2002-03

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE

No. 78

MONDAY, 16 JUNE 2003

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1 **MEETING OF SENATE**

The Senate met at 12.30 pm. The President (Senator the Honourable Paul Calvert) took the chair and read prayers.

2 **TERRORISM INSURANCE BILL 2003**

A message from the House of Representatives was reported disagreeing to the amendments made by the Senate to the following bill:


Ordered, on the motion of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell), that the message be considered in committee of the whole immediately.

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

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In the committee

Senator Ian Campbell moved—That the committee does not insist on its amendments to which the House of Representatives has disagreed.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

---

The Deputy President (Senator Hogg) resumed the chair and the Temporary Chair of Committees (Senator Chapman) reported that the committee had considered message no. 318 from the House of Representatives relating to the Terrorism Insurance Bill 2003 and had resolved not to insist on the amendments made by the Senate to which the House had disagreed.

On the motion of Senator Ian Campbell the report from the committee was adopted.

3 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (FURTHER BORDER PROTECTION MEASURES) BILL 2002 [NO. 2]**

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Senator Troeth)—That this bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put.

The Senate divided—

**AYES, 33**

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Question negatived.

4 **Criminal Code Amendment (Terrorist Organisations) Bill 2003**

**Criminal Code Amendment (Hizballah) Bill 2003**

Messages from the House of Representatives were reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bills:


The Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan) moved—that these bills may proceed without formalities, may be taken together and be now read a first time.

Question put and passed.

Bills read a first time.

Senator Coonan moved—that these bills be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

*At 2 pm: Debate was interrupted while the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner) was speaking.*

5 **Questions**

Questions without notice were answered.

6 **Senate—Role and Powers—Answer to Question**

The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner) moved—that the Senate take note of the answer given by the Minister for Defence (Senator Hill) to a question without notice asked by Senator Ray today relating to the role and powers of the Senate.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.
7 DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER THE HONOURABLE WILLIAM CHARLES WENTWORTH, AO

The President informed the Senate of the death, on 15 June 2003, of the Honourable William Charles Wentworth, AO, a member of the House of Representatives for the division of Mackellar from 1949 to 1977, and at various times in that period Minister for Social Services and the Minister in charge of Aboriginal Affairs under the Prime Minister.

The Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill), by leave, moved—That the Senate records its deep regret at the death, on 15 June 2003, of the Honourable William Charles Wentworth, AO, former federal minister and member for Mackellar, and places on record its appreciation of his long and meritorious public service and tenders its profound sympathy to his family in their bereavement.

The motion was supported and all senators present stood in silence—

Question passed.

8 PETITIONS

The following 4 petitions, lodged with the Clerk by the senators indicated, were received:

The President, from 94 petitioners, requesting that the Senate give special consideration to the East Timorese asylum seekers currently residing in Australia and take action to grant them permanent residency.

The President, from 18 petitioners, requesting that the Senate take action to grant permanent residence to refugees on temporary protection visas who have been law abiding and authorise the release into the community of asylum seekers.

Senator Bartlett, from 20 petitioners, requesting that the Senate support the Defence Amendment (Parliamentary approval for Australian involvement in overseas conflicts) Bill 2003.

Senator Nettle, from 6 276 petitioners, requesting that the Senate not support a war against Iraq, and put the interests of peace and the world community above those of the United States.

9 NOTICES

Notices of motion:

Notices of motion:

The Chair of the Community Affairs References Committee (Senator Hutchins): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Community Affairs References Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 19 June 2003, from 3.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee’s inquiry into poverty and financial hardship. (general business notice of motion no. 469)

Senators Bolkus and Greig: To move on the next day of sitting—That the following matter be referred to the Legal and Constitutional References Committee for inquiry and report by 3 March 2004:

The capacity of current legal aid and access to justice arrangements to meet the community need for legal assistance, including:

(a) the performance of current arrangements in achieving national equity and uniform access to justice across Australia, including in outer-metropolitan, regional, rural and remote areas;
(b) the implications of current arrangements in particular types of matters, including criminal law matters, family law matters and civil law matters; and
(c) the impact of current arrangements on the wider community, including community legal services, pro bono legal services, court and tribunal services and levels of self-representation.

The Chair of the Legal and Constitutional References Committee (Senator Bolkus): To move on the next day of sitting—That the Legal and Constitutional References Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 18 June 2003, from 6 pm, to take evidence for the committee’s inquiry into progress towards national reconciliation. (general business notice of motion no. 470)

The Chair of the Select Committee on Medicare (Senator McLucas): To move on the next day of sitting—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Select Committee on Medicare be extended to 8 October 2003. (general business notice of motion no. 471)

Senator Sherry: To move on the next day of sitting—That the draft Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Regulations 2003 and the draft Retirement Savings Accounts Amendment Regulations 2003 be referred to the Select Committee on Superannuation for inquiry and report by 21 August 2003, with particular reference to:

(a) the extent to which portability of superannuation benefits already exists;
(b) the role of current, and likely future, barriers to portability, including exit fees;
(c) the desirability and practicality of the portability regime contained in the draft regulations, particularly in the context of the existing structures of the superannuation and financial planning industries; and
(d) additional consumer protection measures. (general business notice of motion no. 472)

Senator Brown: To move on the next day of sitting—That the following matters be referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for inquiry and report by 18 August 2003:

The role, operation and effectiveness of Australia’s security and intelligence agencies in the lead-up to the Iraq war, including:

(a) the discrepancies, if any, between claims made by the Australian Government and its agencies concerning Iraq and Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction (WMD) program and information supplied by Australia’s intelligence agencies;
(b) the discrepancies, if any, between information gathered by Australian intelligence agencies concerning Iraq and Iraq’s WMDs before the war and the actuality of the WMD program discovered after the conflict;
(c) the discrepancies, if any, between Australia and other nations, including the United States of America, in intelligence received regarding Iraq and Iraq’s WMD program; and
(d) any other matters relating to claims concerning Iraq or Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction.

Senator Ray: To move on the next day of sitting—That, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Committee Act 1969, the following public work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for consideration and report:
The Christmas Island Immigration Reception and Processing Centre. (general business notice of motion no. 473)

The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner): To move on the next day of sitting—That, pursuant to section 29 of the Intelligence Services Act 2001, the following matter be referred to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD for inquiry and report by 13 August 2003:

(a) the nature and accuracy of intelligence information received by Australia’s intelligence services in relation to:
   (i) the existence of;
   (ii) the capacity and willingness to use, and
   (iii) the immediacy of the threat posed by, weapons of mass destruction (WMD);

(b) the nature, accuracy and independence of the assessments made by Australia’s intelligence agencies of subparagraphs (a)(i), (a)(ii) and (a)(iii) above;

(c) whether the Commonwealth Government as a whole presented accurate and complete information to Parliament and the Australian public on subparagraphs (a)(i), (a)(ii) and (a)(iii) above during, or since, the military action in Iraq; and

(d) whether Australia’s pre-conflict assessments of Iraq’s WMD capability were as accurate and comprehensive as should be expected of information relied on in decisions regarding the participation of the Australian Defence Forces in military conflict. (general business notice of motion no. 474)

The Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner): To move on the next day of sitting—

(1) That a select committee, to be known as the Select Committee on Ministerial Discretion in Migration Matters, be appointed to inquire into and report, by 3 November 2003, on the following matters:
   (a) the use made by the Minister for Immigration of the discretionary powers available under sections 351 and 417 of the Migration Act 1958 since the provisions were inserted in the legislation;
   (b) the appropriateness of these discretionary ministerial powers within the broader migration application, decision-making, and review and appeal processes;
   (c) the operation of these discretionary provisions by ministers, in particular what criteria and other considerations applied where ministers substituted a more favourable decision; and
   (d) the appropriateness of the ministerial discretionary powers continuing to exist in their current form, and what conditions or criteria should attach to those powers.

(2) That the committee consist of seven senators, three nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, three nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, and one nominated by minority groups and independent senators.

(3) That the committee may proceed to the dispatch of business notwithstanding that not all members have been duly nominated and appointed and notwithstanding any vacancy.

(4) That the chair of the committee be elected by the committee from the members nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.

(5) That the deputy chair of the committee be elected by the committee from the members nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate.
(6) That the deputy chair act as chair when there is no chair or the chair is not present at a meeting.

(7) That the quorum of the committee be three members.

(8) That, in the event of the votes on any question before the committee being equally divided, the chair, or deputy chair when acting as chair, have a casting vote.

(9) That the committee and any subcommittee have power to send for and examine persons and documents, to move from place to place, to sit in public or in private, notwithstanding any prorogation of the Parliament or dissolution of the House of Representatives, and have leave to report from time to time its proceedings and the evidence taken and such interim recommendations as it may deem fit.

(10) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of three or more of its members and to refer to any such subcommittee any of the matters which the committee is empowered to consider.

(11) That the quorum of a subcommittee be two members.

(12) That the committee be provided with all necessary staff, facilities and resources and be empowered to appoint persons with specialist knowledge for the purposes of the committee with the approval of the President.

(13) That the committee be empowered to print from day to day such documents and evidence as may be ordered by it and a daily Hansard be published of such proceedings as take place in public. (general business notice of motion no. 475)

Notice of motion withdrawn: Senator Murray withdrew business of the Senate notice of motion no. 1 standing in his name for today, relating to the reference of matters to the Economics References Committee.

10 RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—EXTENSIONS OF TIME TO REPORT

Senator Ferris, by leave and at the request of the Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (Senator Heffernan), moved—That the time for the presentation of the report of the committee on the provisions of the Aviation Transport Security Bill 2003 and a related bill be extended to 25 June 2003. Question put and passed.

Senator Ferris, by leave and at the request of Senator Heffernan, moved—That the time for the presentation of the reports of the committee on the provisions of the Civil Aviation Amendment Bill 2003 and on the provisions of the Wheat Marketing Amendment Bill 2002 be extended to 18 June 2003. Question put and passed.

11 ECONOMICS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—EXTENSIONS OF TIME TO REPORT

Senator Eggleston, by leave and at the request of the Chair of the Economics Legislation Committee (Senator Brandis), moved—That the time for the presentation of the reports of the committee on the provisions of the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 4) 2003 and on the provisions of the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 8) 2002 be extended to 19 June 2003. Question put and passed.
12 CORPORATIONS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES—JOINT STATUTORY COMMITTEE—
LEAVE TO MEET DURING SITTING
Senator Eggleston, by leave and at the request of the Chair of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services (Senator Chapman), moved—that the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate today, from 7.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee’s inquiry into the Corporations Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 1) 2003, as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 31, and regulation 7.1.29 of the Corporations Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 3), as contained in Statutory Rules 2003 No. 85.
Question put and passed.

13 LEAVE OF ABSENCE
Senator Eggleston, by leave, moved—that leave of absence be granted to Senator Payne for the period 16 June to 19 June 2003, on account of ill health.
Question put and passed.

14 POSTPONEMENTS
Items of business were postponed as follows:
Business of the Senate notice of motion no. 2 standing in the name of Senator Brown for today, relating to the reference of a matter to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee, postponed till 18 June 2003.

15 LAW AND JUSTICE—GLOBAL DEMOCRACY
Senator Brown, pursuant to notice of motion not objected to as a formal motion, moved general business notice of motion no. 468—that the Senate—
(a) supports global democracy based on the principle of “one person, one vote, one value”; and
(b) supports the vision of a global parliament which empowers all the world’s people equally to decide on matters of international significance.
Leave refused: Senator Murray sought leave to move an amendment to the motion.
An objection was raised and leave was not granted.
Question put.
The Senate divided—

Senators—
Brown (Teller) Nettle

AYES, 2
16 Discussion of Matter of Public Importance—Communications—
Australian Broadcasting Corporation

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Ferguson) informed the Senate that Senator Mackay had proposed that the following matter of public importance be submitted to the Senate for discussion:

The need to protect the independence and integrity of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation from political interference by the Howard Government, and in particular by the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Alston).

The proposal was supported by four senators and the matter was discussed.


The Acting Deputy President (Senator Cook) tabled the following report and documents received on 28 May 2003:


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


The Acting Deputy President (Senator Cook) tabled the following report and documents received on the dates indicated:


Erratum. [Received 2 June 2003]

Report, dated May 2003, Hansard record of proceedings, answers to questions on notice and submissions [221]. [Received 29 May 2003]

Report and erratum ordered to be printed on the motion of Senator Ferris.

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Cook) tabled the following document received on 11 June 2003:


20 Government Documents

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Cook) tabled the following documents received on the dates indicated:

- Estimates of proposed expenditure for 2003-04—Portfolio budget statements—Portfolio and executive departments—Defence portfolio—Corrigendum. [Received 30 May 2003]
- National Crime Authority—Correspondence by Chair of the Inter-Governmental Committee of the National Crime Authority. [Received 27 May 2003]
- Report for 2001-02. [Received 27 May 2003]

21 Auditor-General—Audit Reports Nos 44, 46 and 47 of 2002-03—Documents

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Cook) tabled the following documents received on the dates indicated:

- Auditor-General—Audit reports for 2002-03—
  - No. 44—Performance audit—Review of the parenting payment single program: Department of Family and Community Services; Centrelink. [Received 23 May 2003]
  - No. 46—Performance audit—Australian industry involvement program: Department of Defence. [Received 6 June 2003]
  - No. 47—Performance audit—Implementation and management of the Indigenous Employment Policy: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations. [Received 13 June 2003]

22 Science and Technology—Genetically-engineered Crops—Document

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Cook) tabled the following document:

Science and technology—Genetically-engineered crops—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing (Ms Worth) responding to the resolution of the Senate of 19 March 2003.
23 **RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT REFERENCES COMMITTEE—OVINE JOHNE’S DISEASE IN THE AUSTRALIAN SHEEP FLOCK—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—DOCUMENT**

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Cook) tabled the following document:

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Ovine Johne’s disease in the Australian sheep flock—Government response—Letter to the President of the Senate from the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Mr Truss) responding to the resolution of the Senate of 6 March 2003, dated 2 June 2003.

24 **AUDITOR-GENERAL—AUDIT REPORTS NOS 45 AND 48 OF 2002-03—DOCUMENTS**

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Cook) tabled the following documents:

Auditor-General—Audit reports for 2002-03—

No. 45—Business support process audit—Reporting of financial statements and audit reports in annual reports.


25 **ESTIMATES OF PROPOSED EXPENDITURE FOR 2003-04—PORTFOLIO BUDGET STATEMENTS—PORTFOLIO AND EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS—DOCUMENT**

The Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp) tabled the following document:


26 **DEFENCE—POINT NEPEAN—LAND SALE—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENT—DOCUMENT**

The Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp), by leave, made a statement relating to the order of the Senate of 14 May 2003 for the production of documents relating to the expressions of interest in Defence land for sale at Point Nepean and, pursuant to that order, tabled the following documents:

Defence—Point Nepean—Land sale—Documentation relating to expression of interest [CD-rom].

27 **TRADE—PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS SCHEME—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—DOCUMENTS**

The Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp), by leave, made a statement relating to the order of the Senate of 3 December 2002 for the production of documents relating to the inclusion of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme as an item for discussion in negotiations for an Australia-United States free trade agreement and, pursuant to that order, tabled the following documents:

Trade—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme—Copies of—


Correspondence between the Minister for Trade (Mr Vaile) and the—

Director, Pharmacy Guild of Australia, dated 12 June and 9 July 2001.

General briefing points.
Possible parliamentary question prepared by Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for minister, dated 18 November 2002.
Talking points for Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade officers appearing before Senate additional estimates, dated February 2002.

28 HEALTH—TOBACCO ADVERTISING—AUSTRALIAN GRAND PRIX—ORDER FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—DOCUMENTS

The Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp), by leave, made a statement relating to the order of the Senate of 14 May 2003 for the production of the most recent application documents from the Australian Grand Prix Corporation to the Federal Government for exemption from the Tobacco Advertising Prohibition Act 1992, and pursuant to that order, tabled the following documents:

Health—Tobacco advertising—Australian Grand Prix—Copies of—
Application from Australian Grand Prix Corporation to the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Patterson), dated 16 May 2002.
Minute no. M02005650—Request for section 18 exemption under the Tobacco Advertising Prohibition Act 1992—2003 Foster’s Australian Grand Prix—
Attachment B—Background information.
Attachment C—Assessment against the guidelines under section 18.

29 ORDERS FOR PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS—STATEMENTS BY LEAVE

Senators Allison and Ludwig, by leave, made statements relating to the Government’s record in responding to orders for the production of documents, and the statements made today by the Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp) (see entries nos 26, 27 and 28).

30 COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—ADDITIONAL INFORMATION—ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2002-03

Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee (Senator Knowles), tabled additional information received by the committee (Additional estimates 2002-03—vols 1 to 3).

31 DOCUMENTS

The following documents were tabled by the Clerk:

Aged Care Act—Determination under section 44-19—ACA Ch. 3 No. 4/2003.
Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act—
Australian Prudential Regulation Authority Act—
Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (Commonwealth Costs) Determination 2003.
Instrument under section 51—
Instrument fixing charges to be paid to APRA, dated 14 May 2003.
Revocation of instrument fixing charges to be paid to APRA, dated 14 May 2003.


Authorised Non-operating Holding Companies Supervisory Levy Imposition Act—Authorised Non-operating Holding Companies Supervisory Levy Imposition Determination 2003.

Civil Aviation Act—
Civil Aviation Regulations—
Civil Aviation Amendment Order (No. 5) 2003.
Civil Aviation Amendment Order (No. 6) 2003.
Instruments Nos CASA 127/03, CASA 192/03, CASA 193/03, CASA 205/03 and CASA 214/03-CASA 217/03.

Civil Aviation Safety Regulations—Airworthiness Directives—Part—
106, dated 16 April 2003.
107, dated 1 and 2 May 2003.

Statutory Rules 2003 No. 95.

Class Ruling—
CR 2002/75 (Addendum).


Customs Act—
Amendment to CEO Directions No. 1 of 2003.
Regulations—Statutory Rules 2003 Nos 88 and 89.


Defence Act—Determination under section—

Defence Force (Home Loans Assistance) Act—Determination of Warlike Service (Operation Falconer).

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act—Instrument amending list of—
Exempt native specimens under section 303DB, dated 7 May 2003.
Threatened species under section 178, dated 24 April 2003 [2].

Export Control Act—Export Control (Orders) Regulations—
Grain, Plants and Plant Products Amendment Orders 2003 (No. 1).
Prescribed Goods (General) Amendment Orders 2003 (No. 1).

Financial Management and Accountability Act—


Health Insurance Act—
Regulations—Statutory Rules 2003 Nos 87 and 98.

Higher Education Funding Act—
Determination under section—
15—Determination No.—


Lands Acquisition Act—Statements describing property acquired by agreement under sections 40 and 125 of the Act for specified public purposes [2].


Medical Indemnity (Prudential Supervision and Product Standards) Act—
Guidelines under subsection 13(9)—
Certification of Funding Plans by Auditors and Actuaries.
Matters to be Included in a Funding Plan.
Qualifications and Independence of Auditors and Actuaries.


Migration Agents Registration Application Charge Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 2003 No. 93.


National Environment Protection Council Act—Variation to the National Environment Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure for Particles as PM$_{2.5}$, accompanied by the impact statement, summary of submissions and the Council’s responses to submissions.
Natural Resources Management (Financial Assistance) Act—Agreement to deliver the Natural Heritage Trust Extension between the Commonwealth of Australia and—
  Australian Capital Territory, dated 27 March 2003.
  South Australia, dated 17 April 2003.
  Victoria, dated 12 December 2002.
  Western Australia, dated 17 December 2002.


Product Ruling—
  PR 2001/24 (Notice of Withdrawal) and PR 2001/96 (Notice of Withdrawal).


Remuneration Tribunal Act—
  Determination—
    2003/08: Remuneration and Allowances for Various Public Office Holders.
    2003/10: Principal Executive Office (PEO) Classification Structure and Terms and Conditions.
    2003/11: Remuneration and Allowances for Holders of Full-Time Public Office.

  Regulations—Statutory Rules 2003 No. 103.


Superannuation Guarantee Determination SGD 2003/1.


Taxation Determination—
   Notice of Withdrawal—
       TD 92/157 and TD 92/197.
       TD 93/11 and TD 93/244.
       TD 94/48 and TD 94/73.
Taxation Ruling—
   Notice of Withdrawal—
       Old Series—IT 340, IT 2345, IT 2386 and IT 2438.
       TR 96/17.
       TR 97/12 (Notice of Partial Withdrawal).
       TR 2003/2-TR 2003/5.
Veterans’ Entitlements Act—
Workplace Relations Act—
   Regulations—Statutory Rules 2003 No. 102.
   Rules—Statutory Rules 2003 No. 86.

32 Administrator’s Proclamations—Commencement of Provisions of Acts
Proclamations by His Excellency the Administrator of the Commonwealth of Australia were tabled, notifying that he had proclaimed the following provisions of Acts to come into operation on the date specified:

33 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee—Change in Membership
The Acting Deputy President (Senator Cook) informed the Senate that the President had received a letter requesting a change in the membership of a committee.
The Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp), by leave, moved—that Senator Bartlett replace Senator Ridgeway on the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee for the committee’s inquiry into the off-setting arrangements between the Veterans’ Entitlements Act and the Military Compensation Scheme.
Question put and passed.
34 **ADMINISTRATOR’S MESSAGES—ASSENT TO LAWS**

Messages from His Excellency the Administrator of the Commonwealth of Australia were reported, informing the Senate that he had assented to the following laws:

27 May 2003—Message No. 14—


35 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT) BILL 2002**

**MURRAY-DARLING BASIN AMENDMENT BILL 2002**

**NATIONAL HANDGUN BUYBACK BILL 2003**

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAWS AMENDMENT BILL 2002**

**MARITIME LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS) BILL 2003**

**HEALTH CARE (APPROPRIATION) AMENDMENT BILL 2003**

**CUSTOMS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2003**

**CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 2003**

Messages from the House of Representatives were reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bills:

Message no. 306, dated 15 May 2003—A Bill for an Act to amend laws relating to workplace relations, and for other purposes.

Message no. 307, dated 28 May 2003—A Bill for an Act to amend the Murray-Darling Basin Act 1993, and for other purposes.

Message no. 310, dated 2 June 2003—A Bill for an Act to provide for financial assistance for qualifying payments made by States and other expenditure in connection with the implementation of the handgun buyback, and for related purposes.

Message no. 311, dated 2 June 2003—A Bill for an Act to amend legislation relating to intellectual property, and for related purposes.

Message no. 312, dated 2 June 2003—A Bill for an Act to amend legislation relating to the prevention of pollution from ships, and for related purposes.


Message no. 308, dated 2 June 2003—A Bill for an Act to amend the Customs Act 1901, and for related purposes.


The Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp) moved—That these bills may proceed without formalities, may be taken together and be now read a first time.

Question put and passed.

Bills read a first time.

Senator Kemp moved—That these bills be now read a second time.

On the motion of Senator Buckland the debate was adjourned till the next day of sitting.
Consideration of legislation: Senator Kemp moved that the Customs Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2003 and the Customs Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2003 be listed together on the Notice Paper as an order of the day, and the remaining bills be listed as separate orders of the day.

Question put and passed.

36 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (PERSONAL INCOME TAX REDUCTION) BILL 2003**

A message from the House of Representatives was reported transmitting for the concurrence of the Senate the following bill:

Message no. 317, dated 4 June 2003—A Bill for an Act to amend taxation laws to reduce personal income tax, to increase the rebate for certain low-income taxpayers, and for related purposes.

The Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp) moved—that this bill may proceed without formalities and be now read a first time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a first time.

Senator Kemp moved—that this bill be now read a second time.

On the motion of Senator Buckland the debate was adjourned.

On the motion of Senator Kemp the resumption of the debate was made an order of the day for a later hour.

37 **COMMUNITY AFFAIRS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE—REPORT—HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM) BILL 2003**

Pursuant to order, Senator Ferris, at the request of the Chair of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee (Senator Knowles), tabled the following report and documents:


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

38 **CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (TERRORIST ORGANISATIONS) BILL 2003**

**CRIMINAL CODE AMENDMENT (HIZBALLAH) BILL 2003**

Order read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan)—That these bills be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

The question for the second reading was divided—

On the motion of the Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) the debate on the Criminal Code Amendment (Terrorist Organisations) Bill 2003 was adjourned and the resumption of the debate made an order of the day for the next day of sitting.

Question—that the Criminal Code Amendment (Hizballah) Bill 2003 be now read a second time—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, debated.
Senator Greig moved the following amendments together by leave:

Clause 2, page 1 (line 8) to page 2 (line 6), omit the clause, substitute:

2 Commencement

This Act commences on the day on which it receives the Royal Assent.
Schedule 1, item 3, page 4 (line 22) to page 5 (line 6), omit subsections (11) and (12).

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendments be agreed to—put.
The committee divided—

APRIL, 8

Senators—

Allison (Teller) Brown Greig Lees
Bartlett Cherry Lees

NOES, 35

Senators—

Barnett Evans Ludwig Patterson
Buckland Ferris Lundy Scullion
Campbell, George Harradine Mackay Sherry
Colbeck Hogg Marshall Stephens
Cook Humphries Mason Tchen
Crossin Hutchins McGauran (Teller) Troeth
Denman Johnston McLucus Watson
Eggleston Kirk Minchin Webber
Ellison Knowles Moore

Question negatived.
Bill agreed to.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The Acting Deputy President (Senator Bolkus) resumed the chair and the Chair of Committees (Senator Hogg) reported accordingly.
On the motion of Senator Ellison the report from the committee was adopted and the Criminal Code Amendment (Hizballah) Bill 2003 read a third time.

39 Taxation Laws Amendment (Personal Income Tax Reduction) Bill 2003

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp)—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:

(a) recognises that very large numbers of Australians believe that greater spending on health, education and the environment is a greater priority than tax cuts;

(b) believes that the tax cuts in this bill could have been much better targeted to low- and middle-income earners;
(c) notes that the National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling indicates that 14 per cent of families will get 41 per cent of the benefit; and

(d) believes that if the Government is considering future tax cuts in the next budget, they should first be directed at significant relief for low-income Australians”.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 9

Senators—

Allison (Teller) Cherry Lees Nettle
Bartlett Greig Murray Nettle
Brown

NOES, 38

Senators—

Abetz Barnett Boswell Buckland Calvert Campbell, George Colbeck Coonan Crossin Denman

Eggleston Ferguson Ferris (Teller) Forshaw Hogg Humphries Hutchins Johnston Kemp Kirk


Scullion Sherry Stephens Tchen Tierney Troeth Watson Webber

Question negatived.

Senator Nettle moved the following amendment:

Omit all words after “That”, substitute “the bill be returned to the House of Representatives with a message indicating that the Senate declines to consider the bill further and is of the view that the foregone revenue in the form of tax cuts contained in the bill, the tax cuts for multinationals and recent reductions in the corporate tax rate would be better spent on higher education funding, in particular by:

(a) abolishing the Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS) and all existing HECS debts;

(b) phasing in an additional 50 000 full-time places to replace marginally-funded places and expand the sector on an equitable basis;

(c) delivering a 20 per cent per equivalent full-time student unit funding increase to block funding, to address effective cuts in funding over the past 7 years and to fund improved infrastructure and staffing levels;

(d) providing additional student support measures to address the low indigenous participation rates, sharp increases in work to study ratios and student poverty levels;

(e) increasing Australian Research Council funding, with a total increase of 80% over current funding to be achieved by 2006; and

(f) bringing total government spending on higher education up to $8 billion up from the current level of $4.3 billion, nearly 1.2 per cent of GDP”.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.
The Senate divided—

AYES, 2

Senators—

Brown (Teller)    Nettle

NOES, 44

Senators—

Abetz
Allison
Barnett
Bartlett
Boswell
Buckland
Calvert
Campbell, George
Cherry
Colbeck
Coonan

Crossin
Denman
Eggleston
Ferguson
Ferris (Teller)
Forshaw
Greig
Hogg
Humphries
Hutchins
Johnston

Kemp
Kirk
Ludwig
Lundy
Macdonald, Sandy
Mackay
Marshall
Mason
McGauran
McLucas
Moore

Murray
O’Brien
Ridgeway
Scullion
Sherry
Stephens
Tchen
Tierney
Troeth
Watson
Webber

Question negatived.

Main question put.

The Senate divided—

AYES, 44

Senators—

Abetz
Allison
Barnett
Bartlett
Boswell
Buckland
Calvert
Campbell, George
Cherry
Colbeck
Coonan

Crossin
Denman
Eggleston
Ferguson
Ferris (Teller)
Forshaw
Greig
Hogg
Humphries
Hutchins
Johnston

Kemp
Kirk
Ludwig
Lundy
Macdonald, Sandy
Mackay
Marshall
Mason
McGauran
McLucas
Moore

Murray
O’Brien
Ridgeway
Scullion
Sherry
Stephens
Tchen
Tierney
Troeth
Watson
Webber

NOES, 2

Senators—

Brown (Teller)    Nettle

Question agreed to.

Bill read a second time.

After 9.50 pm—

No amendments to the bill were circulated and no senator required that it be considered in committee.

The Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan), by leave, moved—That the bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.
40 ADJOURNMENT
The President proposed the question—That the Senate do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.

Document: Senator Allison, by leave, tabled the following document:

The Senate adjourned at 10.30 pm till Tuesday, 17 June 2003 at 12.30 pm.

41 ATTENDANCE
Present, all senators except Senator Payne (on leave).

HARRY EVANS
Clerk of the Senate

Printed by authority of the Senate