This week at a glance
16-18 November 2004

41st Parliament

The 41st Parliament will be opened today by the Governor-General in the Senate chamber (see pages 2 and 3 for an outline of the program). The Address-in-reply (the Senate’s response to the Governor-General’s speech) is programmed for debate in the Senate for the remainder of the week.

Legislation

The government has indicated it will introduce a number of bills into the Senate on Wednesday 17 November 2004. One bill, the Thailand-Australia Free Trade Agreement Implementation Bill 2004, is listed for debate on Thursday 18 November 2004.

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The Senate Daily Summary is available on the Internet at www.aph.gov.au/senate
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This publication is issued by the Senate Procedure Office as a convenient summary of each day’s proceedings in the Senate. For a complete account see the official record, the Journals of the Senate, copies of which may be obtained from the Senate Table Office (phone: 6277 3010) or on the Internet at http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/pubs/index.htm.
OPENING OF PARLIAMENT 16 NOVEMBER 2004

The major events, and approximate times of the events, associated with the Opening of Parliament on Tuesday, 16 November 2004 will be:

Morning Proceedings

10.15 am Forecourt/Foyer - arrival of the Deputy of the Governor-General, the Hon Murray Gleeson AC, Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia, and Mrs Gleeson.

10.30 am Senate and House of Representatives assemble.

10.40 am Senate Chamber – The Deputy addresses both Houses and opens the Parliament.

10.45 am Senate Chamber - Swearing-in of territory and new senators.

10.55 am House of Representatives Chamber - Swearing-in of members by Deputy.

(approx)

11.35 am Foyer/Forecourt - The Deputy and Mrs Gleeson depart Parliament House.

(approx.)

House of Representatives Chamber - Election of Speaker.

For the morning proceedings staff and members of the public are welcome to view proceedings in the public galleries of the Senate. Seats will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. The public galleries in the House of Representatives will be occupied by invited guests but limited seating will be available in the first and second floor galleries.

Afternoon Proceedings

2.00 pm Forecourt – His Excellency the Governor-General, Major General Michael Jeffery AC CVO MC and Mrs Jeffery arrive. The Governor-General receives the Royal Salute and inspects the Guard and Band.

2.25 pm House bells ring.
2.30 pm Members' Hall - The Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives are presented to the Governor-General and Mrs Jeffery.

2.55 pm Senate bells ring.

3.00 pm Senate Chamber - The Governor-General addresses both Houses.

3.50 pm Federation Mall - 19 Gun Salute.

(approx.)

4.00 pm Members' Hall - Afternoon Tea is served to invited guests.

4.35 pm Forecourt - The Governor-General and Mrs Jeffery depart Parliament House.

For the afternoon proceedings access to galleries in the Senate Chamber is restricted to invited guests. Events will be screened on the house monitoring system on channels 15 (full coverage), 1 (Reps), 2 (Senate) and in the Theatrette.

5.00 pm Senate and House of Representatives assemble (both chambers open to the public).

During the various events connected with the Opening, areas of the building will be closed to all but participants and invited guests. The public carpark will be open as usual. There will be short road closures on Parliament Drive during ceremonies. We ask for the co-operation of all occupants of the building when areas of the building are closed for ceremonies and processions.

Andrea Griffiths               David Elder
Usher of the Black Rod         Serjeant-at-Arms

12 November 2004