1 The House met, at 9 a.m., pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Mr Jenkins) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2 SCREEN AUSTRALIA BILL 2008
Mr Garrett (Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to establish Screen Australia, and for related purposes.

Document
Mr Garrett presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Garrett moved—That the bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Farmer), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

3 NATIONAL FILM AND SOUND ARCHIVE BILL 2008
Mr Garrett (Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to establish the National Film and Sound Archive, and for related purposes.

Document
Mr Garrett presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Garrett moved—That the bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Farmer), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

4 SCREEN AUSTRALIA AND THE NATIONAL FILM AND SOUND ARCHIVE (CONSEQUENTIAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2008
Mr Garrett (Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to deal with transitional and consequential matters in connection with the Screen Australia Act 2008 and the National Film and Sound Archive Act 2008, and for related purposes.

Document
Mr Garrett presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Garrett moved—That the bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Farmer), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

5 TELECOMMUNICATIONS (INTERCEPTION AND ACCESS) AMENDMENT BILL 2008
Mr McClelland (Attorney-General), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend the Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979, and for related purposes.
Mr McClelland presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.
Bill read a first time.
Mr McClelland moved—That the bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Farmer), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

6 DEFENCE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2008
Mr Snowdon (Minister for Defence Science and Personnel), pursuant to notice, presented a Bill for an Act to amend legislation relating to defence, and for related purposes.

Mr Snowdon presented an explanatory memorandum to the bill.
Bill read a first time.
Mr Snowdon moved—That the bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr Farmer), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

7 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL’S SPEECH
The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:

     May it please Your Excellency:
     We, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled,
     express our loyalty to the Sovereign, and thank Your Excellency for the speech which you have been
     pleased to address to the Parliament—
     Debate resumed.
     Debate adjourned (Mr Cobb), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for a later hour this day.

8 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TRANSITION TO FORWARD WITH FAIRNESS) BILL 2008
The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
It being 2 p.m., the debate was interrupted in accordance with standing order 97, and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

9 QUESTIONS
Questions without notice being asked—
Member directed to leave
At 2.42 p.m. the Member for Mackellar (Mrs B. K. Bishop) was directed, under standing order 94, to leave the Chamber for one hour for disorderly behaviour, and she accordingly left the Chamber.
Questions without notice continued.

10 DOCUMENTS
The following documents were presented:
Department of Defence—Special purpose flights—Schedule for the period January to June 2007.
Services Trust Funds—Reports for 2006-07.
Sydney Airport Demand Management Act—Quarterly report on movement cap for Sydney airport for the period 1 July to 30 September 2007.

11 YOUTH 2020 SUMMIT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
Ms K. M. Ellis (Minister for Youth), by leave, made a ministerial statement on the Youth 2020 summit.
Suspension of standing orders—Time for speech
Mr Fitzgibbon (Minister for Defence), by leave, moved—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent Mr Farmer speaking for a period not exceeding 10 minutes.
Question—put and passed.
Mr Farmer addressed the House.

12 DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE—AUSTRALIA’S ECONOMY
The House was informed that Dr Nelson (Leader of the Opposition) had proposed that a definite matter of public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The Government’s failure to give Australians confidence that they have an effective plan for managing a $1.1 trillion economy”.
The proposed discussion having received the necessary support—
Dr Nelson addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.

Member directed to leave
At 4.20 p.m. the Member for Fadden (Mr Robert) was directed, under standing order 94, to leave the Chamber for one hour for continuing to interject after a warning had been given from the Chair, and he accordingly left the Chamber.
Discussion continued.
The time allotted under standing order No. 1 having expired, the discussion was interrupted.

13 WHIPS’ GENERAL PRINCIPLES—DOCUMENT
Mr Price (Chief Government Whip), by leave, presented the following document:
Whips’ general principles relating to the selection of committee and delegation reports and private Members’ business.

14 WHIPS’ REPORT
Mr Price (Chief Government Whip) presented the following document:
Whips’ report—Report relating to private Members’ business on Friday, 22 February 2008—and moved—That the report be adopted.
Question—put and passed.

15 BILLS REFERRED TO MAIN COMMITTEE
Mr Price (Chief Government Whip), by leave, moved—That the following bills be referred to the Main Committee for further consideration:
Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Poisons Standard) 2008; and
Question—put and passed.

16 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2007-2008—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE
The Speaker reported that the bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the bill.
Bill agreed to.
On the motion of Mr Byrne (Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister), by leave, the bill was read a third time.

17 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 2007-2008—REPORT FROM MAIN COMMITTEE
The Speaker reported that the bill had been fully considered by the Main Committee and agreed to without amendment, and presented a certified copy of the bill.
Bill agreed to.
On the motion of Mr Byrne (Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister), by leave, the bill was read a third time.
18 ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL’S SPEECH
The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the Address in Reply to the speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to (see item No. 7, page 100)—
Debate resumed.
Debate adjourned (Mr Byrne—Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

19 SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS’ AFFAIRS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (ENHANCED ALLOWANCES) BILL 2008
The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed—bill read a second time.
Message from the Governor-General
Message No. 7, 11 February 2008, from His Excellency the Governor-General was announced recommending an appropriation for the purposes of the bill.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.
On the motion of Mr Shorten (Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Children’s Services), the bill was read a third time.

20 HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORT AMENDMENT (VET FEE-HELP ASSISTANCE) BILL 2008
The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed—bill read a second time.
Leave granted for third reading to be moved immediately.
On the motion of Ms Gillard (Minister for Education), the bill was read a third time.

21 TAX LAWS AMENDMENT (2008 MEASURES NO. 1) BILL 2008
The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—
Debate having been resumed by Mr Turnbull—

22 ADJOURNMENT
It being 7.30 p.m.—The question was proposed—That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
The House continuing to sit until 8 p.m.—The Speaker adjourned the House until 9 a.m. tomorrow.

DOCUMENTS
The following documents were deemed to have been presented on 20 February 2008:
Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2007-2008—Advance to the Finance Minister—Determination—2007-08 No. 5 [F2008L00401].
Civil Aviation Act—
Civil Aviation Regulations—Instrument—2008 No. CASA 72 [F2008L00246].
Civil Aviation Safety Regulations—Airworthiness Directives under—Part 39-105—
AD/CL-600—No. 94 [F2008L00398].
AD/CRESCO—No. 13 [F2008L00397].
AD/DHC—No. 138 [F2008L00417].
AD/ECUREUIL—No. 130 [F2008L00396].
AD/F2000—No. 29 [F2008L00395].
AD/FU24—No. 65 [F2008L00394].
AD/J4100—Nos 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 [F2008L00491], [F2008L00492], [F2008L00493], [F2008L00494], [F2008L00495], [F2008L00496], [F2008L00497], [F2008L00498], [F2008L00503], [F2008L00504], [F2008L00505], [F2008L00506], [F2008L00507], [F2008L00508], [F2008L00509], [F2008L00510], [F2008L00511].
AD/JBK 117—Nos 27, 28 [F2008L00392], [F2008L00393].
AD/PA-28—No. 53—Cancellation [F2008L00390].
AD/PA-32—No. 41—Cancellation [F2008L00389].
AD/S-PUMA—No. 73 [F2008L00387].
Part 39-106—
AD/MAKILA—No. 10 [F2008L00391].
AD/RB211—No. 37 [F2008L00388].
section 303EC—5 February 2008 [F2008L00380].
Lands Acquisition Act—Statements under—section 40—February 2008.
section 125—February 2008.
Protection of the Sea (Harmful Anti-fouling Systems) Act 2006—Proclamation under subsection 2 (1) fixing 17 September 2008 as the day on which sections 3 to 25 of the Act commence [F2008L00369].
Radiocommunications Act—Determinations—2008—Licence conditions (Amateur licence)—Amendment (No. 1) [F2008L00374].
Qualified operators—Amendment (No. 1) [F2008L00372].
Radiocommunications (Receiver Licence Tax) Act—Determinations—2008 Amendment (No. 1) [F2008L00379].
Radiocommunications (Transmitter Licence Tax) Act—Determinations—2008 Amendment (No. 1) [F2008L00378].
Remuneration Tribunal Act—Remuneration Tribunal—Determination—2008 No. 1 [F2008L00469].
Australian Government disaster recovery payment (No. 2) [F2008L00525].
Telecommunications Act 1997—Notice—2008 Labelling (Customer equipment and customer cabling)—Amendment (No. 1) [F2008L00377].
Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act—Determinations—2008 Emergency call service—Amendment (No. 1) [F2008L00280].

ATTENDANCE
All Members attended (at some time during the sitting) except Mr Schultz.

I. C. HARRIS
Clerk of the House of Representatives
1 The Main Committee met at 9.30 a.m.

2 MEMBERS’ STATEMENTS
Members’ statements were made.

3 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 2007-2008
The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
Question—put and passed—bill read a second time.
Leave granted for the question on the report to be put immediately.
Question—That the bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

4 APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 2007-2008
The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the bill be now read a second time—
Question—put and passed—bill read a second time.
Leave granted for the question on the report to be put immediately.
Question—That the bill be reported to the House without amendment—put and passed.

Suspension of sitting
At 12.58 p.m., the Deputy Speaker left the Chair.

Resumption of sitting
At 4.02 p.m., the Deputy Speaker resumed the Chair.

5 APOLOGY TO AUSTRALIA’S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES
The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Rudd (Prime Minister)—That—
Today we honour the Indigenous peoples of this land, the oldest continuing cultures in human history.
We reflect on their past mistreatment.
We reflect in particular on the mistreatment of those who were Stolen Generations—this blemished chapter in our nation’s history.
The time has now come for the nation to turn a new page in Australia’s history by righting the wrongs of the past and so moving forward with confidence to the future.
We apologise for the laws and policies of successive Parliaments and governments that have inflicted profound grief, suffering and loss on these our fellow Australians.

We apologise especially for the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, their communities and their country.

For the pain, suffering and hurt of these Stolen Generations, their descendants and for their families left behind, we say sorry.

To the mothers and the fathers, the brothers and the sisters, for the breaking up of families and communities, we say sorry.

And for the indignity and degradation thus inflicted on a proud people and a proud culture, we say sorry.

We the Parliament of Australia respectfully request that this apology be received in the spirit in which it is offered as part of the healing of the nation.

For the future we take heart; resolving that this new page in the history of our great continent can now be written.

We today take this first step by acknowledging the past and laying claim to a future that embraces all Australians.

A future where this Parliament resolves that the injustices of the past must never, never happen again.

A future where we harness the determination of all Australians, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, to close the gap that lies between us in life expectancy, educational achievement and economic opportunity.

A future where we embrace the possibility of new solutions to enduring problems where old approaches have failed.

A future based on mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility.

A future where all Australians, whatever their origins, are truly equal partners, with equal opportunities and with an equal stake in shaping the next chapter in the history of this great country, Australia—

Debate resumed.

Document

Mr Raguse, by leave, presented the following document:

Apology to Australia’s Indigenous peoples—’What a sorry lot of rot’—Copy of Gold Coast Bulletin article by Robyn Wuth.

Debate continued.

As a mark of support for the motion, all Members present stood, in silence.

Mr Raguse moved that further proceedings be conducted in the House.

Question—put and passed.

6 DEATH OF THE HONOURABLE KIM EDWARD BEAZLEY (SNR)—CONDOLENCE MOTION MOVED BY THE PRIME MINISTER

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Rudd (Prime Minister)—That the House record its deep regret at the death on 12 October 2007, of the Honourable Kim Edward Beazley (Snr) AO, a former Federal Minister and Member for Fremantle, and places on record its appreciation of his long and meritorious public service, and tenders its profound sympathy to his family in their bereavement—

Debate resumed.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased all Members present stood, in silence.

Mr Raguse moved that further proceedings be conducted in the House.

Question—put and passed.

7 DEATH OF MR PETER JAMES ANDREN—CONDOLENCE MOTION MOVED BY THE PRIME MINISTER

The order of the day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the motion of Mr Rudd (Prime Minister)—That the House record its deep regret at the death on 3 November 2007, of Mr Peter
James Andren, former Independent Member for Calare, and places on record its appreciation of his long and meritorious service, and tenders its profound sympathy to his family in their bereavement—Debate resumed.
Debate adjourned (Mr Raguse), and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next sitting.

8 ADJOURNMENT
On the motion of Mr Raguse, the Main Committee adjourned at 7.30 p.m.
The Deputy Speaker fixed 9.30 a.m. tomorrow for the next meeting of the Main Committee.

B. C. WRIGHT
Clerk of the Main Committee

By authority of the House of Representatives