Review Provisions) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 20 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*) and corrigendum (*tabled 22 March 2007*)

Native Title Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 23 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*)

AusCheck Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 14 March 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 20 March 2007*)

Additional estimates 2006-07, March 2007 (*tabled 21 March 2007*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2007), March 2007 (*tabled 22 March 2007*)

Migration Amendment (Maritime Crew) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Troeth, on 20 April 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2007*)

- * Native Title Amendment (Technical Amendments) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*tabled 9 May 2007*)

Library—Standing Committee

Members

The President (*Chair*) and Senators Allison, Hutchins, McGauran, Nash, Trood and Webber

Lindeberg Grievance—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/lindeberg_ctte/index.htm

(*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

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/mentalhealth_ctte/index.htm

(*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

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/mig/index.htm>

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Mr Randall (*Chair*), Senator Polley (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Eggleston and Parry and Mr L Ferguson, Mrs Irwin, Mr Keenan, Dr Lawrence and Dr Southcott

Current inquiry

Eligibility requirements and monitoring, enforcement and reporting arrangements for temporary business visas (*adopted 6 December 2006*)

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*)

Negotiating the maze: Review of arrangements for overseas skills recognition, upgrading and licensing (*tabled 11 September 2006*)

Australia-New Zealand Committee Exchange Program—Report of the parliamentary delegation to New Zealand, 27 to 31 August 2006 (*tabled 4 December 2006*)

National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ncet/index.htm>

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Senator Lightfoot (*Chair*), Ms AL Ellis (*Deputy Chair*), the Deputy President and Chairman of Committees, the Deputy Speaker, and Senators Crossin, Joyce, Lundy and Stott Despoja and Mrs Mirabella, Mr Neville, 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*)

Visit to Norfolk Island: 2-5 August 2006 (*tabled 9 October 2006*)

Review of the Griffin Legacy amendments (*tabled 22 March 2007*)

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

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/ntlf_ctte/index.htm

(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*)

Parliamentary Library—Joint Standing Committee

(*appointed 7 December 2005*)

Members

Senator Trood and Mr Adams (*Joint Chairs*), Senators Allison, Hutchins, McGauran, Nash and Webber and Mr Broadbent, Mr Georgiou, Mr Hatton, Mr BP O'Connor, Mr Wakelin and Mr Anderson

Privileges—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/priv_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Faulkner (*Chair*), Senator Ronaldson (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Humphries, Kemp, Payne, Ray and Sherry

Current inquiry

Having regard to the material presented to the Senate by the President on 6 February 2007, whether any false or misleading evidence was given to a Senate committee, whether there was any improper refusal to provide information to a committee, and whether any contempt was committed in that regard (*referred 7 February 2007*)

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*)

129th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Dr Clive Hamilton) (*tabled 8 November 2006*)

Procedure—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/proc_ctte/index.htm

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*)

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Statutory Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jpaa/index.htm>

Members

Mr Barresi (*Chairman*), Ms Grierson (*Vice Chairman*), Senators Bishop†, Chapman, Hogg, Humphries, Murray and Watson and Mrs BK Bishop, Mr Broadbent, Mr Emerson, 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*)

Report 408—Annual report 2005-06 (*tabled 6 November 2006*)

Report 409—Developments in aviation security since the committee's June 2004 Report 400: *Review of Aviation Security in Australia* (*tabled 4 December 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

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/pwc/index.htm>

Members

Mrs Moylan (*Chairman*), Mr BP O'Connor (*Deputy Chairman*), Senators Hurley, Parry and Troeth and Mr Forrest, Mr Jenkins, 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*)

Facilities upgrade to the Shoalwater Bay Training Area, Rockhampton, Queensland (Fourteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 13 September 2006*)

Facilities for troop lift helicopter, RAAF Base Townsville, Queensland (Fifteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 13 September 2006*)

Provision of facilities for Project Single Living Environment and Accommodation Precinct – Phase one (Sixteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 18 October 2006*)

Development of canine kennelling and training facilities for the Australian Federal Police at Majura, ACT (Seventeenth report of 2006) (*tabled 18 October 2006*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of Employment and Workplace Relation at 29-31 Brindabella Business Park, ACT (Eighteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 18 October 2006*)

Extension and accommodation upgrade to the existing Chancery of the Australian Embassy in Beijing, China (Nineteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 6 December 2006*)

Seventieth annual report, March 2007 (*tabled 21 March 2007*)

Redevelopment of propellant manufacturing and other specified capabilities at Mulwala (First report of 2007) (*tabled 28 March 2007*)

Publications—Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/publ/index.htm>

Members

Senator Barnett (*Chair*), Senators Ian Campbell, Hurley, Marshall, Nash, Sterle and Wortley

Current inquiry

Printing standards for documents presented to Parliament (*adopted 1 March 2007; sitting as a joint committee with the House of Representatives Publications Committee, pursuant to standing order 22(1)*)

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*)
- 15th report (*tabled 14 September 2006*)
- 16th report (*tabled 19 October 2006*)
- 17th report (*tabled 9 November 2006*)
- 18th report (*tabled 7 December 2006*)
- 19th report (*tabled 1 March 2007*)
- 20th report (*tabled 29 March 2007*)

Regulations and Ordinances—Legislative Scrutiny Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/regord_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Watson (*Chairman*), Senators Bartlett, Carol Brown, Fierravanti-Wells, Patterson 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*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, December 2005 to June 2006 (*tabled 7 September 2006*)

Delegated legislation monitor—Disallowable legislative instruments tabled in the Senate in 2006, dated February 2007 (*tabled 8 February 2007*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, March to December 2006 (*tabled 1 March 2007*)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/rrat_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Transport and Regional Services; Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Members

Senator Heffernan (*Chair*), Senator Siewert (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Adams, McEwen, McGauran, Nash, O'Brien and Sterle

Substitute members

Options for additional water supplies for South East Queensland—

Senators Trood, Joyce, Hogg and Moore to replace Senators McGauran, Nash, Sterle and McEwen, respectively

Senator Ian Macdonald to replace Senator Adams

Participating members

Senators Adams, Allison, Barnett, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fielding, Hogg, Hutchins, Joyce, Kemp, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Sandy Macdonald, McGauran, McEwen, McLucas, Milne, Nash, Nettle, Payne, Parry, Polley, Ray, Stephens, Sterle, Trood, Watson and Webber

Current inquiry

Options for additional water supplies for South East Queensland (*referred 26 February 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

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*)

Reports presented by the former Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

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*)

Australia's future oil supply and alternative transport fuels—Interim report (*tabled 7 September 2006*)

Water policy initiatives—Interim report (*tabled 7 September 2006*)

Reports presented by the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

Water policy initiatives—Final report (*tabled 5 December 2006*) and erratum (*tabled 7 February 2007*)

Australia's future oil supply and alternative transport fuels—Final report (*tabled 7 February 2007*)

Murray-Darling Basin Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 28 February 2007*)

Airspace Bill 2006 [Provisions] and Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 28 February 2007*)

Airports Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 28 February 2007*)

Additional estimates 2006-07, March 2007 (*tabled 21 March 2007*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2007), March 2007 (*tabled 22 March 2007*)

Scrafton Evidence—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/scrafton_ctte/index.htm

(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 Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/scrutiny/index.htm>

Members

Senator Ray (*Chairman*), Senator Adams (*Deputy Chairman*), Senators Barnett, McEwen, Murray and Parry

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)

No. 10 of 2006 (tabled 13 September 2006)

No. 11 of 2006 (tabled 11 October 2006)

- No. 12 of 2006 (*tabled 18 October 2006*)
No. 13 of 2006 (*tabled 8 November 2006*)
No. 14 of 2006 (*tabled 29 November 2006*)
No. 15 of 2006 (*tabled 6 December 2006*)
No. 1 of 2007 (*tabled 7 February 2007*)
No. 2 of 2007 (*tabled 28 February 2007*)
No. 3 of 2007 (*tabled 21 March 2007*)
No. 4 of 2007 (*tabled 28 March 2007*)
* No. 5 of 2007 (*tabled 9 May 2007*)
- 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*)
Eighth report of 2006 (*tabled 11 October 2006*)
Ninth report of 2006 (*tabled 18 October 2006*)
Tenth report of 2006 (*tabled 8 November 2006*)
Eleventh report of 2006 (*tabled 29 November 2006*)
Twelfth report of 2006: Entry, search and seizure provisions in Commonwealth legislation (*tabled 4 December 2006*)
Thirteenth report of 2006 (*tabled 6 December 2006*)
First report of 2007 (*tabled 7 February 2007*)
Second report of 2007 (*tabled 28 February 2007*)

Third report of 2007 (*tabled 21 March 2007*)

Fourth report of 2007 (*tabled 28 March 2007*)

* Fifth report of 2007 (*tabled 9 May 2007*)

Selection of Bills—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/selectionbills_ctte/index.htm

Members

The Government Whip (*Chair*), the Opposition Whip, the Australian Democrats Whip, the Nationals Whip, the Australian Greens Whip and Senators Abetz, Ludwig, McGauran 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*)
Report no. 9 of 2006 (*presented 7 September 2006*)
Report no. 10 of 2006 (*presented 14 September 2006*)
Report no. 11 of 2006 (*presented 11 October 2006*)
Report no. 12 of 2006 (*presented 19 October 2006*)
Report no. 13 of 2006 (*presented 8 November 2006*)
Report no. 14 of 2006 (*presented 29 November 2006*)
Report no. 15 of 2006 (*presented 7 December 2006*)
Report no. 16 of 2006 (*presented 7 December 2006*)

- Report no. 1 of 2007 (*presented 8 February 2007*)
 Report no. 2 of 2007 (*presented 8 February 2007*)
 Report no. 3 of 2007 (*presented 1 March 2007*)
 Report no. 4 of 2007 (*presented 21 March 2007*)
 Report no. 5 of 2007 (*presented 29 March 2007*)
 Report no. 6 of 2007 (*presented 29 March 2007*)
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Senators' Interests—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/interests_ctte/index.htm

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*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 20 June and 4 December 2006 (*tabled 6 December 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*)

Report 1/2007: Annual report 2006 (*tabled 1 March 2007*)

Documents presented

Issues raised with the Committee of Senators' Interests by Senator the Hon. Eric Abetz about Senator Bob Brown's statements of interests and the unauthorised disclosure of correspondence from Senator the Hon. Eric Abetz to the Committee of Senators' Interests—Documents and minutes of proceedings, dated September 2006 (*tabled 13 September 2006*)

Explanatory notes for statements of registrable interests, dated March 2007 (*tabled 21 March 2007*)

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/index.htm>

(appointed 18 November 2004)

Members

Dr Southcott (*Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Carol Brown, Ian Macdonald, McGauran, Sterle, Trood and Wortley and Mr Adams, Mr Johnson, Mr Keenan, Mr Laming, Mrs May, Mr Ripoll, Mr Scott and Mr Wilkie

Current inquiry

All treaties tabled in the Senate

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 2006*)

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*)

Report 77—Treaties tabled on 20 June and 8 August 2006 (*tabled 9 October 2006*)

Report 78—Treaty scrutiny: A ten year review (*tabled 9 October 2006*)

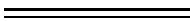
Report 79—Treaties tabled on 10 May (2), 5 and 6 September 2006 (*tabled 19 October 2006*)

Report 80—Treaties tabled on 28 March (4) and 5 September (2) 2006 (*tabled 19 October 2006*)

Report 81—Treaties tabled on 8 August 2006 (2) (*tabled 6 December 2006*)

Report 82—Treaty tabled on 28 November 2006 (*tabled 7 December 2006*)

Report 83—Treaties tabled on 20 June (2), 17 October, 28 November (2) 2006 and CO₂ sequestration in sub-seabed formations (*tabled 26 March 2007*)



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

Vacant

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

Minister	Representing
Senator the Honourable Nicholas Minchin (<u>Nick</u>) <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 Special Minister of State
Senator the Honourable Helen Coonan <i>Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts</i> <i>Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate</i>	Minister for Foreign Affairs Minister for Trade Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues
Senator the Honourable Christopher Ellison (<u>Chris</u>) <i>Minister for Human Services</i>	Minister for Health and Ageing Minister for Defence Minister for Immigration and Citizenship Minister for Veterans' Affairs Minister for Ageing
Senator the Honourable Eric Abetz <i>Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation</i> <i>Manager of Government Business in the Senate</i>	Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Minister for Workforce Participation Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service
Senator the Honourable George Brandis, SC <i>Minister for the Arts and Sport</i>	Minister for Education, Science and Training Minister for Vocational and Further Education
Senator the Honourable Nigel Scullion <i>Minister for Community Services</i>	Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
Senator the Honourable David Johnston <i>Minister for Justice and Customs</i>	Minister for Transport and Regional Services Attorney-General Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads
Parliamentary Secretary	
Senator the Honourable Richard Colbeck <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration</i>	
Senator the Honourable Brett Mason <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing</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 the autumn and spring sittings a full *Notice Paper* is printed listing all outstanding business before the Senate, including the full text of all unresolved notices of motion and unanswered questions on notice. This edition is a complete reference to unresolved business from earlier in the session and is useful to keep. All business before the Senate is published daily in the full online version of the *Notice Paper*, available on ParlInfo and on the Senate’s Internet site at aph.gov.au/senate.

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