

2002

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

**JOURNALS OF THE SENATE**

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**1 MEETING OF SENATE**

The Senate met at 9.30 am. The President (Senator the Honourable Paul Calvert) took the chair and read prayers.

**2 GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS**

The following government documents were tabled:

Australian Postal Corporation (Australia Post)—Equal employment opportunity program—Report for 2001-02.

Australian Customs Service—Report for 2001-02.

Australian Industry Development Corporation—Report for 2001-02.

Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Report for 2001-02.

Department of Transport and Regional Services—Report for 2001-02.

Final budget outcome 2001-02—Report by the Treasurer (Mr Costello) and the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin), September 2002.

Joint Coal Board—Report for the period 1 July to 31 December 2001 [Final].

Medical Training Review Panel—Report for 2001-02.

Repatriation Medical Authority—Report for 2001-02.

Reserve Bank of Australia—Equity and diversity—Report for 2001-02.

Royal Australian Mint—Report for 2001-02.

Telstra Corporation Limited—Report for 2001-02, including annual review.

**3 CONSIDERATION OF LEGISLATION**

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell), pursuant to notice, moved government business notice of motion no. 1—That the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (7) of standing order 111 not apply to the following bills, allowing them to be considered during this period of sittings:

Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment Bill 2002

Treasury Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002.

Question put and passed.

**4 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (LIFE GOLD PASS) BILL 2002**

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

Debate resumed.

Senator Murray moved the following amendment:

At the end of the motion, add “but the Senate recommends that the Special Minister of State ensure that with respect to Life Gold Pass and retirement travel entitlements:

- (a) all former members of the Federal Parliament in future be required to certify that their use is within entitlements;
- (b) information on conditions and guidelines given to former members be reviewed for accuracy and comprehensiveness;

- (c) procedures for monitoring the use of these entitlements be reviewed with a view to obtaining faster and more accurate certification, and to allow prompt action to recover expenses where travel is not within entitlements;
- (d) administrative arrangements be reviewed to ensure that all expenditure is captured in the monitoring and reporting arrangements; and
- (e) spouse travel be separately reported”.

Debate ensued.

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*Declarations of interest:* Senators Watson and Ray each declared an interest in relation to the bill.

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*Statements by leave:* The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner) and Senator Brown, by leave, made statements concerning declarations of interest in relation to the bill.

The question for the amendment was divided—

Question—That the amendment in respect of paragraphs (a) to (d) be agreed to—put and passed.

Question—That the amendment in respect of paragraph (e) be agreed to—put and passed.

Main question, as amended, put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Senate resolved itself into committee for the consideration of the bill.

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*In the committee*

Bill taken as a whole by leave.

Senator Murray moved the following amendments together by leave:

Clause 3, page 3 (line 12), second dot point, after paragraph (b), insert:

- ; (c) a member of Parliament other than a Prime Minister who first commences his or her term as a member of Parliament in the next Parliament to commence after this Act comes into operation will not be entitled to hold a Life Gold Pass.

Page 12 (after line 3), at the end of clause 11, add:

*Cessation of entitlement*

- (4) A member or former member other than a Prime Minister who first commenced his or her term as a member of Parliament in the next Parliament to commence after this Act first comes into operation is not entitled to hold a Life Gold Pass.

Question—That the amendments be agreed to—put and negatived.

Senator Murray moved the following amendment:

Clause 4, page 5 (lines 14 and 15), omit the definition of *spouse*, substitute:

*spouse* in relation to a person includes another person who, although not legally married to the person, lives with the person on a permanent bona fide domestic basis.

Debate ensued.

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*Declaration of interest:* Senator Harradine declared an interest in relation to the bill.

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Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put and negatived.

Senator Faulkner moved the following request for an amendment:

That the House of Representatives be requested to make the following amendment:

Clause 4, page 5 (lines 14 and 15), omit the definition of *spouse*, substitute:

*spouse* in relation to a person includes another person who, although not legally married to the person, lives with the person on a bona fide domestic basis as the husband or wife of the person.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the request be agreed to—put.

The committee divided—

AYES, 31

Senators—

Bartlett	Conroy	Lees	Nettle
Bolkus	Cook	Ludwig	Ray
Brown	Crossin	Lundy	Ridgeway
Buckland (Teller)	Faulkner	Mackay	Sherry
Campbell, George	Forshaw	Marshall	Stephens
Carr	Greig	McLucas	Stott Despoja
Cherry	Hogg	Moore	Webber
Collins	Kirk	Murray	

NOES, 30

Senators—

Abetz	Ferguson	Macdonald, Ian	Scullion
Barnett	Ferris (Teller)	Macdonald, Sandy	Tchen
Boswell	Harradine	Mason	Tierney
Brandis	Heffernan	McGauran	Troeth
Campbell, Ian	Johnston	Minchin	Vanstone
Colbeck	Kemp	Patterson	Watson
Coonan	Knowles	Payne	
Eggleston	Lightfoot	Reid	

Question agreed to.

Question—That the bill be agreed to—divided in respect of clauses 3 to 35 and Schedule 1.

Clauses 3 to 35 and Schedule 1 debated and agreed to.

Senator Brown moved the following amendments together by leave:

Clause 2, page 2 (line 1) to page 3 (line 3), omit the clause, substitute:

**2 Commencement**

This Act commences on 1 January 2003.

Page 3 (after line 3), after clause 2, insert:

**3A Abolition of Life Gold Pass entitlement**

The entitlement known as a Life Gold Pass is abolished by this Act.

Title, page 1 (lines 1 and 2), omit the title, substitute:

**A Bill for an Act to abolish the Life Gold Pass entitlement**

Clause 1, page 1 (lines 7 and 8), before “*Life Gold Pass*”, insert “*Abolition of*”.

Question—That the amendments be agreed to—put and negatived.

Bill agreed to, subject to a request.

Bill to be reported with a request for an amendment.

The Deputy President (Senator Hogg) resumed the chair and the Temporary Chair of Committees (Senator Collins) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz) the report from the committee was adopted.

**5 PETROLEUM (SUBMERGED LANDS) AMENDMENT BILL 2002**

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

The Senate resolved itself into committee for the consideration of the bill.

*In the committee*

Bill taken as a whole by leave.

The Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett) moved the following amendment:

Page 1 (after line 10), after clause 2, insert:

**2A Objects**

The objects of this Act are:

- (a) to provide a legal framework within which persons undertake activities to explore for and produce petroleum resources;
- (b) to ensure the efficient, orderly and appropriate methods and time for exploitation of Australia's petroleum resources;
- (c) to provide a legal framework that ensures that the exploration, production, transport and use of petroleum occurs in an ecologically sustainable manner, including the protection of future generations and implementation of the precautionary principle for all decisions;
- (d) to ensure best practice in relation to offshore practices;
- (e) to protect biodiversity;
- (f) to ensure that the exploration, production and transport of petroleum resources occurs using world's best practice environmental standards;
- (g) to reduce Australia's reliance on petroleum and other greenhouse fuels;
- (h) to reduce Australia's greenhouse emissions and to contribute to stabilising of the earth's climate.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put and negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

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The Acting Deputy President (Senator Lightfoot) resumed the chair and the Temporary Chair of Committees reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz) the report from the committee was adopted and the bill read a third time.

**6 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (REGISTRATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF ORGANISATIONS) BILL 2002**

**WORKPLACE RELATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REGISTRATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF ORGANISATIONS) (CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2002**

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz)—That these bills be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

*At 12.45 pm:* Debate was interrupted.

**7 MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

Matters of public interest were discussed.

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*At 2 pm—*

**8 QUESTIONS**

Questions without notice were answered.

**9 MINISTERS—ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

Senator Conroy moved—That the Senate take note of answers given by ministers to questions without notice asked by opposition senators today.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

**10 FOREIGN AFFAIRS—INDONESIA—TERRORIST ATTACKS—ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

The Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett) moved—That the Senate take note of the answers given by the Minister for Defence (Senator Hill) to questions without notice asked by Senator Bartlett today relating to terrorist attacks in Bali, Indonesia.

Question put and passed.

**11 PETITIONS**

The following 2 petitions, lodged with the Clerk by the senators indicated, were received:

Senator McGauran, from 141 petitioners, requesting that the Senate take action to review procedures relating to political asylum seekers and remove all practices which are manifestly inhumane or in contravention of national obligations.

Senator Nettle, from 48 petitioners, requesting that the Senate take action to legislate for an Australian Bill of Rights which incorporates the right to education contained in Article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

**12 NOTICES**

*Notices of motion:*

The Chair of the Select Committee on Superannuation (Senator Watson): To move on the next day of sitting—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on Superannuation on tax arrangements for superannuation and related policy be extended to 10 December 2002. (*general business notice of motion no. 209*)

Senator Stott Despoja: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

(i) that the 16th Annual Australian Record Industry Association Awards were held on 15 October 2002,

(ii) that the awards recognise a range of contributions made to the industry, including awards for Best New Artist, Highest Selling Album, Best Children's Album, Best Independent Release, Best Cover Art and Engineer of the Year,

(iii) that the awards provide an opportunity to showcase the depth and talent of craft evident in the music sector in Australia, and

(iv) the strong presence of female performers in this year's winners list;

(b) congratulates the many nominees and winners for their contribution to the Australian music industry; and



- (c) calls on the Government to provide continuing support for the Australian music industry. (*general business notice of motion no. 210*)

Senator Stott Despoja: To move on the next day of sitting—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Science, no later than 2 pm on Thursday, 24 October 2002:

All documents held by the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator relating to the risk assessment for the canola trial licence application (Application No. DIR 011/2001) and the decision to approve the licence, including submissions, correspondence, records and minutes of meetings, scientific reports, and the risk assessment itself, including any drafts, risk assessment criteria and protocols and memos. (*general business notice of motion no. 211*)

Senator Stott Despoja: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) the 4th Australian Publishers' Bookshow will be held at the New South Wales Writers' Centre on the weekend of 19 and 20 October 2002,
  - (ii) this is an opportunity to celebrate and encourage local publishing in light of the increasing globalisation of the Australian publishing industry,
  - (iii) the recently-released 2000-01 Australian Bureau of Statistics survey of publishers found a drop of 19 per cent in the number of new books bought in Australia in this period compared with the previous year, and
  - (iv) the average publishing business cut staff by 15 per cent in this period and that profits fell by 41 per cent; and
- (b) calls on the Government to exempt books from the goods and services tax. (*general business notice of motion no. 212*)

Senator Stott Despoja: To move on the next day of sitting—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
- (i) the planned execution of Nigerian woman, Ms Amina Lawal, who was sentenced for having a child outside marriage,
  - (ii) that more than 100 000 people have signed an online open letter to the President of Nigeria calling for this sentence to be overturned and for the human rights of the citizens of Nigeria to be respected, and
  - (iii) that the Australian Government has conveyed the deep concern of the Australian Government and people to the Nigerian Government on this issue; and
- (b) calls on the Australian Government to maintain its advocacy in relation to this issue. (*general business notice of motion no. 213*)

*Notice of motion withdrawn:* The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Tchen), pursuant to notice of intention given on 15 October 2002, withdrew business of the Senate notice of motion no. 2 standing in his name for the next day of sitting, relating to the disallowance of the Public Employment (Consequential and Transitional) Amendment Regulations 2002 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 2002 No. 87 and made under the *Public Employment (Consequential and Transitional) Amendment Act 1999*.

## 13 SELECTION OF BILLS—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT NO. 10 OF 2002

The Chairman of the Selection of Bills Committee (Senator Ferris) tabled the following report:

SELECTION OF BILLS COMMITTEE  
REPORT NO. 10 OF 2002

1. The committee met on Tuesday, 15 October 2002.
2. The committee resolved to recommend—That—
  - (a) the *provisions* of the following bills be *referred immediately* to committees as follows:

Bill title	Legislation Committee	Reporting date
Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Special Benefit Activity Test) Bill 2002	Community Affairs	11 November 2002
New Business Tax System (Consolidation and Other Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2002	Economics	21 November 2002

- (b) the order of the Senate of 28 August 2002 adopting the committee's 7th report of 2002 be varied to provide that the Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002 be *referred immediately* to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 12 November 2002.
- (c) the following bills *not* be referred to committees:
  - Australian Animal Health Council (Live-stock Industries) Funding Amendment Bill 2002
  - Australian Crime Commission Establishment Bill 2002
  - Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002
  - Corporations Amendment (Improving Corporate Governance) Bill 2002 [No. 2]
  - Excise Laws Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002
  - Excise Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002
  - Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Budget Initiatives and Other Measures) Bill 2002
  - Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Boundary Extension) Amendment Bill 2002
  - Insurance and Aviation Liability Legislation Amendment Bill 2002
  - Murray-Darling Basin Amendment Bill 2002
  - National Gallery Amendment Bill 2002
  - New Business Tax System (Franking Deficit Tax) Amendment Bill 2002
  - Trade Practices Amendment (Credit Card Reform) Bill 2002 [No. 2]
  - Trade Practices Amendment (Public Liability Insurance) Bill 2002 [No. 2]
  - Trade Practices Amendment (Small Business Protection) Bill 2002 [No. 2]
  - Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Dismissal) Bill 2002 [No. 2].

*The committee recommends accordingly.*

3. The committee *deferred* consideration of the following bills to the next meeting:

*Bill deferred from meeting of 19 March 2002*

Aviation Legislation Amendment Bill 2002.

*Bill deferred from meeting of 18 June 2002*

Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Scrutiny of Board Appointments) Amendment Bill 2002.

*Bills deferred from meeting of 20 August 2002*

Financial Sector Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002

Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Employee Involvement and Compliance) Bill 2002

Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment Bill 2002.

*Bill deferred from meeting of 27 August 2002*

Trade Practices Amendment (Liability for Recreational Services) Bill 2002.

*Bills deferred from meeting of 24 September 2002*

Inspector-General of Taxation Bill 2002

International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002

Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 6) 2002.

*Bill deferred from meeting of 15 October 2002*

Trade Practices Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002.

Jeannie Ferris

Chair

16 October 2002.

Senator Ferris moved—That the report be adopted.

Question put and passed.

#### 14 SUPERANNUATION—SELECT COMMITTEE—EXTENSION OF TIME TO REPORT

Senator Ferris, by leave and at the request of the Chair of the Select Committee on Superannuation (Senator Watson), moved—That the time for the presentation of the report of the committee on the provisions of the Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Choice of Superannuation Funds) Bill 2002 be extended to 12 November 2002.

Question put and passed.

#### 15 POSTPONEMENTS

Items of business were postponed as follows:

Business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1 standing in the name of Senator O'Brien for today, relating to the disallowance of the Civil Aviation Amendment Regulations 2002 (No. 2), postponed till 22 October 2002.

Government business notice of motion no. 2 standing in the name of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell) for today, relating to the consideration of legislation, postponed till 24 October 2002.

General business notice of motion no. 205 standing in the name of Senator Allison for today, relating to macular degeneration and World Retina Day, postponed till 17 October 2002.

**16 COMMUNITY AFFAIRS REFERENCES COMMITTEE—REFERENCE**

The Chair of the Community Affairs References Committee (Senator Hutchins), pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved business of the Senate notice of motion no. 2—That—

- (a) the Community Affairs References Committee request the Commonwealth Ombudsman to report to the committee annually, at least for the next 5 years, on the operation of the social security breaches and penalties system; and
- (b) the committee publish the Ombudsman's report and, if it considers it necessary, seek submissions from interested parties before formulating any proposals it may wish to make for improving the operation of the system.

Question put and passed.

**17 INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS—ABORIGINAL SITES—SANDON POINT**

Senator Brown, also on behalf of Senator Ridgeway, amended his notice of motion by leave and, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 207—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
  - (i) recent evidence tendered by Professor Hiscock, of the Australian National University, which suggests that Aboriginal sites at Sandon Point, New South Wales, may be amongst the most significant Aboriginal sites on the eastern seaboard,
  - (ii) that these sites have already been severely damaged by the commencement of work on a housing project designed and marketed by Stockland Trust Group, and
  - (iii) that the Wadi Wadi Coomaditchie Aboriginal Corporation, and its many supporters, through elder Alan Carriage, has requested that an emergency declaration be made, under section 9 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage (Interim Protection) Act 1984*, to allow proper investigation of the importance of sites contained at Sandon Point; and
- (b) requests the Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Dr Kemp) to grant this emergency declaration to allow a 30-day period to make a proper assessment of the important cultural and environmental heritage of this area.

Question put and passed.

**18 FOREIGN AFFAIRS—MINE BAN TREATY—SISTER PAK POY**

Senator Ridgeway, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 204—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
  - (i) the international community has quickly embraced the Mine Ban Treaty which entered into force on 1 March 1999, with three-quarters of the world's nations already States Parties and signatories, and therefore legally bound to destroy their stockpiles of mines, eliminate mines in the ground, and cease production and use of mines,
  - (ii) although there has been a marked decrease in the number of governments and rebel groups using antipersonnel mines since the treaty entered into force, nine governments have engaged in significant new mine-laying operations in the past year,

- (iii) the number of new mine casualties is estimated by Landmine Monitor to be some 15 to 20 thousand each year, taking an appalling toll on children, farmers and other innocent people, and
  - (iv) while on a global scale mine clearance and other mine action programs have expanded greatly over the past decade, a number of these programs are in financial crisis and will not meet the 10-year treaty deadline for completion of clearance;
- (b) congratulates Sister Patricia Pak Poy of the Adelaide Sisters of Mercy on her receipt of the 2002 Australian Council for Overseas Aid Human Rights Award in recognition of her tireless and committed work over the past decade with the Australian Network of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines to rid the world of the scourge of landmines; and
- (c) pays tribute to Sister Pak Poy as:
- (i) the driver of the national grassroots campaign that led to Australia's ratification of the Mine Ban Treaty and subsequent domestic anti-mine legislation, and
  - (ii) a role model to the many people who were inspired by her quiet determination to enhance the achievement of human rights internationally through peaceful, collective action.

Question put and passed.

#### 19 **TRANSPORT—ETHANOL—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS**

Senator O'Brien, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 208—That there be laid on the table, no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on Monday, 21 October 2002:

- (a) all documents relating to the meeting between the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Mr Truss) and the Executive Director of the Australian Institute of Petroleum on 21 August 2002, including but not limited to:
  - (i) papers prepared for the meeting by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources, and/or Mr Truss' office,
  - (ii) any agenda or attendance papers,
  - (iii) any notes made by departmental officers and/or ministerial advisers at the meeting, including but not limited to hand-written notes, and
  - (iv) any papers that document the outcome of the meeting, including but not limited to file notes prepared by departmental officers and/or ministerial advisers;
- (b) all records of communications between:
  - Mr JT Honan, Chairman of Manildra and/or other Manildra managers and staff, and
  - the Prime Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Trade, Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Assistant Treasurer, and/or departmental officers and ministerial advisers,

concerning the Government's consideration of an ethanol excise and production subsidy, including but not limited to correspondence, telephone records and file notes;

- (c) all records of any meetings between:
- Mr JT Honan, Chairman of Manildra and/or other Manildra managers and staff, and
  - the Prime Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Trade, Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Assistant Treasurer, and/or departmental officers and ministerial advisers,
- concerning the Government's consideration of an ethanol excise and production subsidy, including but not limited to hand-written file notes;
- (d) all records of communications between:
- Mr Bob Gordon, Executive Director of the Australian Biofuels Association and/or other Australian Biofuels Association staff, and
  - the Prime Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Trade, Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Assistant Treasurer, and/or departmental officers and ministerial advisers,
- concerning the Government's consideration of an ethanol excise and production subsidy, including but not limited to correspondence, telephone records and file notes;
- (e) all records of any meetings between:
- Mr Bob Gordon, Executive Director of the Australian Biofuels Association and/or other Australian Biofuels Association staff, and
  - the Prime Minister, Treasurer, Minister for Trade, Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Assistant Treasurer, and/or departmental officers and ministerial advisers,
- concerning the Government's consideration of an ethanol excise and production subsidy, including but not limited to hand-written file notes; and
- (f) all analysis by the Treasury, the Department of Finance, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry concerning the projected budgetary impact of the decision to impose excise on ethanol and grant a 12-month ethanol production subsidy.

Question put and passed.

**20 RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—LEAVE TO MEET DURING SITTING**

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (Senator Heffernan) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 200—That the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 17 October 2002, from 4 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the Egg Industry Service Provision Bill 2002 and a related bill.

Question put and passed.

**21 EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION REFERENCES COMMITTEE—  
LEAVE TO MEET DURING SITTING**

Senator Mackay, at the request of the Chair of the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee (Senator George Campbell) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 201—That the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 17 October 2002, from 11.30 am to 12.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into small business employment.

Question put and passed.

**22 ECONOMICS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—LEAVE TO MEET DURING SITTING**

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Economics Legislation Committee (Senator Brandis) and pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 202—That the Economics Legislation Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 17 October 2002, from 4.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the Excise Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002 and a related bill.

Question put and passed.

**23 EDUCATION—DUSSELDORP SKILLS FORUM REPORT**

Senator Stott Despoja, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 203—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) the recently-released Dusseldorp Skills Forum report, entitled 'How young people are faring—key indicators 2002: An update about the learning and work situation of young Australians', found that there has been an increase in the number of teenagers not in 'full time education or full time employment' in May 2002 compared to May 2001,
- (ii) the report also found that 25 per cent of young adult women and 19 per cent of young adult men were at 'considerable labour market risk' in May 2002,
- (iii) the Finn targets for post-compulsory education and training attainment by 19- and 22-year olds, agreed to unanimously by Commonwealth and state governments in 1991, have not been reached,
- (iv) in 2001, the level of unemployment for Australians aged 15 to 24 was 2.4 times that of 25- to 54-year olds, and
- (v) the report notes that long-term disadvantages flow from a troubled transition process between school and further education, training or employment; and

(b) urges the Government to develop a more effective transition system for young people between leaving school and going on to further education, training or employment, and that this transition system pay particular attention to early school leavers.

Question put and passed.

**24 SCRUTINY OF BILLS—STANDING COMMITTEE—12TH REPORT AND ALERT DIGEST  
NO. 11 OF 2002**

The Chairman of the Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Bills (Senator McLucas) tabled the following report and document:

Scrutiny of Bills—Standing Committee—  
12th report of 2002, dated 16 October 2002.  
Alert Digest No. 11 of 2002, dated 16 October 2002.

Report ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator McLucas.

Senator McLucas moved—That the Senate take note of the report.

Question put and passed.

**25 ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE ARTS  
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—DOCUMENTS—PERFORMANCE OF AUSTRALIA POST**

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee (Senator Eggleston), tabled the *Hansard* record of proceedings, dated 16 August 2002, and documents presented to the committee at its hearing on the performance of Australia Post in relation to the World Trade Organisation and franchising related matters.

**26 INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIANS—NATIONAL ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDERS CHILDREN'S  
DAY—DOCUMENT**

The Deputy President (Senator Hogg) tabled the following document:

Indigenous Australians—National Aboriginal and Islanders Children's Day—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory (Mr Stanhope) responding to the resolution of the Senate of 20 August 2002, dated 11 October 2002.

**27 EMPLOYMENT, WORKPLACE RELATIONS AND EDUCATION REFERENCES COMMITTEE—  
PRODUCTION OF GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—DOCUMENT**

The Deputy President (Senator Hogg) tabled the following document:

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee—Production of government response—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Education, Science and Training (Dr Nelson) responding to the resolution of the Senate of 28 August 2002, dated 10 October 2002.

Senator Carr, by leave, moved—That the Senate take note of the document.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

**28 DOCUMENTS**

The following documents were tabled by the Clerk:

Defence Act—Determinations under section 58H—Defence Force Remuneration Tribunal—Determinations Nos 16 and 17 of 2002.

Family Law Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 2002 No. 241.

Privacy Act—Determinations under section 72—Public Interest Determinations Nos 9 and 9A.



**29 DEPARTMENTAL AND AGENCY CONTRACTS—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—DOCUMENT**

The following document was tabled pursuant to the order of the Senate of 20 June 2001, as amended on 27 September 2001:

Departmental and agency contracts—Letters of advice—2002 spring sittings—Communications, Information Technology and the Arts portfolio agencies—Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, National Archives of Australia and National Office for the Information Economy.

**30 RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER**

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Knowles) informed the Senate that the President had received a letter nominating a senator to be a member of a committee.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell), by leave, moved—That Senator Lees be appointed as a participating member of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee for matters relating to air safety.

Question put and passed.

**31 WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (REGISTRATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF ORGANISATIONS) BILL 2002  
WORKPLACE RELATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (REGISTRATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF ORGANISATIONS) (CONSEQUENTIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 2002**

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz)—That these bills be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put and passed.

Bills read a second time.

The Senate resolved itself into committee for the consideration of the bills.

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*In the committee*

Bills, taken together and as a whole by leave, debated and agreed to.

Bills to be reported without amendments.

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The Acting Deputy President (Senator Brandis) resumed the chair and the Chair of Committees (Senator Hogg) reported accordingly.

On the motion of the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Alston) the report from the committee was adopted and the bills read a third time.

**32 RESEARCH AGENCIES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2002**

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Patterson)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

*At 6.50 pm:* Debate was interrupted while Senator Carr was speaking.

**33 GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS—CONSIDERATION**

The following government documents tabled earlier today (*see entry no. 2*) were considered:

Australian Customs Service—Report for 2001-02. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Sandy Macdonald and agreed to.

Australian Postal Corporation (Australia Post)—Equal employment opportunity program—Report for 2001-02. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Mackay. Debate adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Mackay in continuation.

Telstra Corporation Limited—Report for 2001-02, including annual review. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Mackay. Debate adjourned till Thursday at general business, Senator Mackay in continuation.

Repatriation Medical Authority—Report for 2001-02. Motion to take note of document moved by Senator Bishop and agreed to.

**34 ADJOURNMENT**

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Brandis) proposed the question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

The Senate adjourned at 7.11 pm till Thursday, 17 October 2002 at 9.30 am.

**35 ATTENDANCE**

Present, all senators except Senators Chapman\*, Denman, Ellison and Harris (\* on leave).

**HARRY EVANS**  
Clerk of the Senate