

2002

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

NOTICE PAPER

No. 59

THURSDAY, 12 DECEMBER 2002

The Senate meets at 9.30 am

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

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Notices of Motion

Notice given 11 December 2002

***1 Chair of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee (Senator Cook):** To move—That the following matters be referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for inquiry and report by 27 November 2003:

- (1) The relevant issues involved in the negotiation of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) in the Doha Development Round of the World Trade Organisation, including but not limited to:
 - (a) the economic, regional, social, cultural, environmental and policy impact of services trade liberalisation;
 - (b) Australia's goals and strategy for the negotiations, including the formulation of and response to requests, the transparency of the process and government accountability;
 - (c) the GATS negotiations in the context of the 'development' objectives of the Doha Round;
 - (e) the impact of the GATS on the provision of, and access to, public services provided by government, such as health, education and water; and
 - (f) the impact of the GATS on the ability of all levels of government to regulate services and own public assets.
- (2) The issues for Australia in the negotiation of a free trade agreement with the United States of America, including but not limited to:
 - (a) the economic, regional, social, cultural, environmental and policy impact of such an agreement;
 - (b) Australia's goals and strategy for negotiations, including the formulation of our mandate, the transparency of the process and government accountability; and
 - (c) the impact on the Doha Development Round.

***2 Chair of the Economics References Committee (Senator Collins):** To move—That the following matter be referred to the Economics References Committee for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in June 2004:

The structure and distributive effects of the Australian taxation system, with particular reference to:

- (a) the level, extent and distribution of the current tax burden on individuals and businesses;
- (b) the impact of (a) on taxpayers' families;
- (c) the use and efficacy of various tax and expenditure incentives to influence social and economic conduct, for instance participation in the workforce;
- (d) the long-term social and economic impact of the current distribution of taxation, government spending and employment, including the intergenerational consequences of the tax structure;
- (e) the respective roles of the Commonwealth and the states in relation to the collection and distribution of taxation revenue; and

- (f) any other relevant issues which may arise in the course of the inquiry.

Orders of the Day

- 1 **Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee**
Report to be presented on statutory powers and functions of the Australian Law Reform Commission.
- 2 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**
Report to be presented on the Australian meat industry and export quotas.
- 3 **Superannuation—Select Committee**
Report to be presented on tax arrangements for superannuation and related policy.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Notice of Motion

Notice given 11 December 2002

- *1 **Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell):** To move—That on Thursday, 12 December 2002:
- (a) the hours of meeting shall be 9.30 am to adjournment;
 - (b) consideration of general business and consideration of committee reports, government responses and Auditor-General's reports under standing order 62(1) and (2) not be proceeded with;
 - (c) the routine of business from not later than 4.30 pm shall be government business only;
 - (d) divisions may take place after 6 pm; and
 - (e) the question for the adjournment of the Senate shall not be proposed till a motion for the adjournment is moved by a minister.

Orders of the Day

- 1 **Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002**
In committee (*11 December 2002*).
- 2 **Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Australians Working Together and other 2001 Budget Measures) Bill (No. 2) 2002**
Consideration in committee of the whole of message no. 206 from the House of Representatives (*5 December 2002*).
- 3 **Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Australians Working Together and other 2001 Budget Measures) Bill 2002**
In committee (*15 November 2002*).
(*Resolution instructing the committee to divide the bill adopted, 15 November 2002.*)

- 4 **Inspector-General of Taxation Bill 2002**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (17 October 2002).
(*Bill exempted on 10 December 2002 from the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (7) of standing order 111—see Orders of the Senate—Legislation*)
- *5 **Taxation Laws Amendment (Structured Settlements and Structured Orders) Bill 2002**
Consideration in committee of the whole of message no. 222 from the House of Representatives (11 December 2002).
- 6 **Trade Practices Amendment (Liability for Recreational Services) Bill 2002**—(*Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Alston*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Buckland, 28 August 2002*).
- 7 **Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Special Benefit Activity Test) Bill 2002**—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (21 October 2002).
(*Bill exempted on 11 December 2002 from the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (7) of standing order 111—see Orders of the Senate—Legislation*)
- 8 **Copyright Amendment (Parallel Importation) Bill 2002**—(*Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer, Senator Coonan*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Buckland, 10 December 2002*).
(*Bill exempted on 10 December 2002 from the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (7) of standing order 111—see Orders of the Senate—Legislation*)
- 9 **Taxation Laws Amendment (Venture Capital) Bill 2002**
Venture Capital Bill 2002—(*Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Alston*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Buckland, 9 December 2002*).
(*Bills exempted on 9 December 2002 from the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (7) of standing order 111—see Orders of the Senate—Legislation*)
- *10 **Taxation Laws Amendment (Earlier Access to Farm Management Deposits) Bill 2002**—(*Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Minchin*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator O'Brien, 11 December 2002*).
(*Bill exempted on 10 December 2002 from the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (7) of standing order 111—see Orders of the Senate—Legislation*)
- 11 **Aviation Legislation Amendment Bill 2002**—(*Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer, Senator Coonan*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Buckland, 10 December 2002*).
(*Bill exempted on 10 December 2002 from the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (7) of standing order 111—see Orders of the Senate—Legislation*)

- 12 **Financial Sector Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002**—(*Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator Patterson*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (2 December 2002).
 (Bill exempted on 10 December 2002 from the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (7) of standing order 111—see *Orders of the Senate—Legislation*)
- 13 **Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill 2002**
Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2002
 Adjourned debate on the motion of Minister for the Arts and Sport (Senator Kemp)—That these bills be now read a second time.
 And on the amendment moved by Senator Sherry in respect of the *Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2002*—At the end of the motion, add “but the Senate is of the opinion that the bill should be withdrawn and redrafted to:
- (a) ensure that the proposed surcharge tax reduction to high-income earners, the splitting of superannuation contributions and the closure of the public sector funds do not proceed; and
 - (b) provide for a fairer contributions tax cut that will boost retirement incomes for all superannuation fund members to assist in preparing the nation for the ageing population”.
- And on the amendment moved by Senator Cherry in respect of the *Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill 2002*—At the end of the motion, add “but the Senate notes that analysis provided to the Select Committee on Superannuation shows that extending the co-contribution to workers on average earnings would have a significant positive effect on national savings, and that this could be funded by better targeting of the Government’s superannuation measures”—(*adjourned, Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz), 18 November 2002*).
- 14 **Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Further Simplification of International Payments) Bill 2002**—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Ian Macdonald*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 13 March 2002*).
- 15 **Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002**—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Ian Macdonald*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 23 October 2002*).
- 16 **Superannuation Legislation (Commonwealth Employment) Repeal and Amendment Bill 2002**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ludwig, 19 June 2002*).
- 17 **Budget statement and documents 2002-03**
 Adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin)—That the Senate take note of the statement and documents (*adjourned, Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz), 16 May 2002*).



**ORDERS OF THE DAY RELATING TO COMMITTEE REPORTS
AND GOVERNMENT RESPONSES AND
AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORTS**

Orders of the Day relating to Committee Reports and Government Responses

1 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Report—Scrutiny of the World Trade Organisation

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Nettle—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Nettle, in continuation, 9 December 2002*).

2 Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee—Report—The value of water: Inquiry into Australia's urban water management

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Allison)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Allison, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

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

1 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 20 of 2002-03—Performance audit—Employment entitlements support schemes: Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

2 Australian National Audit Office—Independent Auditor (KPMG)—Report on results of a performance audit of contract management arrangements within the ANAO, December 2002

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

***3 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 21 of 2002-03—Performance audit—Performance information in the Australian Health Care Agreements: Department of Health and Ageing**

Consideration (*11 December 2002*).

GENERAL BUSINESS

Notices of Motion

Notice given 14 February 2002

17 Senator Tierney: To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the serious problem of overcrowding in New South Wales public schools, especially when compared with other states across the country;
- (b) acknowledges the shameful results of a New South Wales Teachers Federation survey showing 20 per cent of all classes in each of the first 3 years of primary school being over the Carr Government's own limit, and

- 32 per cent of all kindergarten classes exceeding suggested class sizes during 2001;
- (c) condemns the Carr Government for putting New South Wales children's education at risk by increasing class numbers and not reducing them as other states are now doing;
 - (d) congratulates the Howard Government for increasing funding to New South Wales government schools by 5.2 per cent in 2001, as opposed to Premier Carr's paltry 2.6 per cent; and
 - (e) recognises the low priority given to education by the Carr Government, as evidenced by the fact that the amount spent on education as a percentage of total state budget has dropped from 25.5 per cent to 22 per cent in the 7 years since Labor came to power in New South Wales.

Notice given 11 March 2002

23 **Senator McGauran:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) it is the 100th anniversary of the execution of Harry 'Breaker' Morant and Peter Handcock, killed by firing squad during the Boer War for following the orders, take no prisoners,
 - (ii) the court case held for Morant and Handcock was a sham, set up by Lord Kitchener, the giver of the orders Morant and Handcock followed,
 - (iii) the injustice to Breaker and Handcock has plagued Australia's conscience since their execution on 27 February 1902,
 - (iv) in 1902 the then Federal Parliamentarian and later first Governor-General of Australia, Issac Issacs, raised the matter of the execution in Parliament stating that this issue was agitating the minds of the people of this country in an almost unprecedented degree, and questioned the validity of the decision,
 - (v) the reason we need to go back 100 years to now right this wrong, is because Breaker Morant is one of the fathers of our ANZAC tradition; a friend of Banjo Patterson and an inspiration for much of his poetry and described as a man of great courage who would never betray a mate; and a man of whom many of the young ANZACs in World War I had heard and on whom they modelled themselves, and
 - (vi) Lord Kitchener was the Commander-in-Chief of the British Military who made the decision to commit troops to Gallipoli and is responsible for that disastrous campaign;
- (b) calls on the Government to petition directly the British Government for a review of the case, with the aim to quash the harsh sentence of death for Harry 'Breaker' Morant and Peter Handcock; and
- (c) take action to include the names of these two Australians on the Roll of Honour at the Australian War Memorial.

30 **Senator Brown:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that the Ministerial Code in the United Kingdom includes a system which deals with acceptance of appointments for ministers after leaving office; and
- (b) calls on the Government to:

- (i) implement an advisory committee on business appointments, from which a minister would be required to seek advice before accepting business appointments within 5 years from the date from which he or she ceased to be a minister, and
- (ii) ban any minister from taking an appointment that is directly related to his or her portfolio for 5 years from the date of resignation.

Notice given 16 May 2002

78 **Senator Tierney:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that south-eastern Australia is the most fire prone region in the world;
- (b) commends the support provided by the Howard Government to New South Wales in January 2002, in particular, the provision of aerial fire fighting equipment;
- (c) expresses its concern that the state government is whitewashing the causes of the bushfire catastrophe of Christmas 2001 by just blaming pyromaniacs during the current bushfires inquiry;
- (d) calls on the New South Wales Government to give serious consideration to the evidence of State Forests of NSW, which believes that inadequate back-burning was the primary cause of the devastating fires;
- (e) rejects calls from the Nature Conservation Council to restrict hazard reduction;
- (f) calls on the Carr Government to allow non-government committee members to receive witnesses' submissions without having to first request them;
- (g) encourages the inquiry to reach a conclusion based on evidence and not party politics resulting from pressure from extreme green groups; and
- (h) hopes that the lessons learned from the bushfire inquiry will be shared to other state governments so all Australians can avoid such an unnecessary disaster.

Notice given 26 June 2002

108 **Senator Sherry:** To move—That there be laid on the table, on the next day of sitting, the advice by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority to the Assistant Treasurer under section 230A of the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993*, in relation to applications for financial assistance for superannuation funds where Commercial Nominees of Australia was trustee.

112 **Senator Ridgeway:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the week beginning 24 June 2002 is Drug Action Week, aimed at generating community awareness about drug and alcohol abuse and the solutions being used to tackle these issues,
 - (ii) each day of Drug Action Week highlights a different theme and the theme on 27 June 2002 is Indigenous issues,
 - (iii) the misuse of alcohol and other drugs has long been linked to the deep levels of emotional and physical harm suffered by Indigenous communities since the colonisation of Australia,
 - (iv) alcohol and tobacco consumption rates continue to remain high in the Indigenous population, against declining rates in the general

- population, and the increasing use of heroin in urban, regional and rural Indigenous communities is also of particular concern,
- (v) substance misuse is probably the biggest challenge facing Indigenous communities today, as it affects almost everybody either directly or indirectly and is now the cause as well as the symptom of much grief and loss experienced by Indigenous communities, and
 - (vi) the demand for the services of existing Indigenous-controlled drug and alcohol rehabilitation centres far exceeds the current level of supply;
- (b) acknowledges the essential role of Indigenous community-controlled health services in providing long-term, culturally-appropriate solutions for substance abuse; and
- (c) calls on the Government to:
- (i) fund the national substance misuse strategy, developed by the National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation, which is designed to build the necessary capacity within the Indigenous health sector so communities can address their health and well-being needs in a holistic and culturally-appropriate manner, and
 - (ii) improve coordination between Commonwealth, state, territory and local governments on these issues and ensure this facilitates greater Indigenous control over the development and implementation of all health programs.

Notice given 19 August 2002

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

- (a) notes:
- (i) the claims in the *Age* newspaper of 15 August 2002 that the McGauran family is financially supporting the Democratic Labour Party of Australia (DLP) in its attempt to retain registration under the provisions of the Electoral Act,
 - (ii) that two of the three Victorian National Party representatives in the Federal Parliament are from the McGauran family and have, on occasions, relied on DLP preferences,
 - (iii) the comments of the DLP Secretary, Mr John Mulholland, when he said, 'It would be in Senator Julian McGauran's interests for the DLP to survive this de-registration moved by the Electoral Commission', and
 - (iv) the immense amount of money made by the McGauran family from its poker machine interests in Altona, some of which is apparently going to fund the DLP's legal expenses; and
- (b) calls on Senator McGauran and the Minister for Science (Mr McGauran), to explain their knowledge of their family's involvement in funding the DLP's legal bills.

Notice given 22 August 2002

139 **Senator Mackay:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) congratulates the Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly:
- (i) on becoming the first state or territory legislature to remove abortion from the criminal code, and

- (ii) for repealing the appalling law which required women seeking abortions to first look at pictures of fetuses;
- (b) notes that this landmark legislation should serve to encourage all remaining states and territories to enact similar legislative changes; and
- (c) notes that the Australian Capital Territory legislation recognises that abortion is a decision for women and is not something that should carry the threat of a jail term.

Notice given 16 September 2002

156 **Senator Allison:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the Deaflympic Games will be held in Melbourne in 2005; and
 - (ii) Deaf Sports Recreation Victoria has set up a Games Organising Committee to begin planning and organising this international event which will see the participation of 4 000 deaf athletes and officials from over 90 countries; and
- (b) urges the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) to respond to the correspondence from Deaf Sports Recreation Victoria and to offer support for the Deaflympic Games.

Notice given 19 September 2002

175 **Senator Tierney:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) deploras comments made in the New South Wales Parliament on Tuesday, 17 September 2002, by the State Minister for Education and Training (Mr Watkins), which misrepresented the future direction of universities in Australia and, in particular, the role of rural and regional universities;
- (b) notes that the Minister for Education, Science and Training (Dr Nelson) has put on the record that regional universities will not be disadvantaged by the current reform process;
- (c) further notes that the Federal Minister told all state education ministers, including Mr Watkins, in July 2002 that Australia would not be returning to second tier, teaching-only, higher education institutions; and
- (d) congratulates the Federal Minister for his comprehensive and inclusive review of higher education in Australia.

Notice given 24 September 2002

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

- (a) notes:
 - (i) the commitment of the Government and Mr John Loy, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), to a demonstrated store for radioactive waste by 2005,
 - (ii) the commitment of the Government and Mr Loy to a second spent fuel reprocessing pathway for spent fuel from the Lucas Heights reactor,
 - (iii) the commitment in the Lucas Heights environmental impact statement (EIS), EIS supplementary report and EIS assessment report to a radioactive waste store by 2005,

- (iv) the ARPANSA site licence assessment regarding a potential operating licence at Lucas Heights that, 'A license to operate would not be issued by ARPANSA without there being clear and definite means available for the ultimate disposal of radioactive waste and spend nuclear fuel',
- (v) that the recent comments by Mr Loy on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's *PM* program indicating that the 'new' deadline for a store is now 2025 and that provision for second country reprocessing is no longer required are in direct contradiction to previous commitments, and
- (vi) that it recently passed a second reading amendment that:
 - (A) noted the view of the CEO of ARPANSA that arrangements for taking the spent fuel and turning it into a reasonable waste form need to be absolutely clear before the new reactor at Lucas Heights commences operation, and there needs to be clear progress on siting a store for the waste that returns to Australia, and
 - (B) expressed its opinion that until all matters relating to safety, storage and transportation of nuclear materials associated with the new reactor at Lucas Heights are resolved, no operating licence related to the new reactor at Lucas Heights should be issued by ARPANSA; and
- (b) calls on the CEO of ARPANSA to:
 - (i) reaffirm commitments made to the Australian people as part of the EIS process, and
 - (ii) act in conformity with the Senate's second reading amendment.

Notice given 17 October 2002

215 **Senator Tierney:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) recognises that the Federal Coalition Government has increased investment in education each year, with \$2.4 billion being provided for public schools in 2002-03, an increase of 5.7 per cent over the past year and a 52 per cent increase since 1996;
- (b) expresses alarm that New South Wales state government spending on education currently lags \$318 million a year below the Australian national average;
- (c) notes that New South Wales primary schools have the worst student-to-teacher ratios in Australia and some of the largest class sizes in the country;
- (d) further notes that the Vinson report into public education demonstrates the under resourcing of the public education system in New South Wales by the Carr Government; and
- (e) congratulates New South Wales Opposition Leader, John Brogden, who vowed on 24 September 2002 to spend more on public schools and backed the need to reduce class sizes.

Notice given 24 October 2002

227 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett):** To move—That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on 19 November 2002:

- (a) all documents relating to the acquisition of the north-east margin search and rescue (SAR) data, including but not limited to the authorisation for acquisition, and any related internal correspondence;
- (b) briefing documents or briefing notes relating to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority interest in SAR data, as referenced in Dr Trevor Powell's letter to the authority, dated 18 September 2002;
- (c) covering letter accompanying the Shell/Woodside Consortium proposal, May 2000;
- (d) all materials distributed at the Bali 2000 conference attended by Geoscience Australia;
- (e) outputs leading to the outcome listed in the 2001-02 workplan under section 2, Geoscience for Oceans and Coasts, subsections 2.9, Petroleum and Regional Geology and 2.11 Eastern Region, as 'A geological overview of the east coast basins in order that decisions can be made regarding petroleum exploration opportunities and acreage release; and
- (f) all documents and materials relating to the outcome and outputs described above, including preliminary discussions for the outcome and outputs, discussions, memorandums, budget materials, notes of phone conversations and e-mails.

Notice given 12 November 2002

- 245 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett):** To move—That there be laid on the table, no later than 2 pm on Thursday, 5 December 2002, all documents associated with the formation, funding and membership of the Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry, including but not limited to: reports, correspondence, e-mail, records of conservation, memos, margin notes and minutes of meetings.

Notice given 13 November 2002

- 258 **Senator O'Brien:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes, with grave concern, the crisis enveloping rural and regional Australia;
 - (b) condemns the Howard Government for its neglect of rural and regional Australians, in particular, its failure to:
 - (i) adequately respond to the growing drought,
 - (ii) provide timely and appropriate assistance to the sugar industry, and
 - (iii) support essential services including health, banking, employment and telecommunications; and
 - (c) calls on the Howard Government to reverse its neglect of rural and regional communities.

Notice given 9 December 2002

- 300 **Senator Tierney:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) expresses concern about the extreme bushfire danger facing the citizens of New South Wales;
 - (b) praises the unstinting and brave work of the voluntary bushfire fighters in combating the fires and protecting and saving property and lives;
 - (c) congratulates the Australian Government for its high tech support for the firefighting effort with the provision of air crane fire bombing technology;

- (d) recognises that the current extreme fire conditions have been exacerbated by a build-up of forest fuel resulting from the Carr Australian Labor Party Government's anti-back-burning policies over the past 7 years;
- (e) condemns the Carr Government for ignoring the recommendations of the state parliamentary inquiry into the 2001-02 New South Wales fires brought down 6 months ago; and
- (f) calls on the Carr Government in New South Wales to recognise that south-eastern Australia is the most fire-prone region in the world and to develop more appropriate policies to protect life, property and the environment.

Notice given 10 December 2002

314 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett):** To move—

- (1) That the Senate notes:
 - (a) that the scheduled program of sittings for 2003 is just 63 days;
 - (b) that the scheduled sittings for 2002 and 2003 are the shortest parliamentary sitting years since 1988 that have not been election years; and
 - (c) that by providing for minimal sittings of the Senate the Government does not allow the Senate enough time to properly consider and evaluate the Government's heavy legislative program.
- (2) That the order of the Senate relating to the days of meeting of the Senate for 2003 be varied as follows:
 - (a) by adding additional sitting weeks as follows:
 - Monday, 24 February to Thursday, 27 February 2003
 - Monday, 7 April to Thursday, 10 April 2003; and
 - (b) the routine of business for the week beginning Monday, 7 April 2003 be in accordance with standing order 57 except that, on each day, general business orders of the day relating to private senators' bills shall take precedence of government business.

Notice given 11 December 2002

*321 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To move—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs and representing the Prime Minister (Senator Hill), no later than 4 pm on 4 February 2003:

All communications in the period June 2001 to the present between:

- (a) the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the Prime Minister's office and Food Standards Australia New Zealand;
- (b) the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the Prime Minister's office and the National Farmers Federation;
- (c) the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade or the Prime Minister's office and the Department of Health and Ageing; and
- (d) the Prime Minister's office and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade,

relating to GM Food in the context of the current free trade agreement negotiations with the United States and of the labelling of genetically modified and genetically engineered food, including communications to or from organisations formed or created under the auspices of any of the above agencies, officers of departments.

Notice of motion altered on 11 December 2002 pursuant to standing order 77.

***322 Chair of the Select Committee on Superannuation (Senator Watson):** To move—

- (1) That the following matter be referred to the Select Committee on Superannuation for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in June 2003:
Planning for retirement.
- (2) That in conducting the inquiry the committee examine, in particular:
 - (a) the effects of ageing on workers' productivity;
 - (b) the continuing relevance of the concept of a fixed retirement age;
 - (c) the potential to encourage progressive transitions from work to retirement, including through possible new benefit access and contribution arrangements, and part-time work;
 - (d) any scope for older workers to access their superannuation to finance retraining to continue work that is more suitable for older people;
 - (e) ways to assist older workers plan for their retirement;
 - (f) the short- and long-term effect on the Budget of any proposals for change; and
 - (g) any issues for the federal or state workplace relations systems.

***323 Senator Ridgeway:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the Microcredit Summit + 5 Conference held in New York in November 2002 reported that microcredit schemes are on track to reach 100 million of the poorest families benefiting the lives of 500 million of the world's poorest people,
 - (ii) there are more than 2 000 microcredit institutions operating worldwide,
 - (iii) more than 54 million microcredit borrowers have been reached, and
 - (iv) nearly 27 million of the total microcredit borrowers reached were amongst the poorest in the world when they took out their first loan, but are now lifting themselves out of poverty;
- (b) congratulates RESULTS Australia for its advocacy work on microcredit loans;
- (c) urges the Federal Government to consider increasing aid for microcredit funding to at least \$40 million per year; and
- (d) urges the Parliament to actively promote the critical role of microcredit in the alleviation of poverty and its contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal of halving the proportion of people living in absolute poverty by 2015.

***324 Senator Ridgeway:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) congratulates:
 - (i) all winners of the 2002 Australian Film Institute (AFI) awards, and
 - (ii) all of the people involved in the making of *Rabbit-Proof Fence*, which won the AFI award for Best Film.
- (b) notes that for the first time in the history of the AFI awards, every film nominated in the category of Best Film – *Australian Rules*; *Beneath Clouds*; *Rabbit-Proof Fence* and *The Tracker* – was an Indigenous-themed story;
- (c) congratulates the four Indigenous people who won awards on the night:

- (i) director Ivan Sen,
 - (ii) actor David Gulpilil,
 - (iii) director and producer Rachel Perkins, and
 - (iv) cinematographer Allan Collins; and
- (d) calls on the Government to continue to support the development and production of Australian films so all Australians can continue to see and hear our own stories in cinemas and on our television screens.

***325 Senator Ridgeway:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) pays tribute to Mr Albert Namatjira as the first Indigenous professional artist in Australia, who was born 100 years ago and died in 1959 after achieving national and international acclaim for his exceptional ability as an artist;
- (b) acknowledges that Albert Namatjira:
 - (i) adapted western-style painting to express his cultural knowledge and the strength of his connection to his traditional country, and
 - (ii) is now regarded as a national treasure in recognition of the cultural legacy he has left all Australians, as well as the inspiration he is to generations of Indigenous artists who have followed in his footsteps;
- (c) recognises that:
 - (i) the legal protection of Mr Namatjira's works provided by the *Copyright Act 1968* will expire in 2009, bringing to an end the ability of the copyright owner to exercise an exclusive right to use and reproduce his works, or to allow others to do so in return for a financial benefit, and
 - (ii) the Public Trustee of the Northern Territory Government authorised the sale of Mr Namatjira's copyright to Legend Press in 1983, thereby ending the ability of the descendants of Mr Namatjira to benefit from on-going income from the reproduction of his works; and
- (d) calls on the Government to:
 - (i) enter into discussions with the Northern Territory Government to buy back the copyright in Albert Namatjira's works, so that exclusive control of the use and reproduction of his works is restored to his descendants, as well as the receipt of all financial benefits that result from the use and reproduction of his works under copyright protection, and
 - (iii) in recognition of the contribution Mr Namatjira has made to the development of Australia's cultural identity and the need to protect his legacy for future generations, explore all relevant legal and other measures that will provide ongoing protection of the Namatjira name and his reputation and standing as one of our pre-eminent artists.

***326 Senator Allison:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that Professor Martin Green, Director of Research at the University of New South Wales' Centre for Photovoltaic Engineering won an International Right Livelihood award at Stockholm and was described by the award panel as 'the world's foremost researcher and inventor in the field';

- (b) congratulates Professor Green for winning this prestigious award; and
- (c) encourages the Government to heed Professor Green's suggestion that the cost of developing new energy sources could be borne by affluent communities rather than the poorer communities that were most in need of them.

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

- (a) notes:
 - (i) the recent \$US3 million fine imposed by the United States Department of Agriculture on ProdiGene, a biotechnology company, for contamination of soybeans meant for human consumption with genetically-engineered corn containing a vaccine,
 - (ii) that 500 000 bushels of food crop must now be destroyed,
 - (iii) that research into such pharma-foods (genetically-engineered crops containing vaccines, medicines and drugs) is occurring in Australia, and
 - (iv) that pharma-foods, because they contain drugs, may create serious health and safety issues in Australia, including by misuse and contamination; and
- (b) urges the Government to prevent the commercial release of pharma-foods in Australia until all issues relating to health, safety, environment and contamination are fully resolved.

*328 **Senator Brown:** To move—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Science, no later than 4 February 2003:

- (a) all material, including advice, given to the Government, including the Prime Minister (Mr Howard), by the Chief Scientist or his office regarding funding or allocation of money or benefits to:
 - (i) the Rio Tinto Foundation for a Sustainable Minerals Industry,
 - (ii) any other Commonwealth funding to Rio Tinto,
 - (iii) the Australian Cooperative Research Centre (CRC) for Renewable Energy,
 - (iv) the CRC for Coal in Sustainable Development,
 - (v) the CRC for Greenhouse Gas Technologies (and its precursor, the Australian Petroleum CRC), and
 - (vi) the CRC for Clean Power from Lignite;
- (b) the advice of the CRC committee to the Government on the above CRC's for the funding round announced by the Minister for Science (Mr McGauran) on 10 December, 2002; and
- (c) the advice of the Chief Scientist and his office concerning carbon sequestration, clean coal and related energy matters in determining the National Science Priorities.

Notice of motion altered on 11 December 2002 pursuant to standing order 77.

*329 **Senator Forshaw:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) congratulates David Gulpilil, AM for winning the Best Actor award at the recent Australian Film Institute (AFI) awards for his performance in the movie, *The Tracker*;
- (b) recognises David Gulpilil's outstanding contribution to the Australian film industry for more than 30 years;

- (c) congratulates all other winners of AFI awards, especially Maria Theodorakis who won the Best Actress award; and
- (d) recognises the important ongoing support provided by the Australian Film Finance Corporation to our film industry.

*330 **Senator Forshaw:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the failure of the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) and the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Alston) to extend proper recognition and congratulations to the achievement of David Gulpilil and other winners of the Australian Film Industry (AFI) awards;
- (b) calls on the Prime Minister to extend similar public recognition and congratulations to the AFI and the winners of AFI awards as he has extended in the past to our sporting heroes.

*331 **Senator Brown:** To move—That the Senate opposes the death sentence, including the sentences on two Tibetan activists in China.

*332 **Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate condemns:

- (a) the Government's 1999 decision to lift the federal moratorium on food irradiation without adequate public notice or consultation; and
- (b) the decision of the Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Hill) to approve the construction and operation of the gamma radiation sterilisation and decontamination plant at Narangba in Queensland, based on 'preliminary documentation' as the means of assessment, rather than requiring a full environmental impact assessment under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Orders of the Day relating to Government Documents

1 Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation (Land and Water Australia) and Land and Water Australia Selection Committee—Reports for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O'Brien—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 5 December 2002*).

2 Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation and Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation Selection Committee—Reports for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Marshall—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 5 December 2002*).

3 Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report—Visits to immigration detention facilities by the Human Rights Commissioner 2001, August 2002

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

4 Sugar Research and Development Corporation and Sugar Research and Development Corporation Selection Committee—Reports for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Marshall—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 5 December 2002*).

5 Australian Electoral Commission—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Marshall—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 5 December 2002*).

6 Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Marshall—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 5 December 2002*).

7 Australian Strategic Policy Institute—Report for the period 22 August 2001 to 30 June 2002

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Marshall—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 5 December 2002*).

8 Australian Greenhouse Office—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Marshall—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 5 December 2002*).

9 Centrelink—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Marshall—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 5 December 2002*).

10 Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

11 Administrative Appeals Tribunal—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

12 Cotton Research and Development Corporation and Cotton Research and Development Corporation Selection Committee—Reports for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

13 Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO)—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Forshaw—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Forshaw, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

14 Department of Family and Community Services—Report for 2001-02—Volume 1

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

15 Department of Family and Community Services—Report for 2001-02—Volume 2

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

16 Social Security Appeals Tribunal—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

17 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

18 Australian Security Intelligence Organisation—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

19 Department of the Environment and Heritage—Report for 2001-02, including the report of the Supervising Scientist and reports on the operation of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, the Hazardous Waste (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act 1989, the Protection of Movable Cultural Heritage Act 1986 and the Ozone Protection Act 1989

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

20 Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency—Report for 1 June 2001 to 31 May 2002

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

21 Employment Advocate—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

22 Veterans' Review Board—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

23 Australian Heritage Commission—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

24 Sydney Harbour Federation Trust—Report for the period 20 September 2001 to 30 June 2002

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

25 Refugee Review Tribunal—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

26 Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Report for 2001-02, including reports pursuant to the Immigration (Education) Act 1971 and the Australian Citizenship Act 1948

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

27 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

28 Commonwealth Ombudsman—Report for 2001-02, including a report of the Defence Force Ombudsman and a report pursuant to the Complaints (Australian Federal Police) Act 1981

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

29 **Housing Assistance Act 1996—Report for 1999-2000 on the operation of the 1996 Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

30 **Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report of an inquiry into a complaint by six asylum seekers concerning their transfer from immigration detention centres to state prisons and their detention in those prisons (HRC report no. 21)**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Nettle—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bartlett, 5 December 2002*).

31 **Wet Tropics Management Authority—Report for 2001-02**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

32 **Gene Technology Regulator—Quarterly report for the period 1 January to 30 March 2002**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

33 **Gene Technology Regulator—Quarterly report for the period 1 April to 30 June 2002**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

34 **Multilateral treaty—Text of the proposed treaty action together with the national interest analysis and the current status list—Amendments, done at Bonn, Germany on 24 September 2002, to Appendices I and II of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, done at Bonn on 23 June 1979**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

35 **Multilateral treaty—Text of the proposed treaty action together with the national interest analysis and the regulation impact statement—Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, done at Vienna on 5 September 1997**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

36 **Multilateral treaty—Text of the proposed treaty action together with the national interest analysis—International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (Rome, 3 November 2001)**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

37 **Multilateral treaty—Text of the proposed treaty action together with the national interest analysis—Amendment, done at Cambridge, United Kingdom on 14 October 2002, to the Schedule to the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, done at Washington on 2 December 1946**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

38 Bankstown Airport Limited—Report for 2001-02

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

39 Bankstown Airport Limited—Statement of corporate intent 2002

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 5 December 2002*).

40 Tiwi Land Council—Report for 2001-02

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

41 Australian Broadcasting Corporation—Equity and diversity program—Report for 1 September 2001 to 31 August 2002

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

42 Productivity Commission—Report no. 22—Radiocommunications, 1 July 2002

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

43 Productivity Commission—Report no. 22—Radiocommunications—Government response

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

44 Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report of an inquiry into a complaint by Mr XY concerning his continued detention despite having completed his criminal sentence (HRC report no. 22)

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

45 Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report of an inquiry into a complaint by Mr Hassan Ghomwari concerning his immigration detention and the adequacy of the medical treatment he received while retained (HRC report no. 23)

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

46 Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report of an inquiry into complaints by five asylum seekers concerning their detention in the separation and management block at the Port Hedland Immigration Reception and Processing Centre (HRC report no. 24)

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

47 Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report of an inquiry into a complaint by Mr Mohammed Badraie on behalf of his son Shayan regarding acts or practices of the Commonwealth of Australia (the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs) (HRC report no. 25)

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

48 Administrative Review Council—Report—Council of Australasian Tribunals, October 2002

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

49 Audio-Visual Copyright Society Ltd (Screenrights)—Report for 2001-02

Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

- 50 **Copyright Agency Limited—Report for 2001-02**
Consideration (*10 December 2002*).
- 51 **Australian Trade Commission (Austrade)—Export Market Development Grants—List of grant recipients for 2001-02**
Consideration (*10 December 2002*).
- 52 **Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Corporation—Report for 2001-02**
Consideration (*10 December 2002*).
- 53 **Remuneration Tribunal—Report for 2001-02**
Consideration (*10 December 2002*).
- 54 **National Road Transport Commission—Report for 2001-02—Erratum**
Consideration (*10 December 2002*).
- 55 **Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Report—Review of the operation of schedule 6 of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* (Datacasting services), December 2002**
Consideration (*10 December 2002*).
- 56 ***Telecommunications Act 1997*—Funding of consumer representation grants and research in relation to telecommunications—Report for 2001-02**
Consideration (*10 December 2002*).

- *57 Official Establishments Trust—Report for 2001-02**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *58 Private Health Insurance Administration Council—Report for 2001-02 on the operations of the registered health benefits organisations**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *59 Anglo-Australian Telescope Board—Anglo-Australian Observatory—Report for 2001-02**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *60 Australian Communications Authority—Telecommunications performance—Report for 2001-02**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *61 Snowy Mountains Council—Report for 2001-02**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *62 Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority—Report for 2001-02**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *63 International Labour Organisation (ILO)—Australia’s submission report on ILO Instruments adopted in 2001**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *64 United Nations—Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment—Committee against Torture—Complaint No. 138/1999—Decision**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *65 United Nations—Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights—Human Rights Committee—Communication No. 880/1999—Australian Government’s comments**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *66 United Nations—International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination—Communication No. 26/2002—Outline**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *67 United Nations—Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment—Communication No. 211/2002—Outline**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *68 United Nations—Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights—Communication No. 1053/2002—Outline**
Consideration (11 December 2002).
- *69 United Nations—Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights—Human Rights Committee—Communication No. 1065/2002—Decision**
Consideration (11 December 2002).

***70 United Nations—Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights—Human Rights Committee—Communication No. 1087/2002—Decision**

Consideration (11 December 2002).

Orders of the Day

1 ABC Amendment (Online and Multichannelling Services) Bill 2001 [2002]—(Senate bill)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (3 April 2001)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).

2 Air Navigation Amendment (Extension of Curfew and Limitation of Aircraft Movements) Bill 1995 [2002]—(Senate bill)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (27 March 1995)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).

3 Anti-Genocide Bill 1999 [2002]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Greig)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (5 April 2001)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).

4 Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment Bill 1999 [2002]—(Senate bill)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (25 March 1999)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).

5 Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2000 [2002]

Charter of Political Honesty Bill 2000 [2002]—(Senate bills)—(Senator Murray)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (10 October 2000)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).

6 Constitution Alteration (Appropriations for the Ordinary Annual Services of the Government) 2001 [2002]—(Senate bill)—(Senators Murray and Stott Despoja)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (26 June 2001)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).

7 Constitution Alteration (Electors' Initiative, Fixed Term Parliaments and Qualification of Members) 2000 [2002]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (4 April 2000)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).

8 Corporate Code of Conduct Bill 2000 [2002]—(Senate bill)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (6 September 2000)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).

9 Freedom of Information Amendment (Open Government) Bill 2000 [2002]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (5 September 2000)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).

10 Parliamentary Approval of Treaties Bill 1995 [2002]—(Senate bill)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (31 May 1995)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).

- 12 **Reconciliation Bill 2001 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Ridgeway*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (5 April 2001)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).
- 13 **State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (7 August 2001)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002).
- 14 **Public liability insurance premiums**
 Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Conroy—That the Senate—
- (a) expresses its concern about the significant increase in public liability insurance premiums and the effect it is having on the viability of many small businesses and community and sporting organisations;
 - (b) condemns the Government for its inaction; and
 - (c) urges the Minister to propose a solution to this pressing issue, as quickly as possible, not just look at the problem (*Senator Ferguson, in continuation, 14 February 2002*).
- 15 **Ministers of State (Post-Retirement Employment Restrictions) Bill 2002**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 13 March 2002*).
- 16 **Lucas Heights reactor—Order for production of documents—Statement by Minister**
 Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Carr, in continuation, 19 March 2002*).
- 17 **Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Boundary Extension) Amendment Bill 2002**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Bartlett*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Calvert, in continuation, 16 May 2002*).
- 18 **Genetic Privacy and Non-discrimination Bill 1998 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (5 October 2000)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 14 May 2002).
- 19 **Patents Amendment Bill 1996 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (27 June 1996)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 14 May 2002).
- 20 **Republic (Consultation of the People) Bill 2001 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (26 September 2001)—(restored pursuant to resolution of 14 May 2002).
- 21 **Australian Broadcasting Corporation (Scrutiny of Board Appointments) Amendment Bill 2002**—(*Senate bill*)
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (15 May 2002).

- 22 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Paid Maternity Leave) Bill 2002**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 16 May 2002*).
- 23 **Constitution Alteration (Right to Stand for Parliament—Qualification of Members and Candidates) 1998 (No. 2) [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Brown*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*3 December 1998*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 16 May 2002*).
- 24 **Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry (Forest Practices) Bill 2002**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Brown*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 20 June 2002*).
- 25 **Family Law Amendment (Joint Residency) Bill 2002**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Harris*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Harris, in continuation, 20 June 2002*).
- 26 **ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organisation (AIPO)—Report of the Australian parliamentary delegation to the 22nd AIPO General Assembly, Thailand, 2 to 5 September 2001; Visits and briefings, Bangkok, 6 to 8 September 2001; and Bi-lateral visit to Singapore, 9 to 13 September 2001**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Calvert—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Calvert, in continuation, 27 June 2002*).
- 27 **Family and Community Services—Family tax benefits**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate—
- (a) condemns the Howard Government's decision to strip, without warning, the tax returns of Australian families who have been overpaid family payments as callous and unfair to parents trying to survive under increasing financial pressures;
 - (b) notes that this is not consistent with the statement of the Minister for Family and Community Services (Senator Vanstone) in July 2001 in which she assured families that, 'The Government has also decided that it would be easier for any family who still had an excess payment to have it recovered by adjusting their future payments, rather than taking it from their tax refund. This is because people may have earmarked their refund for use for specific things';
 - (c) considers that the Government's 2-year-old family payments system is deeply flawed, given that it delivered average debts of \$850 to 650 000 Australian families in the 2001-02 financial year and continues to punish families who play by the rules; and
 - (d) condemns the Howard Government and its contemptible attack on Australian families (*Senator Tierney, in continuation, 22 August 2002*).
- 28 **Health—Medicare—Bulk billing**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Evans—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that:
 - (i) since the election of the Howard Government, the rate of bulk billing by general practitioners (GPs) has dropped from

80.6 per cent to 74.5 per cent, and that the average patient cost to see a GP who does not bulk bill has gone up 41.8 per cent to nearly \$12, and

- (ii) in every year from the commencement of Medicare in 1984 through to 1996, bulk billing rates for GPs increased, but that, in every year since the election of the Howard Government, bulk billing rates have decreased;
 - (b) recognises that the unavailability of bulk billing hurts those Australians who are least able to afford the rising costs of health care and those who are at greatest risk of preventable illness and disease;
 - (c) condemns the Howard Government's failure to take responsibility for declining rates of bulk billing; and
 - (d) calls on the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Patterson) to release publicly the June 2002 quarter bulk billing figures so that the true extent of the problem is made known (*Senator Moore, in continuation, 29 August 2002*).
- 29 **Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (Licence Charges) Amendment Bill 2002—Document**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ludwig, in continuation, 16 September 2002*).
- 30 **Kyoto Protocol (Ratification) Bill 2002—(Senate bill)—(Senator Brown)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 19 September 2002*).
- 31 **Communications—Regional telecommunication services—Inquiry**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Mackay—That the Senate—
- (a) condemns the Howard Government for establishing an inquiry into regional telecommunications services, the Estens inquiry, which is chaired by a member of the National Party and friend of the Deputy Prime Minister, and has a former National Party MP as one of its members;
 - (b) condemns the Government's decisions that the inquiry will hold no public hearings and must report within little more than 2 months of its commencement; and
 - (c) calls on the Government to address all issues associated with Telstra's performance, including rising prices, deteriorating service standards and inadequate broadband provision (*Senator Tierney in continuation, 19 September 2002*).
- 32 **Trade Practices Amendment (Public Liability Insurance) Bill 2002 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Conroy)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Conroy, in continuation, 23 September 2002*).
- 33 **Corporations Amendment (Improving Corporate Governance) Bill 2002 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Conroy)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Conroy, in continuation, 23 September 2002*).
- 34 **Trade Practices Amendment (Credit Card Reform) Bill 2002 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Conroy)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Conroy, in continuation, 23 September 2002*).

35 Superannuation

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Sherry—That the Senate notes the Howard Government's third term failures on superannuation, including:

- (a) the failure to provide for a contributions tax cut for all Australians who pay it, rather than a tax cut only to those earning more than \$90 500 a year;
- (b) the failure to adequately compensate victims of superannuation theft or fraud;
- (c) the failure to accurately assess the administrative burden on small business of the Government's third attempt at superannuation choice and deregulation;
- (d) the failure to support strong consumer protections for superannuation fund members through capping ongoing fees and banning entry and exit fees;
- (e) the failure to provide consumers with a meaningful, comprehensive and comprehensible regime for fee disclosure; and
- (f) the failure to cover unpaid superannuation contributions in the case of corporate collapse as part of a workers' entitlements scheme (*Senator Ferguson, in continuation, 26 September 2002*).

36 Plastic Bag (Minimisation of Usage) Education Fund Bill 2002 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Brown)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 21 October 2002*).

37 Plastic Bag Levy (Assessment and Collection) Bill 2002 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Brown)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 21 October 2002*).

38 Parliament House security—Statement by President

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ray—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Ray, in continuation, 11 November 2002*).

39 Convention on Climate Change (Implementation) Bill 1999 [2002]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Brown)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (2 September 1999)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 12 November 2002*).

40 Customs Amendment (Anti-Radioactive Waste Storage Dump) Bill 1999 [2002]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Brown)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (20 October 1999)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 12 November 2002*).

41 Human Rights (Mandatory Sentencing for Property Offences) Bill 2000 [2002]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Brown)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (6 September 2000)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 12 November 2002*).

42 Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Bartlett)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 19 November 2002*).

43 Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry (Bali Bombings) Bill 2002—(Senate bill)—(Senator Brown)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 4 December 2002*).

44 Health—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme—Order for Production of Documents—Statement by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell)

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Nettle—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Nettle, in continuation, 4 December 2002*).

45 Trade—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme—Order for Production of Documents—Statement by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer (Senator Ian Campbell)

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Nettle—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Nettle, in continuation, 4 December 2002*).

***46 Public Interest Disclosure (Protection of Whistleblowers) Bill 2002—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Murray, in continuation, 11 December 2002*).

***47 Uranium Mining in or near Australian World Heritage Properties (Prohibition) Bill 1998 [2002]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Allison)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (28 May 1998)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 11 December 2002*).

BUSINESS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Next day of sitting (4 February 2003)

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Report to be presented on the Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Orders of the Day

1 Australian Capital Territory Legislation Amendment Bill 2002—(Minister for the Arts and Sport, Senator Kemp)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*19 September 2002*).

2 National Gallery Amendment Bill 2002—(Senate bill)—(Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*25 September 2002*).

3 Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Dismissal) Bill 2002 [No. 2]—(Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (23 October 2002).

4 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Advice Industry) Bill 2002—**
(Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (14 November 2002).

5 **Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002**

Australian Heritage Council Bill 2002

Australian Heritage Council (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002—
(Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (15 November 2002).

6 **Crimes Legislation Enhancement Bill 2002—(Senate bill)—**
(Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (5 December 2002).

7 **National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]—**
(Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (5 December 2002).

8 **Commonwealth Volunteers Protection Bill 2002—**
(Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (5 December 2002).

*9 **Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2002—(Senate bill)—**
(Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, Senator Ian Campbell)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (11 December 2002).

10 **Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002**

Transport Safety Investigation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2002—
(Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (adjourned, Senator Ludwig, 15 October 2002).

On 5 February 2003

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 4 December 2002

290 **Senator Harris:** To move—

- (1) The disposition of the documents seized under warrant by Queensland Police in the office of Senator Harris on 27 November 2001 shall be determined in accordance with this resolution.
- (2) The Senate appoints Mr Stephen Skehill, SC, or, if Mr Skehill is not available, another independent person nominated by a subsequent resolution, to examine the documents.
- (3) The Queensland Police shall provide to the person appointed under paragraph (2) the documents described in paragraph (1).
- (4) The person appointed under paragraph (2) shall examine the documents and determine whether any of the documents are not covered by the warrant or are immune from seizure under warrant by virtue of parliamentary

privilege, having regard to the *Parliamentary Privileges Act 1987*, relevant court judgments relating to the interpretation and application of the Act, relevant sections of Privileges Committee reports dealing with protection of documents of senators and such other matters as that person considers relevant.

- (5) The person appointed under paragraph (2) shall divide the documents into two categories, those not covered by the warrant or immune from seizure and those not immune from seizure, and seal them into two packages identified accordingly. Those documents that are not covered by the warrant or are immune from seizure are to be returned to Senator Harris and those not immune from seizure are to be forwarded to the Queensland Police.
- (6) Before sealing the package of documents not immune from seizure the person appointed under paragraph (2) shall cause such documents to be copied and the copies of the documents shall be forwarded to Senator Harris at the same time as the originals are forwarded to the Queensland Police.
- (7) For the purposes of paragraph (5), where documents are included with other documents in electronic form on a disk or tape, the documents shall be printed out, only printed copies of such documents shall be placed in the package of documents not immune from seizure, and the disks or tapes shall be placed in the package of documents not covered by the warrant or immune from seizure.
- (8) The person appointed under paragraph (2), on completion of this task, shall provide the President of the Senate with a brief statement that the task has been completed and the President shall table that statement in the Senate.
- (9) The person appointed under paragraph (2) shall be paid such fee as is approved by the President after consultation with senators.

On 6 February 2003

Business of the Senate—Notice of Motion

Notice given 2 December 2002

1 Senator Nettle: To move—

- (1) That the following matters be referred to the Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 18 September 2003:
 - (a) the financial sustainability of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), including the assumptions of forward estimates of the cost of the PBS to the Commonwealth Government;
 - (b) the social and economic implications of increasing the co-payment for PBS-listed medicines, including the long-term implications for the health of Australians;
 - (c) whether the cost of the PBS to the Commonwealth Government provides value for money to the Australian community in terms of health outcomes;
 - (d) alternative means of funding the PBS, including:
 - (i) abolishing the Private Health Insurance Incentive Scheme and using the budget savings to fund the PBS,

- (ii) a less regressive direct payment system taking into account ability to pay, and
 - (iii) abolishing the co-payment and replacing it with an increase in the Medicare levy;
 - (e) ways to map the prescribing habits of doctors and possible strategies to improve the quality of prescribing;
 - (f) the transparency of the PBS listing process, including the cost-benefit analysis that is conducted for drugs proposed for listing;
 - (g) whether the Commonwealth Government is making the best use of price-volume agreements to obtain the best value for money;
 - (h) the extent of leakage and means to eliminate it;
 - (i) whether voluntary controls on industry marketing practices are adequate or should be replaced with legislative controls;
 - (j) pharmaceutical industry practices that undermine the PBS and possible measures to eliminate or constrain these practices;
 - (k) cost shifting of pharmaceutical expenses from the states to the Commonwealth and ways to improve co-operation between the jurisdictions; and
 - (l) implications of any agreements that seek to link trade restriction practices to the operation of the PBS.
- (2) That in conducting this inquiry, the committee is to invite public submissions and to conduct public hearings in all capital cities.

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee**

Report to be presented on small business employment.

Committee Reports and Government Responses and Auditor-General's Reports—Notice of Motion

Notice given 26 June 2002

1 **Chair of the Standing Committee of Senators' Interests (Senator Denman):**

To move—That the following amendments to the resolutions relating to senators' interests and declaration of gifts to the Senate and the Parliament be agreed to:

Resolution 1—Registration of senators' interests

Paragraph (1), omit—

“Within 14 sitting days after the adoption of this resolution by the Senate and 28 days of making and subscribing an oath or affirmation of allegiance as a senator”,

substitute—

“Within:

- (a) 28 days after the first meeting of the Senate after 1 July first occurring after a general election; and
- (b) 28 days after the first meeting of the Senate after a simultaneous dissolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives; and

- (c) 28 days after making and subscribing an oath or affirmation of allegiance as a senator for a Territory or appointed or chosen to fill a vacancy in the Senate”.

Resolution 3—Registrable interests

Paragraph (i), omit “\$5,000”, substitute “\$10,000”.

Paragraphs (k), (l) and (m), omit “\$500” wherever occurring, substitute “\$1,000”; omit “\$200” wherever occurring, substitute “\$500”.

Resolution 4—Register and Registrar of Senators’ Interests

Paragraph (3), omit “the commencement of each Parliament”, substitute “receipt of statement of registrable interests in accordance with resolution 1(1)”.

[Consequential on amendment to paragraph 1(1)]

Resolution 5—Declaration of interest in debate and other proceedings

To be omitted.

Resolution relating to declaration of gifts to the Senate and the Parliament

Paragraph (1)(a), omit “practical”, substitute “practicable”.

Sub-paragraph (ba), omit “\$500”, substitute “\$1,000”; omit “\$200” substitute “\$500”.

Sub-paragraph (d), line 2, omit “is to”, substitute “may”.

After sub-paragraph (h), insert—

- “(i) When a senator who is using or displaying a gift ceases to be a senator, the senator may retain the gift:
 - (i) if its value does not exceed the stated valuation limits of \$1,000 for a gift received from an official government source, or \$500 from a private person or non-government body; or
 - (ii) if the senator elects to pay the difference between the stated valuation limit and the value of the gift, as obtained from an accredited valuer selected from the list issued by the Committee for Taxation Incentives for the Arts. The Department of the Senate will be responsible for any costs incurred in obtaining the valuation.
- (j) If the senator does not retain the gift in accordance with paragraph (i), the senator must return the gift to the registrar, who shall:
 - (i) dispose of it in accordance with instructions from the Committee of Senators’ Interests, as set out in paragraph 1(d) of this resolution; or
 - (ii) arrange its donation to a nominated non-profit organisation or charity, at the discretion of the senator who has returned the gift and the Committee of Senators’ Interests.
- (k) Any senator subject to paragraph (j) must formally acknowledge relinquishment of the senator’s claim to ownership of any surrendered gifts.”.

On 21 February 2003

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

Report to be presented on the Australian telecommunications network.

By March 2003

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Legal and Constitutional References Committee

Report to be presented on progress towards national reconciliation.

On 3 March 2003

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

***1 Economics Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Corporations Amendment (Repayment of Directors' Bonuses) Bill 2002. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On 4 March 2003

Business of the Senate—Notices of Motion

Notice given 21 March 2002

1 Senator Murray: To move—

- (1) That the following matters be referred to the Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by the second sitting day of 2003:
 - (a) in relation to any government or non-government institutions, and fostering practices, established or licensed under relevant legislation to provide care and/or education for children:
 - (i) whether any unsafe, improper or unlawful care or treatment of children occurred in these institutions or places,
 - (ii) whether any serious breach of any relevant statutory obligation occurred at any time when children were in care or under protection, and
 - (iii) an estimate of the scale of any unsafe, improper or unlawful care or treatment of children in such institutions or places;
 - (b) the extent and impact of the long-term social and economic consequences of child abuse and neglect on individuals, families and Australian society as a whole, and the adequacy of existing remedies and support mechanisms;
 - (c) the nature and cause of major changes to professional practices employed in the administration and delivery of care compared with past practice;
 - (d) whether there is a need for a formal acknowledgement by Australian governments of the human anguish arising from any abuse and neglect suffered by children while in care;
 - (e) in cases where unsafe, improper or unlawful care or treatment of children has occurred, what measures of reparation are required;

- (f) whether statutory or administrative limitations or barriers adversely affect those who wish to pursue claims against perpetrators of abuse previously involved in the care of children; and
 - (g) the need for public, social and legal policy to be reviewed to ensure an effective and responsive framework to deal with child abuse matters in relation to:
 - (i) any systemic factors contributing to the occurrences of abuse and/or neglect,
 - (ii) any failure to detect or prevent these occurrences in government and non-government institutions and fostering practices, and
 - (iii) any necessary changes required in current policies, practices and reporting mechanisms.
- (2) In undertaking this reference, the committee is to direct its inquiries primarily to those affected children who were not covered by the 2001 report *Lost Innocents: Righting the Record*, inquiring into child migrants, and the 1997 report, *Bringing them Home*, inquiring into Aboriginal children.

Notice given 27 June 2002

- 2 **Senator Murray:** To move—That the following matters be referred to the Economics References Committee for inquiry and report by 29 May 2003, and that, in its recommendations, the committee take into account a preference to maintain overall budget neutrality within the alcohol taxation sector:
- (1) The efficiency, equity and complexity of the existing structure (and relevant history) of Commonwealth, state and territory alcohol taxation (excluding goods and services tax) and related rebates, subsidies and grants being applied to each category of alcohol product, including:
 - (a) beer (low-, mid- and full-strength beer, in packaged and draught form);
 - (b) ready to drink alcohol products (below 10% alcohol by volume (abv)) currently taxed as ‘other excisable beverages’ under the *Excise Tariff Act 1921*);
 - (c) wine, wine products and cider (currently subject to the wine equalisation tax (WET));
 - (d) spirits (including brandy) and ‘other excisable beverages exceeding 10% abv’; and
 - (e) any other alcohol products.
 - (2) Identification of the amount of Commonwealth taxation revenue collected in the 2001-02 financial year (and forecast to be collected over the next 10 years) on each category of alcohol product, including:
 - (a) the quantity of customs duty, excise duty and WET collected;
 - (b) the amounts of rebates, subsidies and grants paid; and
 - (c) the amounts of drawback of customs and excise duty paid on re-exports and exports.
 - (3) The effectiveness of the existing alcohol administration arrangements relating to taxation collection, including whether or not the collection should be administered by a single administration agency.
 - (4) For the purpose of implementing alcohol taxation policy, the extent to which there is substitution between the various categories of alcoholic

beverages, including (but not restricted to) issues such as whether substitution between alcoholic beverages is the same for each category of alcoholic beverage.

- (5) The impact of the existing alcohol taxation arrangements for:
 - (a) the economy, employment, the environment and industry;
 - (b) beverage pricing and cost structures;
 - (c) the patterns of consumption, including the abuse, of the various categories of alcohol product;
 - (d) the health and welfare of regional, rural and remote communities (including the funding of alcohol rehabilitation and education); and
 - (e) the flexibility and sustainability of government revenue.
- (6) An examination of selected international alcohol taxation regimes (and recent overseas tax reviews) in order to identify the best options for alcohol taxation policy, legislation and administration in Australia.

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee**

Report to be presented on environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations.

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 20 March 2002

- 53 **Senator Greig:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to prohibit certain conduct involving the vilification and incitement to hatred of people on the ground of sexuality, and for related purposes. *Sexuality Anti-Vilification Bill 2002.*

On 6 March 2003

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee**

Report to be presented on the refusal of the Government to respond to the order of the Senate of 21 August 2002 for the production of documents relating to financial information concerning higher education institutions.

On 18 March 2003

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

*1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Termination of Employment) Bill 2002. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On the tenth sitting day of 2003 (20 March 2003)

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Legislation Committees

Reports to be presented on annual reports tabled by 31 October 2002.

On 27 March 2003

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Finance and Public Administration References Committee

Report to be presented on recruitment and training in the Australian Public Service.

By the last sitting day in March 2003 (27 March 2003)

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

Report to be presented on the role of libraries as providers of public information in the online environment.

2 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Report to be presented on materiel acquisition and management in Defence.

On 14 May 2003

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Report to be presented on an examination of the Government's foreign and trade policy strategy.

By the last sitting day in June 2003 (26 June 2003)

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Community Affairs References Committee

Report to be presented on poverty in Australia.

2 Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee

Report to be presented on labour market skills requirements.

3 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Report to be presented on Australia's relationship with Papua New Guinea and other Pacific island countries.

4 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Report to be presented on the administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority.

5 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Report to be presented on the import risk assessment on New Zealand apples.

6 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Report to be presented on the administration of AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Margaret J.*

By the last sitting day in August 2003 (21 August 2003)

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

Report to be presented on forestry plantations.

By the last sitting day in 2003 (4 December 2003)

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

Report to be presented on rural water resource usage.

BILLS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

Bills currently referred†

Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002‡

Referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (*referred 16 October 2002; reporting date varied 12 November, 18 November, 3 December, 5 December, 10 December and 11 December 2002; reporting date: 4 February 2003*).

Provisions of bills currently referred†

Corporations Amendment (Repayment of Directors' Bonuses) Bill 2002‡

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred 11 December 2002; reporting date: 3 March 2003*).

Workplace Relations Amendment (Termination of Employment) Bill 2002‡

Referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee (*referred 11 December 2002; reporting date: 18 March 2003*).

†Further information about the progress of these bills may be found in the Department of the Senate's *Bills to Committees Update*.

‡Pursuant to adoption of report of Selection of Bills Committee.

BILLS NEGATIVED

Government Bills

Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Disability Reform) Bill (No. 2) 2002

Second reading negatived, 19 November 2002.

Migration Legislation Amendment (Further Border Protection Measures) Bill 2002

Second reading negatived, 9 December 2002.

National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002

Second reading negatived, 20 June 2002.

Trade Practices Amendment (Small Business Protection) Bill 2002

Third reading negatived, 19 August 2002.

Workplace Relations Amendment (Secret Ballots for Protected Action) Bill 2002

Third reading negatived, 25 September 2002.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions remaining unanswered

Question Nos, as shown, from 55 to 908 remain unanswered for 30 or more days (see standing order 74(5)).

Notice given 12 February 2002

55 Senator Allison: To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is it the case that the Melbourne office of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) failed to notify trustees of pre-existing pooled superannuation trusts (PSTs) that, under new regulations, they were required to notify APRA in writing that they wished their trusts to continue to be treated as PSTs by 31 October 2000.
- (2) Is it the case that trusts that have failed to so notify APRA will become non-complying superannuation funds, attracting a tax rate of 48.5 per cent on fund earnings instead of the concessional 15 per cent.
- (3) How long has APRA been aware of the failure to notify outlined in (1).
- (4) How long has the Minister or the department been aware of the failure to notify.
- (5) Has APRA or the Government taken any action to resolve this matter.
- (6) What action will the Government and APRA be taking to resolve this matter.

Notice given 18 February 2002

108 Senator Brown: To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to whistleblower Alwyn Johnson, and the Minister's commitment, on 12 August 2000, to undertake an inquiry to look at compensation for Mr Johnson, even if the Tasmanian Government refused to take part:

- (1) Why has no inquiry been instituted.
- (2) (a) When will the inquiry begin; and (b) who will arbitrate.

Notice given 15 March 2002

- 196 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Did Mr Ron Walker attend the recent Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting; if so, in what capacity.

Notice given 8 April 2002

- 222 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Special Minister of State—With reference to travel undertaken to Melbourne between 1 October 2001 and 18 November 2001, by all staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*, in each instance can the following details be provided:

- (1) The name of each staff member, and the name of the member or senator for whom that staff member worked.
- (2) The dates for which travel allowance (TA) was claimed, including whether the claim was for consecutive nights.
- (3) The rate of TA paid and the total amount of TA paid to each staff member relating to that period.
- (4) The dates of airline flights taken to and from Melbourne by that staff member during that period.
- (5) Whether the staff member claimed for commercial or non-commercial accommodation, and the name of hotels stayed at by the staff member (if known).
- (6) The cost of any Cabcharge and/or other hire car charges, including Comcar.
- (7) The name and position of the person who certified the TA claim form and/or acquittal submitted to the Department of Finance and Administration.

Notice given 18 April 2002

- Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 247-273)—

- (1) What programs and/or grants administered by the department provide assistance to people living in the federal electorate of Kennedy.
- (2) What was the level of funding provided through these programs and/or grants for the 2000-01 and 2001-02 financial years.
- (3) Where specific projects were funded: (a) what was the location of each project; (b) what was the nature of each project; and (c) what was the level of funding for each project.

- 271 Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer

Notice given 14 May 2002

- 304 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) How many people are expected to benefit from the Government's election promise to allow voluntary contributions to superannuation beyond 70 to age 75 in the first year of its operation and for the 3 years beyond.
- (2) How many people are expected to benefit from the Government's election promise to reduce the tax rate on excessive Eligible Termination Payments in the first year of its operation and for the 3 years beyond.
- (3) (a) How many people are expected to benefit from the Government's election promise to increase the deduction limit for the self-employed in the first year of its operation and for the 3 years beyond; and (b) how many of these people fall into the income ranges of: (i) \$0-\$9,999, (ii) \$10,000-

- \$19,999, (iii) \$20,000-\$29,999 (iv) \$30,000-\$39,999, (v) \$40,000-\$49,999, (vi) \$50,000-\$59,999, (vii) \$60,000-\$69,999, and (viii) \$70,000 plus.
- (4) (a) How many people are expected to benefit from the Government's election promise to allow splitting of superannuation contributions in the first year of its operation and for the 3 years beyond; and (b) how many of these people fall into the income ranges of: (i) \$0-\$9,999, (ii) \$10,000-\$19,999, (iii) \$20,000-\$29,999, (iv) \$30,000-\$39,999, (v) \$40,000-\$49,999, (vi) \$50,000-\$59,999, (vii) \$60,000-\$69,999, and (viii) \$70,000 plus.
- (5) (a) How many people are expected to benefit from the Government's election promise to reduce the rate of the surcharge contributions tax in the first year of its operation and for the 3 years beyond; and (b) how many of these people fall into the income ranges of: (i) \$80,000-\$89,999, (ii) \$90,000-\$99,999 (iii) \$100,000-\$109,999, (iv) \$110,000-\$149,999, (v) \$150,000-\$249,999, (vi) \$250,000-\$499,999, (vii) \$500,000-\$999,999, and (viii) \$1 million plus.
- (6) (a) How many people (in terms of those who are making the contributions and those who receive them) are expected to benefit from the Government's election promise to allow superannuation contributions for children in the first year of its operation and for the 3 years beyond; and (b) how many of these people fall into the income ranges of: (i) \$0-\$9,999, (ii) \$10,000-\$19,999, (iii) \$20,000-\$29,999, (iv) \$30,000-\$39,999, (v) \$40,000-\$49,999, (vi) \$50,000-\$59,999, (vii) \$60,000-\$69,999, (viii) \$70,000-\$79,999, (ix) \$80,000-\$89,999, (x) \$90,000-\$99,000, (xi) \$100,000-\$109,999, (xii) \$110,000-\$149,999, (xiii) \$150,000-\$249,000, (xiv) \$250,000-\$499,999, (xv) \$500,000-\$999,999, and (xvi) \$1 million plus.

Notice given 21 May 2002

- 338 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Defence White Paper (page 122), which includes a graph setting out Defence funding by the five capability groups:
- (1) Can the table of figures used for this graph be provided, that is, the funding for each capability group in each of the 10 years.
 - (2) Can the Minister confirm that the funding figures used are minus the capital use charge, that is, appropriation and equity injection funding minus the capital use charge component.
 - (3) Can the Minister confirm that funding for the strike capability group appears to remain approximately constant over the 10 years.
 - (4) Given the acknowledged increasing cost of flying ageing aircraft, how was it proposed that this capability group could maintain its fleet of aircraft over the 10 year period without any significant increase in funding.

Notice given 19 June 2002

- 388 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—
- (1) Can the Treasurer confirm whether minutes were kept by the Australian Taxation Office Part IVA Panel of the meeting in which a recommendation was made against the first cooperative investment project considered by the panel in late 1997; if so, can a copy of those minutes be provided.
 - (2) How do the loans in the cooperative investment projects differ from those in Lau's case.

Notice given 26 June 2002

405 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) (a) How many applications for assistance under section 229 of the *Superannuation Industry Supervision Act 1993* (the SIS Act) have been received by the Assistant Treasurer or her predecessor in relation to Commercial Nominees of Australia Limited (CNAL); and (b) when were these applications made.
- (2) When did the Assistant Treasurer make a formal request (or requests) for advice from the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA), under section 230A of the SIS Act, in relation to these applications.
- (3) How many funds did this request (or these requests) apply to.
- (4) In this request (or these requests), did the Minister specify, under section 230A(1), any particular matters that APRA was (or is) to provide advice about or a particular time by which APRA was (or is) to provide the advice.
- (5) When did APRA provide advice to the Assistant Treasurer pursuant to this request (or these requests).
- (6) What was APRA's advice under section 231(2) pursuant to this request (or these requests).
- (7) In relation to the 181 funds for which the Assistant Treasurer has made a section 231 determination, as announced on 14 June 2002: (a) what is the total eligible loss; (b) what is the average eligible loss; and (c) does this eligible loss include rectification and/or administration costs charged by Oak Breeze as replacement trustee.
- (8) In relation to the 181 funds for which the Assistant Treasurer has made a section 231 determination, as announced on 14 June 2002, what is the total assistance that will be paid under section 231.
- (9) In the period from 14 June 2002 to the provision of answers to these questions, will the Assistant Treasurer make any further determinations under section 231; if so: (a) to how many funds do these determinations relate; (b) what is the total eligible loss; (c) what is the average eligible loss; (d) does this eligible loss include rectification and/or administration costs charged by the replacement trustee Oak Breeze; and (e) what is the total assistance that will be paid under section 231.
- (10) (a) How many applications for assistance in relation to CNAL has the Assistant Treasurer received without making determinations under section 231; (b) when does the Minister expect to make determinations under section 231 in relation to these funds; and (c) what is the estimated total eligible loss for these funds.
- (11) Has the Assistant Treasurer determined not to provide assistance under section 231 to any funds for which CNAL was trustee.
- (12) Of the funds for which CNAL was trustee but the replacement trustee is yet to make an application, how many additional applications does the Assistant Treasurer expect to receive, and, of these, what does she expect the total eligible loss will be.
- (13) What is the total amount of assistance under Part 23 that the Assistant Treasurer expects will be paid.
- (14) (a) On how many occasions does the Assistant Treasurer expect to impose a levy under the *Superannuation (Financial Assistance Funding) Levy Act 1993*; (b) what will be the total amount of each of these levies; (c) what will

- be the applicable rate or rates for this levy or levies under section 8 of this Act; and (d) will this rate be different for different classes of fund.
- (15) When does the Assistant Treasurer intend to impose this levy or levies.
 - (16) What steps did APRA take to ensure that rectification costs and administration fees charged by Oak Breeze, the replacement trustee of the 475 small funds for which CNAL was trustee, were kept to a minimum; in particular, what commitments in relation to costs did APRA seek from Oak Breeze before it was appointed as the replacement trustee.
 - (17) Does APRA believe Oak Breeze is satisfying its disclosure obligations under the SIS Act and/or the Corporations Act to members of the small funds; in particular: (a) what are (or were) the start and finish dates for Oak Breeze's most recent reporting period and has Oak Breeze provided (or does it intend to provide) statements and annual reports to fund members within 6 months of the conclusion of that period; (b) did Oak Breeze provide details of how fees would be charged to fund members upon its appointment as trustee; (c) has Oak Breeze established a complaints procedure; (d) has Oak Breeze provided relevant and timely information to fund members when they have requested it to do so; and (e) if APRA is not satisfied that Oak Breeze has met its obligations, what enforcement action has it taken in relation to any or all of these issues.
 - (18) With reference to the answer to a question placed on notice during additional estimates, in which APRA said that it chose PricewaterhouseCoopers (PWC) (the parent of Oak Breeze) as the replacement trustee of the three larger CNAL funds after seeking expressions of interest from PWC as well as KPMG, Ferrier Hodgson and Sims Lockwood: (a) were expressions of interest sought from these same parties before APRA appointed Oak Breeze as replacement trustee of the small funds; and (b) did any of these parties, other than PWC, express an interest in the appointment; if so, were their costs, or likely costs, any different to those of Oak Breeze.
 - (19) What opportunity, if any, was there for other parties to express an interest in being appointed as replacement trustee of the small funds.
 - (20) Given that, in the answer referred to above, APRA said that it 'adhered to its policy for the appointment of replacement trustees' in appointing Oak Breeze: (a) in light of the significant fees charged by Oak Breeze and the difficulties it initially experienced in its administration functions, has APRA seen fit to revise its policy for the appointment of replacement trustees; and (b) has APRA, for example, considered the possibility of establishing a pool of appropriately resourced entities that would be ready to be appointed as replacement trustees, at minimal cost, in future cases.
 - (21) In its report into CNAL the Select Committee on Superannuation and Financial Services, noted with concern that neither APRA nor the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) had regulatory control over the so-called Enhanced Cash Management Trust (ECMT), the vehicle responsible for the losses incurred by CNAL funds and neither APRA nor ASIC were able to quantify the number of investment vehicles, like ECMT, that fall outside the current regulatory framework. In response to a question on this matter that was placed on notice during additional estimates, APRA stated that it 'does regulate these trusts' and has 'no records as to either their number or prevalence': (a) does APRA believe it is a cause for concern that investment vehicles, like ECMT, that receive superannuation monies, are not regulated by either itself or by ASIC;

- (b) does APRA agree that it is important for a prudential regulator to understand the extent of problems or loopholes in the regulator regime in order that it might recommend legislative changes to address any such deficiencies; and (c) should APRA therefore be concerned that APRA does not know how many investment vehicles like ECMT fall outside its regulatory jurisdiction.
- (22) (a) In light of the example of the TED Engineering superannuation fund raised during budget estimates, what regulatory sanctions are at APRA's disposal for dealing with non-arms length transactions and other breaches of trust that occurred before the commencement of the SIS Act; (b) if another case were to emerge in which a fund had suffered a loss as a result of a non-arms' length transaction or other breach of trust that occurred before the commencement of the SIS Act, how would APRA respond; and (c) how would this response differ if the trustee had breached the relevant provisions of the SIS Act following its commencement in 1994.
- (23) If APRA were presented with similar circumstances, and found it was unable to take effective remedial action under commonwealth legislation, would it take action against the trustee in the appropriate common law jurisdiction.
- (24) (a) What proportion of regulated superannuation funds does APRA believe are in breach of the equal representation rules contained in the SIS Act; and (b) what strategies does APRA have in place to ensure that the equal representation rules are adhered to.
- (25) With reference to the draft report of 4 March 2002 of the Superannuation Working Group, which noted concerns about the grandfathering provisions that allow the in-house investment cap of 5 per cent (in section 82 and 83 of the SIS Act) to be exceeded: (a) can APRA provide an average proportion for in-house assets in superannuation funds; (b) can APRA provide any details of recent enforcement actions in respect of breaches of the in-house assets rule; (c) what is the maximum proportion of in-house assets that funds have held while still complying with the SIS Act; (d) does APRA believe that the grandfathering provisions in sections 71A to 71E need reform; and (e) does APRA believe that the 5 per cent cap in sections 82 and 83 is too high.
- (26) Given that the working group does not deal with investments in derivatives by superannuation funds in its draft report: (a) should this be interpreted as a sign that APRA is unconcerned about derivatives trading by super funds; (b) what proportion of superannuation funds are involved in derivatives trading; (c) what is the average 'derivative charge ratio', that funds are required to calculate and report to members if it exceeds 5 per cent, for superannuation funds; and (d) can APRA provide details of any recent problems it has encountered, and any enforcement action it has undertaken, in respect of derivatives.

Notice given 27 June 2002

409 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) What is the value of frequent flyer points owing for official travel, but lost as a result of the demise of Ansett, by: (a) members of parliament; (b) government employees; and (c) the Commonwealth judiciary.
- (2) If no precise figures are available (for privacy or other reasons) in each case, what are the government estimates of the losses.

Notice given 2 July 2002

411 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to all forms of end product report by the Defence Signals Directorate (DSD reports) which summarise raw intelligence product:

- (1) Which ministers received any of the DSD reports that were found by the Inspector-General to be in breach of the Rules on Sigint and Australian Persons.
- (2) On what precise dates did this occur.
- (3) Which minister's offices, that is personal staff members or departmental liaison officers, received the DSD reports that were in breach of the Rules on Sigint and Australian Persons.
- (4) On what precise dates did this occur.
- (5) Did any departments receive any of the DSD reports that were in breach of the Rules on Sigint and Australian Persons; if so, which ones and on what dates.
- (6) For both (1) and (3), were all four DSD reports that the Inspector-General found breached the rules received by any minister or minister's office; if not, how many of the four reports were received by each of the ministers and/or minister's office.
- (7) Of those reports that were made in breach of the rules and were received by a minister and/or minister's office, did they include either of the two reports containing intelligence information on communications by an Australian lawyer with a foreign client.

(In this question, the phrase 'DSD reports' refers to all forms of end product by the DSD which summarise raw intelligence product. Such reports are variously referred to in the summary of the Inspector-General for Security and Intelligence's *MV Tampa* investigation as 'reports summarising the results of collection activity', 'end product reports' and 'situation updates'.)

Notice given 10 July 2002

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 423-449)—

- (1) What programs and/or grants administered by the department provide assistance to people living in the federal electorate of Wide Bay.
- (2) What was the level of funding provided through these programs and/or grants for the 1999-2000, 2000-01 and 2001-02 financial years.
- (3) Where specific projects were funded: (a) what was the location of each project; (b) what was the nature of each project; and (c) what was the level of funding for each project.

428 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

440 Minister for the Arts and Sport

Notice given 11 July 2002

450 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is it a fact that loans to investors in the Active Cattle project were found by the Federal Court never to have been made.
- (2) Is the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) now a shareholder in Active Cattle on the basis that tax has nevertheless been levied on the loan amounts as income in the hands of the project manager, and could not be paid.

- (3) Is the ATO still the largest creditor of the Australian Tea Tree Oil Research Institute, even though the Federal Court found in the *Phai See* case that the Australian Research and Development Board had wrongly decided that the institute did not qualify as a research institute, and hence it was actually entitled to tax exempt status.

451 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is it the case that it was possible up until 30 June 2002 to invest in an existing infrastructure bond, relinquished by another investor, through the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) or Westpac.
- (2) Did that investment, by offering a large loan, potentially allow an upfront tax deduction such that the cash amount contributed was exceeded by the tax refund and hence would confer a tax benefit.
- (3) Was that loan non-recourse, and for a term of as little as one year.
- (4) Did the loan which could be taken out actually include an amount to be paid tax free to the investor as interest on the loan at the end of 12 months.
- (5) Is it the case that the Economics References Committee inquiry into mass-marketed tax effective schemes was told by First Assistant Commissioner, Mr Peter Smith, that some of these infrastructure borrowings could fall under Part IVA of the Income Tax Assessment Act.
- (6) Has any action been taken by the Australian Taxation Office to investigate whether Part IVA applies to the infrastructure bonds offered in 2002 to investors by the CBA and Westpac.

Notice given 18 July 2002

462 **Senator Knowles:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the *Air Transport Safety Bureau Report 200103696* which cites two instances of cabin air contamination of the same aircraft, VH-NJA, on consecutive days and in both instances, the crew donned oxygen masks after being affected by contaminated air, and the cabin crew and passengers were affected by contaminated air:

- (1) Why was the plane not immediately turned around when fumes were first detected.
- (2) How are crew members who are wearing oxygen masks capable of identifying the source of the contamination.
- (3) Is it not considered an emergency situation in which the aircraft should be landed as soon as possible; if not, what would happen if all crew members were seriously affected at the same time and unable to continue their duties.
- (4) (a) How many flights were there between the two reported incidents; (b) why are the two incidents on the same report form; and (c) are they not two separate incidents.
- (5) Given the documented illness of crew and passengers on the first flight: (a) why was there found to be no sign of oil contamination when initially inspected by the ground engineers; and (b) what was different between the engineering check after the first flight found ‘no signs of oil contamination or oil leaks,’ and the next inspection, which ‘revealed oil contamination in the number 3 engine’.
- (6) Given that, on 6 September 1999, the Australian Transport Safety Bureau issued recommendation R19990052 to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) that stated in part, ‘These deficiencies should be examined by the

regulatory authority as part of its responsibilities for initial certification and continued airworthiness of the BAe 146 aircraft': Why then has CASA responded (more than 6 months later) that 'CASA is satisfied that the BAe 146 aircraft in service in Australia are safe for public transport'.

Notice given 22 July 2002

Senator Faulkner: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 464-481)—

- (1) How many mobile phones has the department, or any agency within the portfolio, provided to the following: (a) a minister (please include the name of the minister or ministers); (b) staff of a minister employed under the Members of Parliament (Staff) (MoP(S) Act); (c) a departmental liaison officer in a minister's office; (d) a parliamentary secretary (please include the name of the parliamentary secretary or secretaries); (e) the staff of a parliamentary secretary employed under the MoP(S) Act; and (f) a departmental liaison officer in the office of a parliamentary secretary.
- (2) What was the total cost of the provision of mobile phones to the above-named persons during the 2000-01 and 2001-02 financial years.

- 464 Minister representing the Prime Minister
 465 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services
 466 Minister representing the Treasurer
 467 Minister representing the Minister for Trade
 468 Minister for Defence
 469 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
 470 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
 471 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
 472 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
 473 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage
 474 Minister representing the Attorney-General
 475 Minister for Finance and Administration
 476 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
 477 Minister for Family and Community Services
 478 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
 479 Minister for Health and Ageing
 480 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
 481 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

Notice given 29 July 2002

495 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What was the total number of cattle that died during the July 2002 voyage of MV *Becrux*.
- (2) When did the Minister or his office first become aware of livestock deaths aboard the MV *Becrux*.
- (3) What was the number of cattle deaths advised to the Minister or his office in that advice.

- (4) (a) Who provided that information to the Minister or his office; and (b) how was the information communicated.
- (5) When did the Minister or his office become aware that the number of cattle that had perished on the July voyage of the MV *Becrux* was considerably higher than the initial reports of losses.
- (6) What was the number of cattle deaths advised to the Minister or his office in that advice.
- (7) (a) Who provided that information to the Minister or his office; and (b) how was the information communicated.
- (8) When did the Minister first become aware that the number of cattle that had perished on the July voyage of the MV *Becrux* was in the order of 900.
- (9) What was the exact number of cattle deaths advised to the Minister or his office in that advice.
- (10) (a) Who provided that information to the Minister or his office; and (b) how was the information communicated.
- (11) Has the Minister called for an investigation into these livestock deaths aboard the MV *Becrux*, to be conducted by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service and Livecorp.
- (12) When is the investigation due to report to the Minister.
- (13) When will the report be made available to: (a) the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; and (b) the public.

Notice given 6 August 2002

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

- (1) Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) 2001-02 to 2003-04 Corporate Plan commit the authority to implementing a performance management system and undertaking a CASA-wide survey; if so: (a) when did the CASA Board endorse the plan; (b) when was it provided to the Minister; and (c) when did the Minister endorse the plan.
- (2) (a) Has the design work for the development of the performance management system and the CASA-wide staff survey commenced; (b) was the work the subject of a tender process; (c) what was the cost of the development of the management system and the survey; and (d) who was the successful tenderer.
- (3) (a) When did that work commence, in line with the terms of the corporate plan and the board decision; and (b) if the work has not been completed, when will it be completed.
- (4) If the work on the management system and the survey has been completed: (a) when was that work completed; (b) when was it considered by CASA management; and (c) when was it considered by the board.
- (5) If the design and implementation of the management system and survey has not been carried out in accordance with the board-endorsed corporate plan: (a) why has the work not been carried out; (b) who made the decision not to proceed with the development of the management plan and survey; and (c) when was the board advised of the decision not to proceed with the work.
- (6) Did the board endorse the decision not to proceed with the management system and survey; if so: (a) when did the board take that decision; and

(b) what was the basis for the board's decision not to proceed with the work.

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

- (1) Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) 2000-01 to 2002-03 Corporate Plan commit CASA to undertaking a workplace culture survey by March 2001.
- (2) (a) When was the corporate plan endorsed by the CASA Board; (b) when was the plan provided to the Minister; and (c) when was the plan endorsed by the Minister.
- (3) (a) Who undertook the design work for the survey; (b) was the work the subject of a tender process; (c) what was the cost of the design of the survey; and (d) who was the successful tenderer.
- (4) (a) When did that work commence, in line with the terms of the corporate plan and the board decision; and (b) when was the design of the survey completed.
- (5) (a) When was the survey scheduled to commence and when did it actually commence; (b) was the actual survey the subject of a tender process; (c) what was the cost of the survey; and (d) who was the successful tenderer.
- (6) (a) When was the survey completed; (b) when was it considered by CASA management; and (c) when was it considered by the board.
- (7) If the design and implementation of the survey was not carried out in accordance with the board-endorsed corporate plan: (a) why was the work not carried out; (b) who made the decision not to proceed with the survey; and (c) when was the board advised of the decision not to proceed with the survey.
- (8) Did the board endorse the decision not to proceed with the survey; if so: (a) when did the board take that decision; and (b) what was the basis for the board's decision not to proceed with the work.

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

- (1) Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) 1999 Corporate Plan commit CASA to the design and implementation of a staff attitude and work culture survey; if so: (a) when did the CASA Board endorse that commitment; (b) when was the corporate plan provided to the Minister; and (c) when did the Minister endorse the plan.
- (2) (a) Who undertook the design work for the survey; (b) was the work the subject of a tender process; (c) what was the cost of the design of the survey; and (d) who was the successful tenderer.
- (3) (a) When did that work commence, in line with the terms of the corporate plan and the board decision; and (b) when was the design of the survey completed.
- (4) (a) When was the survey scheduled to commence and when did it actually commence; (b) was the actual survey the subject of a tender process; (c) what was the cost of the survey; and (d) who was the successful tenderer.
- (5) (a) When was the survey completed; (b) when was it considered by CASA management; and (c) when was it considered by the board.

- (6) If the design and implementation of the above survey was not carried out in accordance with the board-endorsed corporate plan: (a) why was the work not carried out; (b) who made the decision not to proceed with the survey; and (c) when was the board advised of the decision not to proceed with the survey.
- (7) Did the board endorse the decision not to proceed with the survey; if so: (a) when did the board take that decision; and (b) what was the basis for the board's decision not to proceed with the work.

Notice given 15 August 2002

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 535-536)—What action, if any, has the Minister or the department taken to protect or increase Australian wheat sales to Iraq in the 2002-03 financial year.

536 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

542 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) How many Australian primary producers currently hold deposits under the Farm Management Deposit (FMD) scheme.
- (2) What is the total value of FMD holdings.
- (3) Producers belonging to which industries are the biggest users of the FMD scheme.
- (4) (a) What percentage of total deposits are held by producers from the grain industry; and (b) what is the value of these deposits.
- (5) (a) What percentage of total deposits are held by producers from the horticultural industry; and (b) what is the value of these deposits.
- (6) (a) What percentage of total deposits are held by producers from the livestock industry; and (b) what is the value of these deposits.
- (7) What number of primary producers currently hold FMDs per state and territory.
- (8) What was the value of FMD holdings per state and territory for the quarters ending: (a) June 2001; (b) September 2001; (c) December 2001; (d) March 2002; and (e) June 2002.
- (9) What was the value of FMD withdrawals per state and territory for the quarters ending: (a) June 2001; (b) September 2001; (c) December 2001; (d) March 2002; and (e) June 2002.
- (10) Since the inception of the FMD scheme, what is the value of holdings withdrawn within 12 months of deposit.
- (11) What is the smallest FMD held by an individual producer.
- (12) What is the largest FMD held by an individual producer.

Notice given 20 August 2002

569 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—With reference to Part X Bankruptcy Agreements lodged in each of the 2000-01 and 2001-02 financial years:

- (1) How many barristers and lawyers applied for, and were successful in obtaining, Part X agreements in each Australian state and territory.

- (2) How much tax revenue to the Australian Taxation Office was forgone through part payments resulting from Part X agreements filed by barristers and lawyers in each Australian state and territory.
- (3) What was the total amount of tax revenue lost to the Australian Taxation Office through part payments resulting from Part X agreements in each Australian state and territory.
- (4) How many Part X creditors' meetings did officers of the department attend in each Australian state and territory.

Notice given 23 August 2002

576 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What sum has the department spent on consultants in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; (c) 2001-02; and (d) 2002-03.
- (2) For each consultancy: (a) what was the name of the consultant employed; (b) what was the cost; (c) what was the purpose; (d) what was the period during which the consultant was engaged; (e) what role did the Minister and/or his office have in the engagement of the consultant; and (f) was the consultancy subject to a tender process; if not, why not; if so, was it an open tender or a select tender.

Notice given 4 September 2002

620 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) How many sheep died en route to the Middle East on each of the following ships that departed Australia in July 2002: (a) the *Cormo Express*; (b) the *Corriedale Express*; (c) the *Al Shuwaikh*; and (d) the *Al Messilah*.
- (2) For each vessel: (a) what percentage of sheep died; and (b) from which geographic location or region were these sheep sourced.
- (3) (a) When did these vessels depart Australia; and (b) from which Australian port did they sail.
- (4) For each vessel, what was the final destination of the sheep onboard.
- (5) (a) When did these vessels arrive in the Middle East; and (b) at which ports did the surviving sheep disembark.
- (6) For each vessel, how many sheep survived the journey.
- (7) At what location, or locations, were the dead sheep thrown overboard.
- (8) How many crew were on board each vessel.
- (9) For each vessel, how many crew members were concerned with animal welfare and management issues during the journey.
- (10) (a) When was the department first advised of reportable sheep deaths onboard the vessels *Cormo Express*, *Corriedale Express*, *Al Shuwaikh* and *Al Messilah*; (b) who provided that advice; and (c) what form did that advice take.
- (11) (a) When was the Minister first advised of reportable sheep deaths onboard the vessels *Cormo Express*, *Corriedale Express*, *Al Shuwaikh* and *Al Messilah*; (b) who provided that advice; and (c) what form did that advice take.

- (12) Has the number of dead sheep been adjusted subsequent to the receipt of original advice in this matter by the Minister and the department; if so: (a) when was advice of the number of dead sheep adjusted; and (b) what was the source of the new information.
- (13) Did the vessels *Cormo Express*, *Corriedale Express*, *Al Shuwaikh* and *Al Messilah* sail under an Australian flag; if not, under the flag, or flags, of which country, or countries, did each sail.
- (14) Which companies own and/or operate each of these ships.
- (15) What percentage of equity in these companies is Australian-owned.
- (16) Which livestock export companies were contracted to transport these sheep.
- (17) What percentage of equity in these companies is Australian-owned.
- (18) Have these companies been involved in any incident in the past 10 financial years, where mortality rates of Australian-sourced animals during live export have exceeded the acceptable level established by applicable Commonwealth or state laws and/or industry codes of practice; if so: (a) when did these incidents occur; (b) what type and breed of animals perished; and (c) in what numbers.
- (19) From which geographic locations were the deceased animals sourced for each voyage by these companies in the past 10 financial years where the maximum acceptable mortality rate, as established by applicable Commonwealth or state laws and/or industry codes of practice, was exceeded.
- (20) (a) What investigations occurred in respect to these incidents; and (b) what adverse findings, if any, were made in respect to these companies.
- (21) Has the Minister agreed to undertake any investigation into the reportable sheep deaths on the vessels *Cormo Express*, *Corriedale Express*, *Al Shuwaikh* and *Al Messilah*, that departed Australia in July 2002; if so: (a) which agency or agencies will conduct the investigation; (b) when will the investigation be concluded; and (c) will the results of the investigation be released to the public.
- (22) Has the Minister undertaken any interim measures to protect the welfare of future live sheep exports on these vessels; if so: (a) what measures have been introduced; (b) when did these measures become effective; and (c) are these measures specific to these vessels or do they apply to all live sheep exports.
- (23) How many sheep have died in transit as part of Australia's live sheep export trade, in each year for the past 10 financial years.
- (24) What changes have been made to Commonwealth or state laws and/or industry codes of practice over the past 10 financial years to reduce mortality rates onboard live sheep carriers.
- (25) Has the department, or any other agency, undertaken an assessment of the effectiveness of these changes in reducing sheep mortality rates.
- (26) Does the sheep mortality rate on ships bound for the Middle East increase during the period May to October; if so, is this increased mortality rate related to climate.

Notice given 9 September 2002

623 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Air 87 Project:

- (1) To date, what is the price growth that has occurred in relation to this project as a result of the annual indexation of prices.
- (2) To date, what is the total increase in cost related to foreign exchange movements.
- (3) To date, what is the total value of price variation payments made under this contract (if possible indicate separately the value of foreign exchange related variations and price growth variations).
- (4) What currency was specified in the contract.
- (5) If the contract is in a currency other than the Australian dollar: (a) what was the original value of the contract in that currency when the contract was signed; and (b) what was the exchange rate for the relevant currency on the date the contract was signed.
- (6) If the contract is in Australian dollars: (a) what provisions does it include in relation to foreign currency movements; and (b) is the value of the contract tied to a particular foreign currency; if so, which currency.
- (7) In assessing the value of each of the four tenders (Eurocopter, Bell, Boeing and Augusta), were the same foreign currency and exchange rates used to determine their Australian dollar equivalent; if not, what currencies and exchange rates were used.
- (8) In terms of the Eurocopter bid, what was the effect of any exchange rate movements on the value of the contract between when the tenders were evaluated and the date the contract was signed.
- (9) Given the announcement on 21 December 2001 of a \$1.3 billion contract for the production of the helicopter, what is the current value of that contract.
- (10) Given that the 2002-03 Budget papers indicate the total value of the project is \$1 858 million, what are the other elements that make up the cost of the project (eg. in service support), including the value for each element.
- (11) In relation to the data link system to be used on the Aussie Tiger: will it use the Link 11 or Link 16 system; if not: (a) what system is being used and why; and (b) will the alternative be fully compatible with the Link 11 and Link 16 systems.

624 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Air 5077 Project:

- (1) To date, what is the price growth that has occurred in relation to this project as a result of the annual indexation of prices.
- (2) To date, what is the total increase in cost related to foreign exchange movements.
- (3) To date, what is the total value of price variation payments made under this contract (if possible indicate separately the value of foreign exchange related variations and price growth variations).
- (4) What currency was specified in the contract.
- (5) If the contract is in a currency other than the Australian dollar: (a) what was the original value of the contract in that currency when the contract was signed; and (b) what was the exchange rate for the relevant currency on the date the contract was signed.
- (6) If the contract is in Australian dollars: (a) what provisions does it include in relation to foreign currency movements; and (b) is the value of the contract tied to a particular foreign currency; if so, which currency.

626 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the definition of vehicles that qualify for subsidy under the Bass Strait Passenger Vehicle Equalisation Scheme.
- (2) Has the Commonwealth been a party to the development of the definition of ‘vehicle’ or ‘accompanying vehicle’ by the *Spirit of Tasmania*.
- (3) What is the standard off-peak subsidy per standard motor car that is transported across Bass Strait.
- (4) What is the standard off-peak subsidy per standard motor cycle that is transported across Bass Strait.
- (5) What is the standard off-peak subsidy for a push bike that is transported across Bass Strait whilst parked on the vehicle deck.
- (6) Are motor cycles required to be dismantled in any way, packed in a carton or carried on a baggage trolley, to qualify for the subsidy.
- (7) Is a push bike defined as a vehicle under Australian road laws.
- (8) How many push bikes can be transported across Bass Strait in the space taken up by one car on the vehicle deck.

Notice given 13 September 2002

628 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) How many applications for exceptional circumstances (EC) declarations have been lodged since 1996.
- (2) How many applications have resulted in EC declarations.
- (3) With respect to EC declarations, can the following information be provided: (a) the source of the applications (state government or peak body); (b) the geographic regions or industries concerned; (c) the dates on which the applications were lodged; and (d) the dates on which the declarations were made.
- (4) Were any EC declarations made concerning geographic regions contained wholly or partly within the electorates of Gwydir or Wide Bay.
- (5) With respect to unsuccessful applications, can the following information be provided: (a) the source of the applications (state government or peak body); (b) the geographic regions or industries concerned; (c) the dates on which the applications were lodged; and (d) the dates on which the decisions to refuse the declarations were made.
- (6) Of the unsuccessful applications, were any made concerning geographic regions contained wholly or partly within the electorates of Gwydir or Wide Bay.
- (7) With respect to all unsuccessful applications, has the Government provided other special assistance, including ex gratia income support, to the regions or industries identified in the applications.
- (8) Was any such special assistance given to geographic regions contained wholly or partly within the electorates of Gwydir or Wide Bay.
- (9) Have there been any occasions since 1996 in which the Government has not accepted the recommendation of the Rural Adjustment Scheme Advisory Council (RASAC) or the National Rural Advisory Council (NRAC) in

respect to EC applications; if so, can details of these occasions and the applications concerned be provided.

- (10) Have there been any occasions since 1996 in which EC applications have not been subject to an independent assessment by the RASAC or NRAC; if so, can details of these occasions and the applications concerned be provided.
- (11) In the case of each EC declaration: (a) what was the income threshold used; (b) did all applications meet the income threshold criterion; if not, can details be provided where applications for an EC declaration were made despite the income threshold not being met; and (c) for each of these applications: (i) what was the income level identified in the application, and (ii) what was the applicable income threshold.
- 631 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—During each of the past 5 years: (a) what grants have been made under each of the department's grants programs, by postcode; (b) what was the value of each grant; and (c) what was the purpose of each grant.

Notice given 17 September 2002

- 638 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—
- (1) Is the Motomed, a therapeutic exerciser, subject to the goods and services tax (GST).
 - (2) Has the Australian Taxation Office made a ruling that the Motomed is not GST-exempt.
 - (3) Does the Treasurer acknowledge that the Motomed is a medically-prescribed movement therapy product specifically designed to treat profound physical disabilities and is entirely unsuited for use by able-bodied persons; if not, why not.
 - (4) Will the Government take steps to amend taxation legislation to make this device GST-exempt; if so, will the Government make this amendment retrospective and provide GST refunds to the people who have already purchased this appliance.

Notice given 23 September 2002

- 664 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 2889 (House of Representatives *Hansard*, 22 June 1998, p. 5112):
- (1) What is the: (a) peacetime establishment; and (b) current staffing strength, of each unit in the Australian Army.
 - (2) What is the: (a) peacetime establishment; and (b) current staffing strength, of each unit in the Royal Australian Air Force.
 - (3) What is the: (a) peacetime establishment; and (b) current staffing strength, of each unit in the Royal Australian Navy.
- 676 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—
- (1) What was the actual amount: (a) estimated; and (b) saved, for each savings proposal in each of the past 5 budgets.

- (2) In instances where savings were not achieved as estimated: (a) what supplementary funding was provided to cover the shortfall; and (b) by what means.

678 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) When will legislation be introduced that will allow for workers to be paid their entitlements ahead of banks and other creditors.
- (2) Will that legislation apply to any current liquidations.
- (3) In the case of Computerised Holdings Pty Ltd, did the liquidator identify the cause of liquidation as being insolvent trading; if so, why did the Australian Securities and Investment Commission not prosecute.
- (5) What are the criteria being used for making claims against the liquidator in the case of Computerised Holdings.
- (6) Is it intended that legal advice be sought on any distribution of assets ahead of the payment of workers' entitlements.

679 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) What is the anticipated cost of the decision to allow a corporate group to transfer losses and be taxed as a single entity.
- (2) Is there any truth to the claim by some mining executives that this new arrangement will allow them to unlock \$11 billion in losses and enjoy a tax holiday for 20 years.
- (3) Is it true that, under these new arrangements, businesses will be able to revalue all assets to 'market value' without having to pay capital gains tax on the revaluations.
- (4) Is it true that for depreciation purposes the new 'market value' can be used as an expense over the estimated useful life of the asset.

Notice given 24 September 2002

680 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the Bankruptcy Reform Consultative Forum:

- (1) When were the members of the forum appointed.
- (2) Who was in charge of the selection process.
- (3) What level of skill does each member of the forum bring to the decision-making process.
- (4) By what criteria were these members selected.
- (5) When does the forum meet.
- (6) Where does the forum meet.
- (7) (a) What amount has been allocated for expenses, travel and meeting fees for forum members; and (b) how is this broken down.
- (8) From which department does the funding originate.
- (9) Can minutes of the meetings be provided.
- (10) How are consumers adequately represented in this forum.
- (11) How does the forum process work.
- (12) (a) When does the forum report on any findings; and (b) how can the public access those findings.
- (13) Has the forum released any reports recently; if so: (a) when; and (b) can copies be provided.

682 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—For each month of the past 2 full calendar years, what are the figures for staff absent on stress leave in the Department of the Treasury.

687 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Does the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) investigate instances of profiteering in relation to grains, fodder and other livestock animal feeds; if so, how many instances of profiteering in relation to grains, fodder and other livestock animal feeds have been investigated in each of the past 10 financial years.
- (2) How many prosecutions have been obtained in each of the past 10 financial years for profiteering from grains, fodder or other foodstuffs used as livestock feed.
- (3) How many convictions have been obtained in each of the past 10 financial years for profiteering from grains, fodder or other foodstuffs used as livestock feed.
- (4) What are the current penalties for profiteering from grains, fodder or other foodstuffs used as livestock feed.
- (5) Have these penalties changed within the past 10 years; if so, can details of these changes be provided.

688 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) How many scholarships will be administered by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service for each of the financial years 2002-03 to 2007-08; and (b) for each of these financial years, how many will be scholarships for veterinary science students.
- (2) What criteria will be used to select students to receive these scholarships.
- (3) (a) What is the value of the scholarships available to students under the proposed scholarship program; and (b) what method of payment options will be available.
- (4) To which academic years, of the veterinary science course, will the scholarship apply.
- (5) (a) What meetings have been held with stakeholders to date in order to develop this particular scholarship program; (b) when were these meetings held; and (c) what was discussed at each meeting.
- (6) What records exist of these meetings.
- (7) Which stakeholders remain to be fully consulted.
- (8) (a) What meetings have been scheduled with stakeholders not already consulted in the development of this particular scholarship program; and (b) when are these meetings scheduled to occur.
- (9) What priority has been given to the development of this particular scholarship program within the department or agency.
- (10) How many departmental or agency staff (in FTE, ie. Full Time Equivalent, terms) are engaged in developing this scholarship program.
- (11) What is the seniority of each of the staff developing this program.

Notice given 26 September 2002

700 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many children are currently on the national waiting list for the child care Special Needs Subsidy Scheme.
- (2) Where do these children live, by state and territory, and by local government area.
- (3) (a) How long are children going to wait on this waiting list; and (b) is the length of time on the waiting list different in each state and territory.
- (4) What is the range of special needs or disabilities these children have (can the information be broken down by category).
- (5) (a) What are the details of the application process; and (b) what information is provided to parents and services regarding the new waiting list scheme.

Notice given 30 September 2002

706 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—When the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Richard Smith, visited the Mt Muro mining lease area in Indonesia in May 2001, then held by Australian company, Aurora Gold:

- (1) Did Mr Smith meet with any local community representatives other than Indonesian Government officials; if so, who; if not, why not.
- (2) Was Mr Smith aware before his visit of the controversy throughout the 1990s amongst the local community over the impact of the Mt Muro mining operations on local villages, communal lands and water supply.
- (3) Was Mr Smith aware of allegations by local villagers of human rights abuses by Indonesian security forces dating back as far as the early 1990s; if not, why not; if so, did Mr Smith consider there was a reasonable possibility that the result of urging Indonesian security forces to remove ‘illegal’ miners may result in deaths or injuries.

707 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the death of two people considered ‘illegal miners’ at the Mt Muro Mine in Kalimantan, Indonesia, in May 2001:

- (1) Was the written briefing on the incident provided by the President of Aurora Gold to the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Richard Smith, on 5 March 2002, the result of a request from the ambassador; if so, when was the briefing requested.
- (2) When was the ambassador first aware of the report on the two killings at the mine site in the *Jakarta Post* of 12 June 2001.
- (3) Does the ambassador accept in retrospect that urging the Indonesian security forces to deal with the small scale miners within the Aurora Gold lease area was inappropriate; if not, why not.
- (4) Does the ambassador consider that the failure of Aurora Gold to notify him of the incident soon after it occurred as unacceptable.
- (5) Has the Indonesian police force provided details to the ambassador of the incident subsequent to his request on 27 February 2002; if so, what was the explanation of Indonesian police for the deaths.
- (6) Has the ambassador met with Indonesian government officials urging investigations and prosecutions of those involved in the deaths and injuries; if not, why not.

708 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the shooting injury on 27 August 2001 to a teenage

boy considered an 'illegal miner' at the Mt Muro Mine in Kalimantan, Indonesia, in May 2001:

- (1) When did the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Richard Smith, first become aware of media reports about this incident.
- (2) Why did the ambassador not make any requests of Aurora Gold between August 2001 and February 2002 for details of what had occurred.
- (3) Why did the ambassador not make any requests of Indonesian Government officials between August 2001 and February 2002 for details of what had occurred .
- (4) Will the Minister table a copy of the written briefing, dated 5 March 2002, provided by Aurora Gold to the ambassador.
- (5) Did representatives of Aurora Gold meet with the ambassador to discuss its written briefing of 5 March 2002; if so, what concerns, if any, did the ambassador convey to the Aurora Gold representatives.
- (6) What explanation did representatives of Aurora Gold provide for the failure to notify the ambassador of the deaths and injuries that occurred at the mine site subsequent to Indonesian security forces moving to remove small-scale miners from the Aurora Gold lease area.

709 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Has Austrade or any section of the department provided assistance to Aurora Gold, directly or indirectly, with the Mt Muro mine in Indonesia; if so, what assistance, beyond the meetings detailed in answer to question on notice no. 123 (Senate *Hansard*, 15 May 2002, p. 1650), has been provided since 1 January 1998.

710 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the Mt Muro Mine in Kalimantan, Indonesia :

- (1) When Aurora Gold representatives met with the then Ambassador to Indonesia in November 1999, what were the concerns they raised about 'illegal' mining.
- (2) What assistance did they request from the ambassador or other embassy officials.
- (3) What actions did the ambassador or other embassy officials agree to undertake to assist Aurora Gold with its concerns.

711 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the meeting between representatives of Aurora Gold and representatives of the Indonesian Government on 2 March 2002:

- (1) How many embassy officials attended the meeting.
- (2) Why did they decide to attend.
- (3) In the course of the meeting, did they make any representations; if so, what were the views they expressed.

712 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the shooting of 'illegal' miners at the Mt Muro Mine in Kalimantan, Indonesia, following representations made by the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Richard Smith, to Indonesian government officials, including security forces:

- (1) Is it the view of the department that it would make similar representations in similar circumstances on behalf of Australian companies to government officials and security forces in the future.

- (2) Is there anything departmental officers would do differently if requested by Australian companies to make similar representations in the future.

713 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the shooting of an ‘illegal’ miner at the Mt Muro Mine in Kalimantan, Indonesia, on 19 January 2002:

- (1) When did the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Richard Smith, first become aware of the shooting incident.
- (2) What action did he take subsequent to being informed of the incident.
- (3) Did the ambassador request a briefing from Aurora Gold representatives subsequent to this incident.
- (4) What explanation did Aurora Gold representatives give for the failure to inform the ambassador promptly of the incident.
- (5) At the meeting on 30 January 2002, did representatives of Aurora Gold request ongoing assistance from the ambassador in making representations to Indonesian government officials about small-scale miners within the Aurora Gold lease area; if so, what undertakings, if any, did the ambassador give.
- (6) Did Aurora Gold provide the ambassador with a written briefing at the meeting of 30 January 2002; if so, can a copy be provided.

714 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the quarterly meetings between the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Richard Smith, and representatives of Australian-owned mining operations in Indonesia:

- (1) When did these meetings first commence.
- (2) What is the purpose of these meetings.
- (3) Are these meetings convened by the ambassador or by embassy officials.

715 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the quarterly meetings between the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Richard Smith, and representatives of Australian owned mining operations in Indonesia held in each of the following years: (a) 1999; (b) 2000; (c) 2001; and (d) 2002:

- (1) When were the meetings held.
- (2) What issues were raised with the ambassador at each of the meetings.
- (3) (a) Which companies attended each of these meetings; and (b) who represented the individual companies.
- (4) What actions did the ambassador agree to undertake, if any, from each of these meetings.

716 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the concerns of Australian-based and/or -owned mining companies with the ban on open-cut mining in protected forests in Indonesia: Have Australian mining companies made representations to the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Richard Smith, about their concerns on the restrictions on mining in protected areas; if so: (a) which companies made representations; (b) when were these representations made; (c) what did the companies request from the ambassador or embassy officials; and (d) what action was taken on these requests.

- 717 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the concerns of Australian-based and/or -owned mining companies with the ban on open-cut mining in protected forests in Indonesia: Has the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Richard Smith, or have embassy officials, made representations to Indonesian government officials supporting changes to the law in order to allow mining to proceed in protected forests; if so: (a) when did these meetings occur; (b) who were the meetings with; (c) did the ambassador and/or embassy officials accompany mining industry representatives to these meetings; and (d) why are these representations not considered to infringe on the sovereign right of Indonesia to decide on the conditions under which mining can and cannot occur.
- 719 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Has the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia, Mr Richard Smith, invited Australian journalists for meals, and paid for such meals, in 2002; if so: (a) which journalists were invited and which accepted; (b) what has the total cost been in 2002, to date; and (c) what is the purpose of these meals.
- 720 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Did Austrade officials or other departmental officials provide any direct or indirect assistance to Esmeralda Exploration, or its agents, when it was negotiating with Romanian authorities about buying into the Baia Mare mine; if so: (a) when did Esmeralda or its agents first contact Austrade officials or other departmental officials; (b) what assistance did Esmeralda or its agents request; (c) what assistance was provided; (d) what was the reason assistance was provided to Esmeralda or its agents; and (e) did Austrade officials or other departmental officials consider Esmeralda to be a reputable company.

Notice given 1 October 2002

- 721 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to any visits by the Australian Ambassador to Indonesia and/or embassy officials, since 1 January 1999, to the following mine sites:
- (a) the PT Freeport Indonesia (Rio Tinto), mine site in Irian Jaya;
 - (b) the PT Indo Muro Kencana (Aurora Gold), mine site in Central Kalimantan (other than the visit on 25 May 2001);
 - (c) the PT Kendilo Coal Indonesia (BHP Billiton) mine site in East Kalimantan;
 - (d) the PT Arutmin Indonesia-Senakin (BHP Billiton) mine site in South Kalimantan; and
 - (e) the PT Kaltim Prima Coal (Rio Tinto), mine site in East Kalimantan:
- (1) When did the ambassador or embassy officials visit the mine site.
 - (2) What was the purpose of each visit.
 - (3) What issues were raised with the ambassador or embassy officials by mining company representatives.
 - (4) Did the ambassador or embassy officials meet with local non-government organisations concerning the impacts of the mines on landowners, downstream villagers and/or the operation of security forces; if so, who.
 - (5) Were security issues raised with the ambassador or embassy officials; if so, what were the specific concerns raised.

- (6) Were concerns about provisions of Indonesian legislation raised with the ambassador or embassy officials; if so, what were the specific concerns raised.
- (7) What was the cost of each trip.

Notice given 4 October 2002

723 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the statement, 'Moratorium on Live Sheep Exports from Portland', issued by the Minister on 1 October 2002:

- (1) When did the Minister first consider the imposition of a moratorium on live sheep exports from Portland.
- (2) Did the department, the Minister's office or the Minister receive any representations from industry requesting a moratorium on livestock exports; if so, who made these representations and when were they received.
- (3) Which members of the livestock export industry were consulted prior to the imposition of the moratorium.
- (4) (a) Which representatives of the livestock export industry were present at the meeting to discuss this matter on 1 October 2002; (b) where did this meeting occur; (c) what time did it begin; and (d) what was its duration.
- (5) When did the Minister decide to impose the moratorium.
- (6) Is the moratorium secured by a formal order, or is it an informal agreement; if it is an informal agreement, who are the parties to the agreement.
- (7) In relation to each of the five incidents of "unacceptable losses" to which the Minister refers, excluding the recent journey of the *Al Shuwaikh*: (a) when did these incidents occur; (b) what vessels were involved; (c) when and where did the journeys commence and end; (d) when was the health of the sheep checked; (e) at what point in the journey did the sheep die; (f) how many sheep died; and (g) what was the result of the investigation, if any, into the reportable deaths.
- (8) Has the Commonwealth received any communication from governments of livestock destination countries expressing concern about the high mortality rate aboard Australian export vessels or the health of the livestock that survive; if so, can details be provided of the nature of this communication, the source of the communication, the date or dates on which it was received, and the response of the Commonwealth, if any.
- (9) With respect to the recent journey of the *Al Shuwaikh* that triggered the Minister's action: (a) how many sheep died; (b) at which point or points in the journey did the sheep die; (c) at which point or points in the journey were the carcasses disposed of; (d) what was the method of disposal; (e) when were these deaths reported to the department; (f) when was the Minister's office advised of these deaths; (g) when was the Minister advised of these deaths; (h) when and where did this particular journey begin; (i) when, where and for what duration did the vessel dock at other ports during the journey; (j) what was the geographic origin of the sheep on board; (k) was their health assessed prior to departure, and what was the result of this assessment; (l) was their health assessed at any time after the vessel left Portland, and what was the result of this assessment; (m) what was the vessel's destination; (n) what was the final destination of the sheep; and (o) what assessment was made of the condition of the surviving sheep when the vessel reached its final port.

- (10) (a) What 'extra conditions' were imposed on the voyage; and (b) can full details be provided, including the method of assessing the appropriate conditions to be imposed and the department or agencies involved in determining these conditions.
- (11) (a) Which departments or agencies will conduct an investigation into the deaths on this voyage; (b) how long will the investigation take; and (c) will the results of the investigation be released to the public.
- (12) (a) How many other incidents of reportable deaths of sheep or livestock have involved the vessel *Al Shuwaikh* and/or its owners and/or operators; and (b) can full details be provided, including the date, the type and number of animals involved and the results of any investigations into these deaths.

726 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the statement, 'Moratorium on Live Sheep Exports from Portland', issued by the Minister on 1 October 2002:

- (1) When was the Independent Reference Group formed.
- (2) Why was it formed.
- (3) Who are its members.
- (4) What are its standing terms of reference.
- (5) Does it have particular terms of reference related to the current moratorium.
- (6) Who determines its membership.
- (7) Has its membership varied since its formation.
- (8) What is the method of appointment of its members.
- (9) On what dates has it previously met.
- (10) What recommendations has it previously made.
- (11) Have these recommendations been adopted; if not, why not.

Notice given 8 October 2002

750 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) With reference to the statement, 'Three more Indonesian boats apprehended in Australian waters', issued by the Minister on 3 October 2002: What are the names of the 62 'illegal vessels' apprehended in Australian waters since the beginning of 2002.
- (2) In relation to each of these vessels: (a) on what date was it apprehended; (b) when was its illegal activity first detected or reported; (c) where was it captured; (d) which departments and/or agencies coordinated and conducted the operation; (e) where was the vessel registered and under which flag did it sail; (f) how many crew were on board; (g) what Australian port was the vessel brought to; (h) what criminal charges, if any, were laid against the crew, master, operator and/or owner of the vessel, and in what jurisdiction were these charges brought; (i) what was the outcome of these legal proceedings; (j) what civil action, if any, was taken against the crew, master, owner and/or operator of the vessel, and in what jurisdiction was this action taken; (k) what was the outcome of these legal proceedings; and (l) has the vessel, crew, master, operator and/or owner ever been the subject of a report, charge or conviction in relation to illegal fishing or other prohibited activity in Australian waters; if so, when did this report, charge or conviction occur and what action or outcome resulted.

- (3) What are the names of the 27 vessels from which 'catch and/or gear' has been confiscated since the beginning of 2002.
- (4) In relation to each of these vessels: (a) on what date was the catch and/or gear confiscated; (b) was catch, gear, or catch and gear confiscated; (c) what was the type and value of the confiscated catch; (d) when was its illegal activity first detected or reported; (e) where was the catch and/or gear confiscated; (f) which departments and/or agencies coordinated and conducted the operation; (g) where was the vessel registered and under which flag did it sail; (h) how many crew were on board; (i) was the vessel brought to an Australian port; if so, which port; (j) what criminal charges, if any, were laid against the crew, master, operator and/or owner of the vessel, and in what jurisdiction were these charges brought; (k) what was the outcome of these legal proceedings; (l) what civil action, if any, was taken against the crew, master, owner and/or operator of the vessel, and in what jurisdiction was this action taken; and (m) what was the outcome of these legal proceedings.
- (5) When was the Australia-Indonesia Ministerial Forum formed.
- (6) On how many occasions has the matter of illegal fishing in Australian waters been discussed by the forum.
- (7) On how many occasions has the Minister directly discussed with his Indonesian counterpart the matter of illegal fishing in Australian waters by vessels registered in Indonesia, crewed by Indonesians or using Indonesian ports as a base for illegal fishing operations in Australian waters.

760 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) audit report no. 65 tabled on 28 June 2002, *Management of Commonwealth Superannuation Benefits to Members—Comsuper:*

- (1) In figure 3.10 the ANAO report states that 35 per cent of new members in the Department of Defence were not reported to ComSuper in the period from 1 July 2001 to 1 October 2001: Does this figure include members of the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme and the Military Superannuation and Benefit Scheme.
- (2) What steps has Defence taken to ensure that new members are reported to ComSuper in a more timely manner.
- (3) In each of the quarters after 1 October 2001, what proportions of new members in Defence were not reported to ComSuper.
- (4) In key finding 25 and in paragraphs 3.42 and 3.45 the ANAO report states that 'the Department of Defence (Defence) did not report up to 81% of changes in member contribution rates to ComSuper in 2000-01': Does this figure include members of both the civilian and the military superannuation schemes.
- (5) What steps has Defence taken to ensure that changes in member contribution rates are reported to ComSuper in a more timely manner.
- (6) In the year starting 1 July 2001, what proportion of changes in member contribution rates was not reported to ComSuper.

763 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—With reference to the Government's announcement on 26 September 2002 that it has reallocated 1 600 outside school hour child care places: By local government area and by federal electorate: (a) where did these places come from; and (b) where have these places been re-allocated to.

Notice given 9 October 2002

- 766 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—In relation to contingency funds assigned to capital equipment projects (reflecting the perceived risks associated with each project):
- (1) For each of the top 20 major capital projects identified in the 2002-03 Budget Statement, what was the original size of any such contingency fund associated with the acquisition project and what is the amount now remaining.
 - (2) Where a project has been completed and some of the contingency fund remains unspent what happens to those remaining funds.
 - (3) What was the total amount of such unspent funds remaining from projects completed in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02.
- 768 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—In relation to cost increases (separate to prices growth and foreign exchange movements) approved for all capital equipment projects worth more than \$50 million:
- (1) What were the cost increases approved in each of the following financial years: (a) 1998-99; (b) 1999-2000; (c) 2000-01 and (d) 2001-02.
 - (2) For each cost increase approved, what was: (a) the name of the project; (b) the original budget approved for the project; (c) the amount of the approved cost increase; (d) the date the increase was approved; and (e) the reason for the cost increase.
- 769 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the employment of professional service providers (PSPs) in the Defence Materiel Organisation:
- (1) How many PSPs were employed in each of the following periods: (a) July to December 2000; (b) January to June 2001; (c) July to December 2001; and (d) January to June 2002.
 - (2) What was the total cost of PSPs employed in each of the following periods: (a) July to December 2000; (b) January to June 2001; (c) July to December 2001; and (d) January to June 2002.
 - (3) For the PSPs currently employed, what proportion were previously employees of Defence.
 - (4) For the PSPs currently employed: (a) what categories are employed, for example, accountants, project managers, computer specialists, engineers; and (b) approximately what proportion do they represent of the total numbers employed.
 - (5) For the PSPs currently employed: how many have been employed (not necessarily continuously) by Defence for a total of: (a) 0 to 50 days; (b) 51 to 150 days; (c) 151 to 300 days; and (d) more than 300 days.
 - (6) Among the PSPs employed today, what is the largest number of days a PSP has been employed by Defence.
 - (7) Among the PSPs employed today, what is the largest amount paid to a PSP by Defence.

Notice given 10 October 2002

- 771 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) What is currently the postulated cause of Gulf War syndrome.

- (2) What is microplasm.
- (3) Have any Australians been subject to Gulf War syndrome.
- (4) Is Gulf War syndrome a real condition or has the Government established that it does not exist.

Notice given 14 October 2002

776 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has the Deputy Prime Minister written to the Prime Minister concerning the future of the Australian Greenhouse Office; if so, what was the date of that letter.
- (2) Did the Deputy Prime Minister's letter propose that the functions of the Australian Greenhouse Office be split.
- (3) (a) What functions of the Australian Greenhouse Office did the Deputy Prime Minister propose to be transferred to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet; (b) what functions did the Deputy Prime Minister propose to be transferred to the Department of Industry, Science and Resources; and (c) what functions did the Deputy Prime Minister propose be left within the jurisdiction of Environment Australia.
- (4) If the Deputy Prime Minister did not propose that the Australian Greenhouse Office be split, what did he propose concerning its future.

Notice given 15 October 2002

778 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the proponents of a steel profiling plant at Moruya, New South Wales, listed in the Dairy Regional Assistance Program project summary of round 6 for the 2001-02 financial year; and (b) was the Minister or his office contacted by any person on behalf of the proponents of the above project.
- (2) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the Federal Member for Eden Monaro (Mr Nairn) in relation to the above project.
- (3) Was the Minister or his office contacted by any member of the South East New South Wales Area Consultative Committee in relation to the above project.
- (4) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, or his staff, or officers of the Department of Transport and Regional Services in relation to the above project.
- (5) With reference to any contact by the persons listed above with the Minister or his office: (a) when did each communication take place; (b) who was involved in each communication; (c) what was the nature of each communication; (d) what was the form of each communication; and (e) which officers from the department were involved in any way in these contacts.

779 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) Was the Minister or his office contacted by Australian Solar Timbers about an application for funding through the Dairy Regional Assistance Program for the development of a short floor manufacturing project in

Kempsey; and (b) was the Minister or his office contacted by any person on behalf of the proponents of the above project.

- (2) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the Federal Member for Lyne (Mr Vaile) in relation to the above project.
- (3) Was the Minister or his office contacted by any member of Australia's Holiday Coast Area Consultative Committee in relation to the above project.
- (4) Was the Minister or his office contacted by the Minister for Transport and Regional Services, or his staff, or officers of the Department of Transport and Regional Services in relation to the above project.
- (5) With reference to any contact by the persons listed above with the Minister or his office: (a) when did each communication take place; (b) who was involved in each communication; (c) what was the nature of each communication; (d) what was the form of each communication; and (e) which officers from the department were involved in any way in these contacts.

780 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 353 (Senate *Hansard*, 19 August 2002, p. 3166):

- (1) If there are no provisions or processes to review or investigate possible breaches of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority Code of Conduct, what are the guidelines or rules against which breaches of the code are reviewed or investigated.
- (2) On how many occasions since January 2000 have breaches of the code been referred to an authorised officer or manager.
- (3) In each case: (a) when was the matter referred to the authorised officer or manager; (b) who was the authorised officer or manager; (c) what action did the authorised officer or manager take; (d) was external legal advice sought; and (e) when was the matter concluded.

781 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 355 (Senate *Hansard*, 19 August 2002, p. 3166): Have any legal costs been incurred by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority in relation to any investigation or review of any actions allegedly in breach of the Code of Conduct since January 2000; if so, on each occasion: (a) what was the cost of the legal advice; (b) when was the legal advice provided; (c) what was the nature of the legal advice; and (d) who provided the legal advice.

782 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answers to questions on notice nos 354 and 357 (Senate *Hansard*, 19 August 2002, pp. 3166-7): Is the Minister advising that there is no record of legal advice of alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct that can be made available to the Parliament.

790 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Trade—

- (1) What forms of economic protection has the European Union (EU) provided to EU sugar cane producers since 1985.
- (2) What meetings has the Minister, or any of his predecessors, had since March 1996 with officials of the EU in order to lobby for the reduction of EU economic protection of EU sugar cane growers.
- (3) When was each meeting held.

- (4) Where was each meeting held.
- (5) Who attended each meeting.
- (6) What records were kept of each meeting.
- (7) What meetings has the Minister, or any of his predecessors, had since March 1996 with officials of the World Trade Organization in order to lobby for the reduction of EU economic protection of EU sugar cane growers.
- (8) When was each meeting held.
- (9) Where was each meeting held.
- (10) Who attended each meeting.
- (11) What records were kept of each meeting.

791 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Trade—

- (1) What approaches has the Minister, or any of his predecessors, had since March 1996 from the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, his predecessors, or officials of his department, requesting that the Australian Minister for Trade lobby the European Union (EU) for a reduction in economic protection of EU sugar cane growers.
- (2) When was each meeting held.
- (3) Where was each meeting held.
- (4) Who attended each meeting.
- (5) What records were kept of each meeting.
- (6) What approaches has the Minister, or any of his predecessors, had since March 1996 from the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, his predecessors, or officials of his department, requesting that officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade lobby the EU for a reduction in economic protection of EU sugar cane growers.
- (7) When was each meeting held.
- (8) Where was each meeting held.
- (9) Who attended each meeting.
- (10) What records were kept of each meeting.

792 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What approaches have been made since March 1996 by the Minister, or any of his predecessors, to the Minister for Trade, or his predecessors, requesting that the Australian Minister for Trade lobby the European Union (EU) for a reduction in economic protection of EU sugar cane growers.
- (2) When was each meeting held.
- (3) Where was each meeting held.
- (4) Who attended each meeting.
- (5) What records were kept of each meeting.
- (6) What approaches have been made since March 1996 by the Minister, or any of his predecessors, requesting that the officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade lobby the EU for a reduction in economic protection of EU sugar cane growers.
- (7) When was each meeting held.

- (8) Where was each meeting held.
- (9) Who attended each meeting.
- (10) What records were kept of each meeting.

793 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What approaches has the Minister, or any of his predecessors, had since March 1996 from the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, his predecessors, or officials of his department, requesting that the Minister for Foreign Affairs lobby the European Union (EU) for a reduction in economic protection of EU sugar cane growers.
- (2) When was each meeting held.
- (3) Where was each meeting held.
- (4) Who attended each meeting.
- (5) What records were kept of each meeting.
- (6) What approaches has the Minister, or any of his predecessors, had since March 1996 from the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, his predecessors, or officials of his department, requesting that officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade lobby the EU for a reduction in economic protection of EU sugar cane growers.
- (7) When was each meeting held.
- (8) Where was each meeting held.
- (9) Who attended each meeting.
- (10) What records were kept of each meeting.

798 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) How many Australian Quarantine Inspection Service (AQIS) staff directly involved in the procedures of X-raying and otherwise examining passenger luggage were posted at Kingsford Smith Airport during each week of the following months: (a) June 2002; (b) July 2002; (c) August 2002; and (d) September 2002.
- (2) How many AQIS staff directly involved in the procedures of X-raying and otherwise examining passenger luggage were posted at Kingsford Smith Airport during each week of the following months: (a) June 2001; (b) July 2001; (c) August 2001; and (d) September 2001.
- (3) How many passengers had their luggage X-rayed or otherwise examined by officers of AQIS at Kingsford Smith Airport during each week of the following months: (a) June 2002; (b) July 2002; (c) August 2002; and (d) September 2002.
- (4) How many passengers had their luggage X-rayed or otherwise examined by officers of AQIS at Kingsford Smith Airport during each week of the following months: (a) June 2001; (b) July 2001; (c) August 2001; and (d) September 2001.
- (5) What percentage of passengers had their luggage X-rayed or otherwise examined of by officers of AQIS at Kingsford Smith Airport during each week of the following months: (a) June 2002; (b) July 2002; (c) August 2002; and (d) September 2002.

- (6) What percentage of passengers had their luggage X-rayed or otherwise examined of by officers of AQIS at Kingsford Smith Airport during each week of the following months: (a) June 2001; (b) July 2001; (c) August 2001; and (d) September 2001.

Notice given 16 October 2002

803 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women—With reference to the Partnerships Against Domestic Violence (PADV) Program:

- (1) Is Dr Tricia Szirom involved with the two companies known as Success Works and Strategic Partners, as an owner, director or employee.
- (2) What is Dr Tricia Szirom's relationship to these companies.
- (3) What is the connection between these two companies.
- (4) Is Success Works a subsidiary of Strategic Partners.
- (5) (a) Is the Minister aware that, during Senate estimates hearings in June 2002, Ms Bentley advised the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee that the Success Works company was the appointed evaluator of the meta-evaluation of the PADV; and (b) can the Minister confirm whether this is the case or whether Strategic Partners is contracted to do the meta-evaluation rather than Success Works.
- (6) What amount has been budgeted for and paid to Dr Tricia Szirom as a consultant.
- (7) What amount has been budgeted for and paid to Strategic Partners from the PADV.
- (8) What amount has been budgeted for and paid to Success Works from the PADV.
- (9) Was Dr Tricia Szirom paid as a facilitator or for a consultancy for the PADV conference in Perth in December 2001.
- (10) What was the total amount paid to Dr Szirom for her work at the conference in Perth in December 2001.
- (11) Was Dr Szirom paid \$2 500 per day plus expenses during this conference.
- (12) Has Dr Szirom been contracted by the Office of the Status of Women (OSW) to undertake capacity building workshops nationally.
- (13) What amount has been budgeted for and paid to Dr Szirom for the capacity building workshops.
- (14) What amount has been budgeted for and paid to Dr Szirom through Strategic Partners for the meta-evaluation.
- (15) (a) Has Success Works gained the tender to be the 'Project Manager' of the 'PADV Children's Projects'; and (b) what is the total amount of this tender.
- (16) How is Strategic Partners (the meta-evaluator of the PADV) going to evaluate the work of Success Works (the project manager of the PADV Children's Projects) when both companies have close links with each other.
- (17) Who are the directors and stakeholders of Success Works and Strategic Partners, respectively.
- (18) Has Dr Szirom been contracted in the 2002-03 financial year for PADV 2 rather than PADV 1.

- (19) Regarding the PADV children's projects, have organisations or businesses that lodged a tender been informed either by phone or in writing that they were unsuccessful; if so, on what date was this done.
- (20) Who has been awarded the tender for the children's projects.
- (21) Who has been awarded the tender for the perpetrators' projects.
- (22) Who has been awarded the tender for the project management of the women's services projects.
- (23) Given that under PADV 1 a major project was the Community Awareness Project, can the Minister provide a summary of the implementation of this project.
- (24) (a) Following the development of the National Domestic Violence Competency Standards, who won the tender to develop the curriculum development for these standards; and (b) given that these competencies need to be delivered in an appropriate way, why are they available on the Australian National Training Authority's web site for any registered training organisation to take and deliver.
- (25) How many PADV publications have been produced by OSW since the project was first funded.
- (26) What is the total cost of these publications.

Notice given 17 October 2002

- 807 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Can the following information be provided for each of the following financial years: (a) 1998-99; (b) 1999-2000; (c) 2000-01; and (d) 2001-02; and (e) as an estimate for 2002-03: The cost to the department of:
- (1) The lease of the Edmond Barton Building.
 - (2) Human resources services.
 - (3) Information technology services.
 - (4) The provision of financial services.
 - (5) Audit services.
 - (6) Security services.
 - (7) The department's executive and chief executive officers.
 - (8) The provision of ministerial support services.
- 808 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Did the department engage Mr David Bannam to undertake a review of the National Residue Survey Program.
 - (2) (a) When was Mr Bannam engaged; (b) what was the term of his engagement; (c) what was the cost of his engagement; and (d) when did Mr Bannam complete his work.
 - (3) Did Mr Bannam's report contain a set of recommendations and principles to be applied to the program; if so: (a) what were Mr Bannam's recommendations; and (b) what were the principles proposed by Mr Bannam for the program.
 - (4) Has the Minister accepted both Mr Bannam's principles and the recommendations for the program; if so, when will the department implement the recommendations made by Mr Bannam.

- 809 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) (a) What increases in costs have been imposed on each industry participating in the National Residue Survey Program for each of the following financial years: (i) 1998-99, (ii) 1999-2000, (iii) 2000-01, (iv) 2001-02, and (v) 2002-03; and (b) what increases are proposed for the 2003-04 financial year.
 - (2) (a) What was the nature of these increases, by industry and by year; (b) what was the basis of each increase, by industry and by year; and (c) what consultative process was followed with industry prior to each increase in charges being put in place.
- 810 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the costs to industry of its participation in the National Residue Survey Program:
- (1) By industry group: (a) what was the actual cost of sampling and analytical testing; and (b) what were the associated administrative costs of the program, in each of the following financial years: (i) 1998-99, (ii) 1999-2000, (iii) 2000-01, and (iv) 2001-02.
 - (2) What are the forecast costs for (1)(a) and (1)(b) for the 2002-03 financial year.
- 811 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—For each financial year from 1996-1997 to 2001-2002, what was the number of: (i) full-time staff, (ii) part-time staff, (iii) casual staff, and (iv) contractors, at each of the following Australian Customs Service locations:
- (1) In New South Wales: (a) Pitt Street, Sydney; (b) Sydney Airport (all locations); (c) Clyde Postal Operations; (d) Eastlake Detector Dog Unit; (e) Neutral Bay Marine Centre; (f) Newcastle Regional Office; (g) Wollongong Regional Office; (h) Richmond RAAF Base; (i) Eden Regional Office; and (j) Coffs Harbour Regional Office.
 - (2) In the Australian Capital Territory: (a) Customs House and any associated locations; (b) Fyshwick Detector Dog Unit; and (c) Fyshwick Technical Annex.
 - (3) In Queensland: (a) Terrica Place City Office; (b) Parcels Post Office; (c) Pinkenbah Detector Dog Unit; (d) Brisbane Airport (all locations); (e) Bundaberg Regional Office; (f) Gladstone Regional Office; (g) Mackay Regional Office; (h) Townsville Regional Office; (i) Cairns Regional Office; (j) Thursday Island Regional Office; and (k) Weipa Regional Office.
 - (4) In South Australia: (a) Port Adelaide Customs House; (b) Parcel Post Office; (c) Adelaide Airport (all locations); (d) Port Pirie; and (e) Port Lincoln.
 - (5) In Tasmania: (a) Hobart Customs House; (b) Launceston Regional Office; and (c) Burnie Regional Office.
 - (6) In Victoria: (a) Melbourne Customs House; (b) Tullamarine Airport (all locations); (c) Sperry Drive Postal Operations; (d) East Swanston Dock; and (e) Portland.
 - (7) In Western Australia: (a) Customs House Fremantle; (b) Welshpool Postal Operations; (c) Perth Airport (all locations); (d) Detector Dog Unit; (e) Albany Regional Office; (f) Bunbury Regional office; (g) Carnavon

- Regional Office; (h) Dampier Regional Office; (i) Esperance Regional Office; (j) Geraldton Regional Office; (k) Port Headland Regional Office; and (l) Broome Regional Office.
- (8) In the Northern Territory: (a) Darwin Customs House; (b) Darwin Airport; and (c) Gove.
- (9) Lord Howe Island.

Notice given 18 October 2002

819 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) In total, and for each region, how many assessments were conducted for access to the Veterans' Home Care (VHC) scheme for each month during the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03 to date.
- (2) In total, and for each region, how many applications have been rejected each month.
- (3) In total, and for each region, how many accepted veterans and widows have had services: (a) cancelled; and (b) reduced, in each month.
- (4) What was the: (a) projected expenditure; and (b) actual expenditure, for the program for each quarter since its inception.
- (5) How many clients currently receive: (a) one service; and (b) more than one service under the VHC scheme.
- (6) (a) How many clients have transferred from the Home and Community Care (HACC) Program to the VHC scheme; and (b) how many veterans who may be eligible for VHC remain in the HACC program.
- (7) (a) How many service providers have had their contracts: (i) suspended, and (ii) terminated; and (b) how many service providers have withdrawn.
- (8) What guidelines exist for agencies determining whether house maintenance can be made available under the VHC scheme or whether it ought to be provided only under the Home Maintenance Helpline service.
- (9) (a) What are the current funding levels for each region; and (b) what were the funding levels in the 2001-02 financial year.
- (10) If there were reductions in funding for the 2002-03 financial year, what were the reasons.
- (11) In how many regions have home maintenance and gardening hourly allowances been: (a) reduced; and (b) eliminated in whole or in part.
- (12) For the 2002-03 financial year to date, by region, how many applicants have been denied access to VHC and referred to HACC.
- (13) For each region: (a) what proportion of: (i) 6-monthly, and (ii) annual, reassessments have been conducted on time; and (b) how many have not been done at all.
- (14) For each region, how many clients have had services reduced without a reassessment during the 2002-03 financial year to date.
- (15) Have criteria for assessment been altered since the program's inception; if so, how.
- (16) How many clients are currently on waiting lists in each region.
- (17) (a) How many VHC clients have transferred to HACC; and (b) what financial adjustments between programs have been made.

- (18) (a) How many clients in total have transferred from HACC; and (b) what adjustments have been made as a result of VHC funding.
- (19) For each quarter since the program's inception, what proportion of services have been for: (a) domestic assistance; (b) personal care; (c) home and garden maintenance; (d) in-home respite; (e) residential respite; and (f) emergency respite.
- (20) How many veteran clients of the department received: (a) in-house respite; (b) residential respite; and (c) emergency respite, under the general Commonwealth respite programs for each quarter in the 2001-02 financial year and the 2002-03 financial year to date, as opposed to receiving those services funded under the VHC scheme.
- (21) Has an interim report on the evaluation of VHC been received; if so: (a) what are its findings and recommendations; and (b) can a copy be provided.
- (22) For each region, in how many instances have agencies declined to: (a) make assessments; and (b) provide services, for whatever reason, including remoteness.
- (23) How many veteran clients of the department received personal care services from programs other than VHC in each quarter of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03 to date.
- (24) How many veteran clients of the department availed themselves of services under the Home Maintenance Helpline service for each quarter of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03 to date.
- (25) Given the original estimate of savings in the health program as a result of this program, what is the estimated reduction of those savings flowing from reductions of services below those assessed.
- (26) (a) What were the average hours approved for each service in the VHC scheme as at: (i) 31 December 2001, (ii) 30 June 2002, and (iii) 30 September 2002; and (b) how many clients were in receipt of each service at those times.
- (27) (a) What is the current fee paid to each agency for each assessment made; and (b) what other funding is provided to agencies for administrative overheads.
- (28) (a) What is the current scale of charges for each of the services provided under the VHC scheme by providers managed by agencies; and (b) what is the equivalent scale for other programs such as respite and HACC.
- (29) As at 30 September 2002, how many agencies have overspent pro rata on their allocated budget.
- (30) How many agencies have reduced staff as a result of the reduced allocations.

Notice given 21 October 2002

820 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the announcement of Westside Community Lawyers as the successful tender to provide community legal services:

- (1) How much funding has Westside Community Lawyers received from the Federal Government from 1 July 2002 to the date of its successful tender application.

- (2) Of the Community Legal Centres which service South Australia, which centres receive funding from the federal Government, and how much is allocated to each centre.
- (3) Will funding be allocated to advise consumers in smaller towns, including Whyalla and Crystal Brook, of the services provided by Westside Community Lawyers; if so, how much; if not, how will residents of rural communities learn of the service.
- (4) When the outreach service visits smaller towns such as Whyalla and Crystal Brook, for how many hours will it be open.
- (5) Does the service provided by Westside Community Lawyers also include a regional law hotline service; if so, is there additional funding for this service; if not, is there another group that offers a regional law hotline service in the area.

Notice given 23 October 2002

823 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) How many offences under the *Copyright Act 1968* relating to piracy have resulted in: (a) a conviction; (b) a maximum penalty fine of \$65 000 being imposed; and (c) imprisonment.
- (2) Can information be provided on individual cases where prosecution of these crimes have led to conviction, financial penalties and/or imprisonment.
- (3) In cases where piracy was found to have occurred, what happened to the copying devices used to pirate movies and/or sound recordings
- (4) In each conviction for piracy of movies and/or sound recordings, did the Director of Public Prosecutions make a submission on behalf of the Government during the trial, or sentencing phase, which requested that the court take into consideration the quantity and value of the items seized; if so, what was the court's comment or finding in each case in relation to this submission.

Notice given 28 October 2002

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

- (1) Is it true that a computer programming or other administrative error caused the issuing of incorrect superannuation statements by the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS); if so, from what date were these statements wrong.
- (2) How many people are affected by the error.
- (3) Will this error result in all those affected having to do revised tax returns and having their tax re-assessed; if so, what is the range of additional tax that would be payable by these retirees.
- (4) Is the Government considering waiving the additional tax payable; if not, who will pay any costs incurred by these retirees as a direct result of the error by the PSS.

Notice given 30 October 2002

829 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that electricity is classified as a good or service for the purposes of the goods and services tax.

- (2) Can the Minister also confirm that, for the purposes of determining liability for damage to a consumer's electrical goods due to load shedding by an electricity supplier's power, there is a dispute over whether the supply of electricity is a good or service (see *Electricity Supply Association of Australia Ltd v ACCC* [2001] FCA 1296, 12 September 2001) and that this dispute has hitherto allowed suppliers to avoid liability for damage.
- (3) Can the Minister explain how these two positions are consistent; if not, what steps is the Government taking to address this apparent inconsistency.

830 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that: (a) now that the Riverina and North Victoria are in the grip of one of the worst droughts in memory, the inflow to the Hume and Dartmouth dams is extremely low; (b) irrigation water allocations are unavailable to struggling farmers; (c) this desperate situation has led to a reported slaughter of more than 60 000 prime dairy cows from the Goulburn Valley, known as the food bowl of Australia; and (d) there will be a 90 per cent drop in rice sowing this year and very little fodder will be conserved.
- (2) Given that there remains a huge amount of water in the Snowy Mountains storage system, at a time of such crisis why cannot the Government intervene to find a way of releasing some of this water to farmers at an affordable price.
- (3) Given that the release of this water would have a flow-on effect throughout the region and could prevent many business and farm bankruptcies, what action will the minister be taking.

Notice given 1 November 2002

833 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What action has the Australian Air Force taken to address the significant shortfall of air traffic controllers that existed on 1 July 2001.
- (2) How many air traffic controllers have been newly recruited to the Australian Air Force since 1 July 2001.
- (3) (a) How many air traffic controllers have separated from the Australian Air Force since 1 July 2001 (can the information on separations be broken down to show the length of service of those personnel that separated from the Air Force).
- (4) Does the Australian Air Force conduct exit surveys as a means of determining why personnel with specialist skills are separating from the Air Force. if so, what do the findings of these surveys show; if not, why not.
- (5) What is the current strength of air traffic controllers on air force bases.
- (6) What is the required strength of air traffic controllers on air force bases.
- (7) What action is the Australian Air Force taking to overcome the ongoing shortage of air traffic controllers.

834 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What action has the Australian Army taken to address the significant shortfall of personnel with specialist skills that existed as at 1 July 2001.
- (2) How many medical assistants, infantry combat clerks, linguists, bearer systems operators, radar operators, special vehicle engineers, supply

operators and terminal operators have been newly recruited to the Australian Army since 1 July 2001.

- (3) How many medical assistants, infantry combat clerks, linguists, bearer systems operators, radar operators, special vehicle engineers, supply operators and terminal operators have separated from the Australian Army since 1 July 2001 (can the information on separations be broken down to show the length of service of those personnel that separated from the Army).
- (4) Does the Australian Army conduct exit surveys as a means of determining why personnel with specialist skills are separating from the Army; if so, what do the findings of these surveys show; if not, why not.
- (5) What is the current strength of medical assistants, infantry combat clerks, linguists, bearer systems operators, radar operators, special vehicle engineers, supply operators and terminal operators at army bases.
- (6) What is the required strength of medical assistants, infantry combat clerks, linguists, bearer systems operators, radar operators, special vehicle engineers, supply operators and terminal operators at army bases.
- (7) What action is the Australian Army taking to overcome the ongoing shortage of personnel with specialist skills.

835 Senator Evans: To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) What are the most recent figures on how many permanent members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) there are; (b) can these figures be provided for each of the services; and (c) can this information be broken down by gender.
- (2) For each of the services, are the current figures above or below expectations.
- (3) For each of the services, why are the current figures above or below expectations.
- (4) (a) What were the targets for the total numbers for each of the services over the past 5 financial years; and (b) what were the actual numbers for each of the services over the past 5 financial years.
- (6) What are the targets for the total numbers for each of the services over the next 5 financial years.
- (7) With reference to (e) of question W36 from February 2002 (Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee, Additional Estimates 2001-02), can an update to the tables for each of the services be provided.
- (8) With reference to part (f) of question W36, can an update to the tables for each of the Services be provided, showing the same information as at 31 December 2001 and 30 June 2002.
- (9) With reference to part (f) of question W36, are there any other specialist areas in the ADF experiencing shortages of personnel (that is, areas of specialist skill that were not identified in the previous answer to this question).

836 Senator Evans: To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What action has the Royal Australian Navy taken to address the significant shortfall of pilots, seaman officers, weapons electrical aircraft engineers, electronic technicians and marine technicians that existed as at 1 July 2001.

- (2) How many pilots, seaman officers, weapons electrical aircraft engineers, electronic technicians and marine technicians have been newly recruited to the Royal Australian Navy since 1 July 2001.
- (3) How many pilots, seaman officers, weapons electrical aircraft engineers, electronic technicians and marine technicians have separated from the Royal Australian Navy since 1 July 2001 (can the information on separations be broken down to show the length of service of those personnel that separated from the Royal Australian Navy).
- (4) Does the Royal Australian Navy conduct exit surveys as a means of determining why personnel with specialist skills are separating from the Royal Australian Navy; if so, what do the findings of these surveys show; if not, why not.
- (5) What is the current strength of pilots, seaman officers, weapons electrical aircraft engineers, electronic technicians and marine technicians at navy bases.
- (6) What is the required strength of pilots, seaman officers, weapons electrical aircraft engineers, electronic technicians and marine technicians at navy bases.
- (7) What action is the Royal Australian Navy taking to overcome the ongoing shortage of pilots, seaman officers, weapons electrical aircraft engineers, electronic technicians and marine technicians.

837 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) What were the enlistment targets for each of the services over the past 5 financial years; (b) what are the enlistment targets for each of the services for the 2002-03 financial year; and (c) what are the enlistment targets for each of the services for the next 4 financial years.
- (2) With reference to the answers to parts (1) and (2) of question on notice no. 205 (Senate *Hansard*, 15 May 2002, p.1668) on enquires about joining the services: Can the table be updated to provide final figures for the 2001-02 financial year and year-to-date figures for the 2002-03 financial year.
- (3) With reference to the answer to part (3) of question on notice no. 205 on applications to join each of the services: Can the table be updated to provide final figures for the 2001-02 financial year and year-to-date figures for the 2002-03 financial year.
- (4) With reference to the answer to part (4) of question on notice no. 205 on enlistments to each of the services: Can the table be updated to provide final figures for the 2001-02 financial year and year-to-date figures for the 2002-03 financial year.
- (5) With reference to the answer to part (5) of question on notice no. 205 on separations from each of the services: Can the table be updated to provide final figures for the 2001-02 financial year and year-to-date figures for the 2002-03 financial year.

838 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee's Estimates hearings of June 2002, at which Defence indicated that the Incident Response Regiment (IRR) would number 309 personnel when fully staffed, and that 117 new recruits would be required to fully staff the IRR, with the remaining personnel to be 'regathered' from those soldiers that were part of an earlier incident response initiative during the Sydney Olympics:

- (1) Is 309 personnel still considered adequate for the IRR; if not, what is the revised number of personnel that is required to fully staff the IRR.
- (2) Is the IRR now fully staffed; if not: (a) how many more personnel are required before the IRR is fully staffed; (b) when is it expected that the IRR personnel target will be achieved; and (c) what action is being taken to recruit more personnel.
- (3) (a) How many separations from the IRR have there been since it was established; and (b) can a breakdown be provided to indicate whether the separations were by personnel who had been regathered, or whether they were by new recruits.
- (4) How many new personnel have been recruited to the IRR since its establishment (that is, not counting the personnel that were regathered from elsewhere in the ADF).
- (5) (a) How many of the new personnel were new recruits to the Australian Army; (b) how many were recruited from other parts of the Australian Defence Force (not counting the personnel that were being regathered); and (c) from where were the other personnel recruited.
- (6) (a) Who is providing the training program; (b) has the training program commenced; (c) can a list of activities that are undertaken as part of the training program be provided.
- (7) Is the IRR able to be deployed now; if not, when will the IRR be ready to be deployed.
- (8) Can a breakdown be provided of exactly what the \$18.5 million in the 2002-03 financial year will be spent on.
- (9) (a) How much of the \$18.5 million allocated for the 2002-03 financial year has been spent already; and (b) is additional funding likely to be required.

Notice given 4 November 2002

839 **Senator Greig:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What is the status of the permissive occupancy arrangement between the State of Western Australia and the federal Department of Defence for the Lancelin Army Training Area.
- (2) Is the permissive occupancy arrangement ongoing or subject to renewal; if it is subject to renewal, when is this arrangement due to expire.
- (3) (a) What process is involved in the making of, or renewal of, the permissive occupancy arrangement; and (b) is public consultation part of the process.
- (4) What role do the affected local governments (the Dandaragan and Gingin Shires) play in the process of making or renewing the permissive occupancy arrangement.
- (5) In view of the significant and soundly-based public opposition to the recent proposal to extend the Lancelin Army Training Area, and the Federal Government's decision not to proceed with the extension: Will the Government consider terminating the permissive occupancy arrangement and relocating army training activities elsewhere.

Notice given 6 November 2002

840 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) How many Reservists are there currently in Victoria; and (b) how many of these are: (i) Active Reservists, (ii) Inactive Reservists, and (iii) High Readiness Reservists.
- (2) What were the equivalent figures as at: (a) 30 June 2002; (b) 30 June 2001; and (c) 30 June 2000.
- (3) (a) How many Victorian Reservists are health specialists, for example, nurses, general practitioners, medical specialists, paramedics etc.: (i) currently, (ii) as at 30 June 2002, (iii) as at 30 June 2001, and (iv) as at 30 June 2000; and (b) what definition of health specialist was used in answering this question.
- (4) How many Victorian Reservists that are health specialists are: (a) Active Reservists; (b) Inactive Reservists; and (c) High Readiness Reservists.
- (5) (a) How many Reservists were deployed to Bali as part of the emergency response effort after the 12 October 2002 bombing; and (b) what were the numbers from each state and territory.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that Reservists cannot be posted or redeployed by Defence to another unit in Australia, that is, other than by applying for transfer.
- (7) (a) How many Victorian Reservists applied for discharge in each of the following financial years: (i) 1999-2000, (ii) 2000-01, and (iii) 2001-02; and (b) of these, how many were health specialists (using the same definition outlined in the answer to question (3)).
- (8) (a) How many Victorian Reservists have applied for discharge since 30 June 2002; and (b) of these, how many are health specialists (using the same definition outlined in answer to question (3)).
- (9) How many Reservists are or were attached to RAAF6 Hospital: (a) currently; (b) as at 30 June 2002; (c) as at 30 June 2001; and (d) as at 30 June 2000.

841 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 205 (Senate *Hansard*, 15 May 2002, p. 1668) which provided information on enlistments, to and separations from, each of the services: Given that recent Defence annual reports also provide information on enlistments to (see for example table 5.11 of the *Defence Annual Report 2001-02*), and separations from (see for example table 5.15 of the report) each of the services:

- (1) Should the enlistment and separation information provided in response to question on notice no. 205 be identical to the enlistment and separation information included in Defence annual reports.
- (2) If the information is not the same, what is the explanation for the difference.
- (3) (a) If the information should be the same, why do the annual figures provided in response to question on notice 205 on enlistments into each of the services consistently differ from the information contained in Defence annual reports; and (b) is there any explanation for the consistent discrepancy in enlistment figures across each of the services.
- (4) (a) If the information should be the same, why do the annual figures provided in response to question on notice no. 205 on separations from each of the services consistently differ from the information contained in Defence annual reports; and (b) is there any explanation for the consistent discrepancy in separation figures across each of the services.

842 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What is the total cost of the contract that has been, or will be, awarded to Mayne Health Services for provision of Australian Defence Force (ADF) health services in Victoria.
- (2) (a) What is the duration of the contract; and (b) when does it commence.
- (3) Can details be provided of the options for extension of the contract.
- (4) What are the key performance indicators for the contract.
- (5) In relation to the Minister's statement to the Senate on 21 October 2002 that in some areas current health services to ADF in Victoria will improve: what are those areas.
- (6) Does the Government require Mayne to employ some, or all, of the on-base medical staff for the ADF in Victoria on the contractual basis that the staff are subject to posting: (a) within Australia; and (b) overseas; if so, how many staff have such a contractual condition, in relation to both (a) and (b).
- (7) Does the contract with Mayne include any provision on the use of Reservists; if so, can details be provided on Mayne's obligation in relation to Reservists.
- (8) Can copies of the tender documents for the provision of health services in the Australian Capital Territory and southern New South Wales region be provided.
- (9) When will a decision be made on the outsourcing of health services in the Australian Capital Territory and New South Wales; if the timeframe is not known, can an estimate be provided.
- (10) What is the original baseline cost for the provision of on-base health services in Victoria from which the projected cost saving is calculated.
- (11) What has it cost the department to conduct the various reviews into the cost of health services in Victoria since 1997.
- (12) Are all Defence health services being market tested; if not, in which areas is no market testing occurring, and why.
- (13) Is any planning underway to outsource health services in areas other than Victoria, the Australian Capital Territory and southern New South Wales.
- (14) Can the Minister confirm that non-ADF hospitals, that is, public or private hospitals, within Australia treat ADF personnel as privately insured patients, and that the Government pays the gap.

843 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) Can the Minister confirm: (i) that a decision has been taken to shut RAAF6 Hospital, and (ii) that this decision was made by the Government; (b) if the decision was not made by the Government, did Mayne Health Services make this decision; and (c) when was this decision made.
- (2) Other than RAAF6 Hospital, how many Australian Defence Force (ADF) hospitals treat personnel from all three services.
- (3) What types of surgery have been conducted at RAAF6 Hospital since it opened in the early 1990s.
- (4) What are the target numbers and actual strength for the various categories of ADF permanent uniformed health personnel in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02. (Please use the same categories as were used in answer to Question W9 arising out of

Additional estimates hearings of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee on 20 to 21 February 2002.)

- (5) How many permanent ADF personnel employed in health roles in Victoria have sought discharge: (a) for the following financial years: (i) 1999-2000, (ii) 2000-01, and (iii) 2001-02; and (b) since 1 July 2002,

844 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the actual or projected Commonwealth outlay for each financial year since 1996-97, and for forward projections to 2005-06, for each of the following categories: (a) roads (including specific general purpose grants to the states with the intention that the grant will be spent on roads); (b) rail; and (c) urban public transport (can the information be provided in a table format).
- (2) What is the actual or projected Commonwealth outlay for each financial year since 1996-97, and for forward projections to 2005-06, for: (a) aggregate expenditure on the National Highway System; and (b) payments to states for forward planning and/or land acquisition and/or environmental impact assessment for planned improvements to the National Highway System.
- (3) What are the Commonwealth receipts from rail (including interest and loan repayments separately identified) for each financial year since 1996-97, and for forward projections to 2005-06, for each of the following: (a) the Australian National Railways Commission; (b) advances under the *National Railway Network (Financial Assistance) Act 1979*; (c) gauge standardisation agreements for Albury to Melbourne to each of New South Wales and Victoria; and (d) any other gauge standardisation agreements.
- (4) How much money was spent on the East Coast very high speed train study in each of the following financial years: (a) 2000-01; and (b) 2001-02.
- (5) (a) Why was a decision taken to effectively restrict phase 1 of the study to high-speed trains with a maximum speed of 250 kilometres per hour or more; and (b) when was this decision taken.
- (6) How many tenders were received in response to invitations issued by the department to tender by 19 December 2001 for phase 2 between: (a) Sydney and Melbourne; and (b) Sydney and Brisbane.
- (7) Is the Government prepared to give consideration to high-speed trains with a maximum speed in the range of 200 kilometres per hour to 250 kilometres per hour or more.

Notice given 7 November 2002

865 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the statement by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, 'Commonwealth committed to drought funding', issued on 6 November 2002:

- (1) What method has the Minister used to calculate the 'estimated \$500 million' cost to the Commonwealth consequential to the administration of the Farm Management Deposits Scheme (please provide the relevant data and calculations used to support the Minister's estimate).
- (2) In what year, or years, will the Commonwealth incur these estimated costs.
- (3) How many farmers are accessing Farm Help welfare support as at 6 November 2002.

- (4) Can information on farmers receiving Farm Help be provided, by local government area; if not, why not.

866 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) When was the Commonwealth Task Force on Property Rights in Natural Resources formed.
- (2) What is the purpose of the task force.
- (3) What outcomes can be attributed to the task force's work.
- (4) When and where has the task force met.
- (5) Which task force meetings have ministers and parliamentary secretaries, or their representatives, attended.
- (6) Which Commonwealth departments and agencies are represented on the task force.
- (7) What resources has the department provided to the task force.

867 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What assessment has been made of Australia's actual environmental and economic loss from the incursion of marine pests.
- (2) What assessment has been made of the potential environmental and economic loss from the incursion of marine pests.
- (3) What contribution has the department made to the development of a national management system for managing marine pests.
- (4) Which stakeholders have participated in the development of a national management system.
- (6) When will a national management system be implemented.

868 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) Has the department participated in negotiations with Indonesia in respect to the Memorandum of Understanding Box area off north-west Australia in any of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; (c) 2001-02; and (d) 2002-03; if so, can details be provided of these negotiations, including dates, locations and participants.
- (2) What changes to management arrangements, including access for Indonesian fishers, have resulted from these negotiations.

869 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What role did the department have in the development of: (a) the National Dairy Sustainability Strategy; and (b) the Regional Action Plan.
- (2) Which stakeholders were involved in the development of: (a) the National Dairy Sustainability Strategy; and (b) the Regional Action Plan.
- (3) When were the following finalised: (a) the National Dairy Sustainability Strategy; and (b) the Regional Action Plan.
- (4) Can copies of the National Dairy Sustainability Strategy and Regional Action Plan be provided; if not, why not.
- (5) Has the implementation of measures commenced under: (a) the National Dairy Sustainability Strategy; and (b) Regional Action Plan; if so, can details be provided.

872 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) How many additional Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service staff were recruited in the 2001-02 financial year.
- (2) What was the cost of this recruitment.
- (3) (a) How many of these staff completed training; and (b) what was the cost of that training.
- (4) (a) In what geographic locations were these staff deployed; and (b) what activities did they undertake upon deployment.
- (5) How many of these staff, if any, have: (a) resigned their employment; (b) had their employment terminated; and (c) transferred employment within the Australian Public Service.

Notice given 8 November 2002

875 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With regard to the reference on page 160 of the Department of Defence annual report for 2001-02, to \$31 029 000 in 'bad and doubtful debts' written off in the 2001-02 financial year:

- (1) Can the department provide a breakdown of these debts, showing the debtor and the amount owed; if there are large numbers of debtors can the top ten in value be provided.
- (2) Why was this figure so high in the 2001-02 financial year, compared to previous years.

876 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the graph of defence funding on page 32 of the Department of Defence annual report for 2001-02:

- (1) Can the data table for this graph be provided, showing the actual amounts in each of the categories in each of the years.
- (2) In relation to the exchange rate update funding: (a) when was a decision made to provide this additional funding; (b) why was this funding provided; and (c) on what basis were the amounts paid each year determined.

877 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—The list of contracts signed in 2001-02 indicates the following:

OPTIMA COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY	4500132944	31/05/02	\$16 162 740.00	16200 X PC'S
COMPAQ COMPUTER AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	4500132958	31/05/02	\$15 782 250.00	15000 X PC'S
OPTIMA COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY	4500132949	31/05/02	\$8 979 300.00	9000 X PC'S
COMPUWARE ASIA PACIF	4500052034	13/07/01	\$5 500 000.00	COMPUTERS
COMPAQ COMPUTER AUSTRALIA PTY LTD	4500132938	31/05/02	\$3 926 670.00	3260 X PC'S

DELL COMPUTER PTY LT	4500042188	28/05/01	\$2 420 000.00	2000 DESKTOPS
ASI SOLUTIONS	4500042191	28/05/01	\$2 169 200.00	2000 X PC'S
IBM AUSTRALIA LTD	4500042213	29/05/01	\$2 299 000.00	2000 X DESKTOPS

- (1) Can the department confirm how many computers were purchased across Defence in the 2001-02 financial year.
- (2) How many computers were lost or stolen in Defence in the 2001-02 financial year.
- (3) How many surplus computers were disposed of by Defence in the 2001-02 financial year.

878 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—The list of contracts signed in 2001-02 includes the following entry:

RESOLVE FM PTY LTD	4500084810	3/12/01	\$2 516 250.00	ASBESTOS REMEDIAION NTH QLD REGION
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- (1) What work did this contract cover.
- (2) On what site or sites was asbestos present (indicate the nature of the site, for example, housing, warehouse, office building).
- (3) What was the nature of the asbestos at these sites.
- (4) When was the asbestos detected at these sites.
- (5) What prompted the remediation of these sites.

879 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to the following information in the 2001-02 Annual Report of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA), tabled on 23 October (and where APRA cannot disclose names and other sensitive information relating to particular cases can as much other detail as possible be provided):

- (a) the statement on page 8 that in December 2001 APRA accepted an enforceable undertaking from a superannuation fund for the first time: can APRA provide details of: (i) that enforceable undertaking and all subsequent enforceable undertakings, including any breaches of the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993*, (ii) any other problems involved, and (iii) the specific commitments made by the trustee(s) in these undertakings;
- (b) the statements on page 9 that in June 2002 APRA commenced prosecutions against trustees of regulated superannuation entities who failed to lodge an annual return for 2000-01 and on page 27 that 13 trustees had been referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions and two successfully charged: (i) have any further charges been made, and (ii) have any trustees been convicted for offences named in these charges, if so, what penalties have been imposed;
- (c) the statement on page 21 that APRA is currently reviewing the operations of a number of multi-employer corporate superannuation funds: can APRA provide details of: (i) the problems it has encountered in such funds, and (ii) any enforcement actions to date, particularly in relation to the equal

representation requirements in the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993*;

- (d) the list on page 24 of enforcement activities undertaken during the year: can APRA provide details of the specific breaches of the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993*, or other APRA-enforced conditions, that gave rise to each of these enforcement activities;
- (e) the statement on page 40 that a number of joint visits to financial institutions were conducted with the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) in 2001 as part of an APRA review of unit pricing in the superannuation industry: can APRA provide details of this review including: (i) any problems encountered, (ii) actions taken by trustees to address these problems, and (iii) enforcement actions taken by APRA or ASIC; and
- (f) the noting on page 41 of the establishment of the International Network of Pensions Regulators and Supervisors (INPRS): can APRA provide further details of: (i) the INPRS activities, and (ii) APRA's contribution to date.

Notice given 11 November 2002

880 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Can a list be provided of all overseas property owned by the department, indicating for each property: (a) its location (country/city); (b) the nature of the property (for example, vacant land, office building house); (c) its current value; and (d) the use of the property (for example, accommodation).
- (2) Can a list be provided of all overseas property leased by the department, indicating for each property: (a) its location (country/city); (b) the nature of the property (for example, vacant land, office building house); (c) its current value; and (d) the use of the property (for example, accommodation).

881 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to page 294 of the *Defence Annual Report 2001-02*, which notes that the development of a Defence Workforce Plan has been 'partially achieved' and that the report of the Strategic Workforce Planning Review was due to be presented to the Secretary and the Chief of the Defence Force (CDF) by the end of October 2002:

- (1) Was the report of the planning review actually presented to the Secretary and the CDF by the end of October 2002, as foreshadowed in the annual report; if it has been presented since that time, on what date did this occur.
- (2) If the report has not been presented to the Secretary and the CDF, why not, and when is it expected that this will occur.
- (3) Will the report be publicly available once it is presented to the Secretary and the CDF; if not, why not.
- (4) If the report itself will not be made public, will any material arising out of the review be made public; if so: (a) what information, if any, will be released; and (b) when is it expected that this will occur.
- (5) (a) What is the relationship between the report of the planning review and the proposed Defence Workforce Plan; (b) what process is envisaged for determining the plan; and (c) how long is this process expected to take.
- (6) (a) When is it expected that the Defence Workforce Plan will be finalised; and (b) will the plan be publicly released.

882 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) How many bores tap into Great Artesian Basin ground water.
- (2) (a) How many bores have been controlled under the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative; and (b) how many bores remain uncontrolled.
- (3) How much artesian water is wasted each year through these uncontrolled bores.
- (4) Has the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative resulted in any pressure recovery in the Great Artesian Basin.
- (5) How many bore drains have been covered under the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative.
- (6) How much artesian water is wasted each year through uncovered bore drains.
- (7) What assessment has been made of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Great Artesian Basin Sustainability Initiative.

883 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) What water-use efficiency projects has Land and Water Australia undertaken in each of the following financial years: (i) 2000-01, and (ii) 2001-02; and (b) can details be provided of individual project funding, purpose and participation.
- (2) (a) What water-use efficiency projects will Land and Water Australia undertake in the 2002-03 financial year; and (b) can details be provided of planned project funding, purpose and participation.
- (3) What evaluation has been undertaken of completed water-use efficiency projects.

884 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Has the department participated in an inter-departmental committee that drafted a scoping paper on the patentability of genetic material and genetic technologies; if so, can a copy of the scoping paper be provided; if not, why not.
- (2) Which departments were represented on the inter-departmental committee.

885 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What funding has been provided to the Volunteer Farm Retirement Helper Program.
- (2) What is the purpose of this pilot program.
- (3) When did the program commence.
- (4) Who is running the program.
- (5) Who is participating in the program.
- (6) Has any interim evaluation of the program been conducted; if so, can this evaluation report be provided; if the report cannot be provided, why not.
- (7) Will there be a final evaluation at the conclusion of the pilot in December 2002; if so, will the evaluation be made publicly available; if not, why not.

- 886 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) What recommendations were contained in the Rural Economic Services review of the AAA-Farm Management Deposit scheme, completed in June 2002.
 - (2) Have these recommendations been adopted by the Government; if so, when were the recommended changes adopted; if not, why have the recommendations been rejected.
 - (3) What did the review cost.
 - (4) Can a copy of the review be provided; if not, why not.
- 887 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) What recommendations has the inter-departmental Indigenous Strategy Steering Committee made in respect of the department.
 - (2) Can a copy of these recommendations be provided; if not, why not.
 - (3) Have these recommendations been implemented; if so, what has been the impact of the implementation; if not, why have the recommendations been rejected.
- 888 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) What response has the Minister made to the review of the AAA-Farm Innovation Program completed in November 2001.
 - (2) What programs have been developed in recognition of the review's finding that there is a need for continuing innovation support for industries targeted by the AAA-Farm Innovation Program.
- 889 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) What discussions has the department had with the states and territories since May 2001 on the development of guidelines for the Agricultural Development Partnership program (ADPP).
 - (2) How many ADPP projects have commenced.
 - (3) How much of the Commonwealth's promised funding of \$26.4 million has been expended.
 - (4) How much of the promised \$26.4 million was carried over to 2002-03.
- 890 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) How much funding has been expended under the Porkbiz program.
 - (2) Can details be provided of all training programs over the life of Porkbiz, including cost, location, duration, number of participants and evaluation results.
- 892 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) What evaluation has been made of the effectiveness of the Eden Region Adjustment Program.
 - (2) What 2001-02 funding has been carried over in 2002-03.
 - (3) Why has this funding been carried over.

- (4) Which funded projects expected to be completed in 2001-02 were not completed.
- (5) For each delayed project, can the following information be provided: (a) approved grant recipient; (b) original and revised project completion dates; and (c) reason for delay.

893 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What projects have been funded under the Fisheries Action Program.
- (2) For each project, can the following information be provided: (a) grant date; (b) grant recipient; (c) registered address of grant recipient; and (d) full project description, including: (i) location, project commencement and conclusion dates, (ii) total funding, and (iii) evaluation results; and can any grants that were made despite the applications not meeting program application criteria be identified.
- (3) What evaluation has been made of the effectiveness of the program.

895 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme and the Public Service Superannuation Scheme:

- (1) What was the average increase in superannuation salaries reported to Comsuper for each of the past 5 years for: (a) employees on Australian workplace agreements (AWAs); and (b) non-AWA employees.
- (2) (a) What were the ten highest increases in superannuation salary employees over each of the past 5 years; and (b) for each of those increases, did it relate to a promotion or the signing an AWA.
- (3) What is the average superannuation salary for: (a) those on AWAs and those not on AWAs.
- (4) (a) Is it possible to use an AWA to increase an employee's salary for superannuation purposes, even though the actual salary may be less than that amount; and (b) if so, how many employees are in this position.

896 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Can a copy of the current legislation relating to the debt management policy and procedures of the Child Support Agency be provided.
- (2) When does the agency implement departmental policies regarding debt management.
- (3) Does the agency accept a respondent's claim of income when the respondent owns and operates a business.
- (4) Does the agency liaise with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) on cases where income claims are in dispute.
- (5) Does the agency have a responsibility to relay knowledge of a respondent's income to the ATO when it is clear the respondent has incorrectly stated his or her income.
- (6) Does the agency have the capacity to request the ATO to audit a respondent's account when it believes there is an irregularity in the claim.
- (7) How many claims of income irregularities were reported to the agency in the 2001-02 financial year.

- (8) Of these claims: (a) how many respondents were found to be fraudulent in their income tax returns; and (b) were any of these claims investigated by the agency; if so, what are the procedures for investigating these claims.
- (9) How many people are assigned to work in the complaints section of the agency.
- (10) Where are these offices located.
- (11) Can the agency take legal action against a respondent who fails to make a child support payment.
- (12) How long can a respondent fail to make a payment to the agency before action is taken.
- (13) What form of action is taken by the agency to retrieve monies.
- (14) If a person is the owner or operator of a business, can the agency attach a lien against the business for monies owed.
- (15) Has the agency ever taken legal action or seized an asset of a non-paying respondent; if so, in each case, how much was the debt for and what were the circumstances; if not, why not.

Notice given 12 November 2002

- 897 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Was the 18-month Agriculture – Advancing Australia (AAA) Communication Program intended to encourage greater participation in AAA programs; if so, did the program effectively fulfil this purpose; if not, what was its purpose.
 - (2) (a) What are the results of the evaluation conducted at the conclusion of the communication program; (b) who conducted the evaluation; and (c) what was the total cost of the communication program.
- 898 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Was Centrelink's performance in respect to the delivery of the Flood Assistance Package assessed as part of a post-implementation review program; if so: (a) what deficiencies were identified in Centrelink's performance; and (b) what recommendations were made to improve the delivery of future rural assistance packages.
 - (2) Have these recommendations been adopted; if so, has adoption of these recommendations improved Centrelink's capacity to deliver current rural assistance programs; if not, why not.
- 899 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) (a) What are the details of the current Memorandum of Understanding between the department and Centrelink concerning the delivery of exceptional circumstances relief payments and other departmental programs; and (b) can a copy of the memorandum be provided; if not, why not.
 - (2) What payment did the department provide to Centrelink for the administrative cost of delivering departmental programs in the 2001-02 financial year.

- (3) Is the department satisfied with Centrelink's achievement of 67 per cent of key performance indicators in respect to the delivery of departmental programs in the 2001-02 financial year.

900 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Who represented Australia at the International Sugar Organisation Council and associated meetings in: (a) London, in November 2001; and (b) Durban, in May 2002.
- (2) What was the agenda of each meeting.
- (3) What was the cost of the attendance of the Australian delegation at each meeting.
- (4) When and where is the next meeting of the International Sugar Organisation Council at which Australia will be represented.

901 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What projects have been funded under the Pigmeat Processing Grants Program.
- (2) For each project, can the following information be provided: (a) grant date; (b) grant recipient; (c) registered address of grant recipient; (d) full project description, including: (i) location, (ii) project commencement and conclusion dates, (iii) total funding, and (iv) evaluation results; and can any grants that were made despite the applications not meeting program application criteria be identified.
- (3) What evaluation has been made of the effectiveness of the program.

902 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—(a) What was the total expenditure on the Tasmanian Wheat Freight Shipping Scheme in the 2001-02 financial year; and (b) what percentage of eligible shipping costs was met by the scheme.

903 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Has an evaluation of the AAA-Farm Help Program been completed; if so, when was it presented to the Minister.
- (2) What stakeholders were consulted during the evaluation.
- (3) Does the evaluation contain recommendations on changes to the program; if so, what changes does the evaluation report recommend.
- (4) Can a copy of the evaluation report be provided; if not, why not.
- (5) Has the Minister developed a response to the evaluation report.

904 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Was a review of interest rate subsidies as a form of farm business assistance scheduled to commence in January 2002.
- (2) Did the Minister delay the commencement of the review; if so, why was the review delayed.
- (3) Has the review commenced; if so: (a) when did it commence; (b) who is conducting the review; (c) what are its terms of reference; and (d) when will it be completed; if not: (a) when will it commence; (b) who will

conduct the review; (c) what will be its terms of reference; and (d) when is it expected to be completed.

905 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Has a final impact assessment of the AAA-FarmBis program been completed; if so, when was it presented to the Minister.
- (2) What stakeholders were consulted during the assessment.
- (3) Does the assessment contain recommendations on changes to the program; if so, what changes does the assessment report recommend.
- (4) Can a copy of the assessment report be provided; if not, why not.
- (5) Has the Minister developed a response to the assessment.

906 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) Was the review of Commonwealth Fisheries Policy, announced in June 2000, due to be completed in August 2001.
- (2) Why has the completion of the review been delayed by more than 15 months.
- (3) What stakeholders have been consulted and/or made submissions to the review.
- (4) When will the review be completed.

907 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With respect to the 2002-03 Commonwealth Community Legal Services Program, in particular the \$70 000 allocated to, but not taken up by, the Financial Counselling Service (QLD):

- (1) When will a decision be made on the reallocation of the funding.
- (2) Can the money be made available to the Caxton Legal Centre Inc. to avoid the imminent closure of its innovative program for the provision of legal outreach services to older people; if not, why not.

908 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) When was the decision made to have a Life of Type Extension (LOTE) to the Landing Craft Heavy (LCH) fleet.
- (2) Were any options apart from the LOTE considered, for example, was the option of replacement rather than refurbishment considered.
- (3) Were any proposals to replace the LCHs received from Australian small- to medium-sized enterprises; if so, which organisations submitted proposals.
- (4) (a) Why were these proposals rejected; and (b) was the decision made on the basis of cost; if not, what factors led to the decision to refit rather than replace the current fleet.
- (5) Of the proposals submitted: (a) how many had existing units that could be directly evaluated by the Navy; and (b) what were the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed units.
- (6) What was the original budget for the refit of the LCH fleet.
- (7) What were the costs of any other options.
- (8) (a) What has been the cost of the refit to the LCH fleet to date; and (b) what is the complete refit expected to cost.
- (9) When will the refit be delivered.

Notice given 13 November 2002

- 909 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the media statement released by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, on 6 November 2002, concerning Commonwealth drought assistance:
- (1) How much of the claimed ‘\$800 million to Agriculture Advancing Australia programs’ has been expended on these programs.
 - (2) How much of the expended funding has been expended on: (a) advertising and/or promotion; (b) communication programs; and (c) departmental and/or program administration.
- 910 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Has an evaluation of the New Industries Development Program been conducted; if so, when was the evaluation report presented to the Minister.
 - (2) Does the evaluation report contain recommendations on changes to the program; if so, what changes does the evaluation report recommend.
 - (3) Can a copy of the evaluation report be provided; if not, why not.
 - (4) Has the Minister developed a response to the evaluation.
- 911 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) With which countries and/or groups of countries does Australia have memoranda of understanding on veterinary health and/or phytosanitary matters.
 - (2) (a) With which countries and/or groups of countries have negotiations on memoranda of understanding on veterinary health and/or phytosanitary matters concluded since June 2001; and (b) what new trade opportunities have resulted.
 - (3) (a) With which countries and/or groups of countries is Australia currently negotiating memoranda of understanding on veterinary health and/or phytosanitary matters; and (b) in each case, when are these negotiations expected to conclude.
- 912 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the visit by the Minister to Sweden and Denmark in June 2002:
- (1) When did the Minister: (a) depart Australia; and (b) return to Australia.
 - (2) Who travelled with the Minister.
 - (3) Who met the cost of the participants’ travel and other expenses associated with the trip.
 - (4) If costs were met by the department, can an itemised list of costs be provided; if not, why not.
 - (5) Who did the Minister meet during his visit, and what were the times and dates of each meeting.
- 913 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the visit by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to Sweden and Denmark in June 2002:
- (1) What travel costs and other associated expenses, if any, were met by the department in respect of the Minister and his staff.

- (2) What were these costs per expenditure item for: (a) the Minister; and (b) the Minister's staff.
 - (3) What other costs, if any, were met by the department in relation to the trip.
- 914 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the visit by the Minister to Japan, Korea and the Philippines in January and February 2002:
- (1) When did the Minister: (a) depart Australia; and (b) return to Australia.
 - (2) Who travelled with the Minister.
 - (3) Who met the cost of the participants' travel and other expenses associated with the trip.
 - (4) If costs were met by the department, can an itemised list of costs be provided; if not, why not.
 - (4) Who did the Minister meet during his visit, and what were the times and dates of each meeting.
- 915 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the visit by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to Japan, Korea and the Philippines in January and February 2002:
- (1) What travel costs and other associated expenses, if any, were met by the department in respect of the Minister and his staff.
 - (2) What were these costs per expenditure item for: (a) the Minister; and (b) the Minister's staff.
 - (3) What other costs, if any, were met by the department in relation to the trip.
- 916 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to page 95 of the department's annual report for 2001-02:
- (1) What contribution did the department make to the development and implementation of the joint government/industry strategy to influence the development of the new United States Farm Bill.
 - (2) What are the details of the strategy.
 - (3) What assessment has been made of the success of the strategy.
- 917 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Has an evaluation of the Food and Fibre Chains Program been conducted; if so, when was the evaluation report presented to the Minister.
 - (2) Does the evaluation report contain recommendations on changes to the program; if so, what changes does the evaluation report recommend.
 - (3) Can a copy of the evaluation report be provided; if not, why not.
 - (4) Has the Minister developed a response to the evaluation.
- 919 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) Has a review of the Fisheries Resources Research Fund been undertaken.
 - (2) When did the review: (a) commence; and (b) conclude.
 - (3) Who undertook the review.
 - (4) What were the terms of reference for the review.
 - (5) Can a copy of the review report be provided; if not, why not.
 - (6) What changes to the management of the fund did the report recommend.

- (7) Have all these recommendations been adopted; if not, which recommendations have been rejected, and why.

920 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) When was the decision taken to sink HMAS *Brisbane* off the Sunshine Coast in Queensland as a recreational dive-wreck.
- (2) Was there any consultation with the Queensland Government prior to the decision being taken; if consultation did occur: (a) who was consulted; and (b) what was the nature of that consultation.
- (3) Were any other parties consulted prior to the decision being taken; if other parties were consulted: (a) who was consulted; and (b) what was the nature of that consultation.
- (4) Is there an established process for determining whether decommissioned navy vessels are to be sunk off the Australian coast as recreational dive-wrecks.
- (5) (a) What was the total cost of decommissioning the HMAS *Brisbane*; and (b) what will it cost to sink the vessel as a recreational dive-wreck.
- (6) Did any other jurisdictions express an interest in having the HMAS *Brisbane*; if so: (a) which jurisdictions expressed an interest; and (b) on what basis was the Sunshine Coast chosen as an appropriate location for the wreck.
- (7) Did the Queensland Government raise any concerns about the decision to sink the HMAS *Brisbane* off the Sunshine Coast after the decision was taken; if so, what was the nature of those concerns.
- (8) (a) Has any consultation with the Queensland Government occurred since the decision was taken to sink HMAS *Brisbane* off the Sunshine Coast; and (b) have any other parties been considered since the decision was taken.

921 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) (a) In which peacekeeping missions have Australian military forces participated since the end of World War II: (i) under the auspices of the United Nations, (ii) under multilateral arrangements, and (iii) under bilateral arrangements; and (b) in each case: (i) what was the period of involvement, and (ii) how many personnel were engaged on each mission.
- (2) Which missions have been covered by: (a) Schedule 2; or (b) Schedule 3, of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*.
- (3) For each mission covered by the Act, how many claims for disability compensation have been accepted at: (a) the general rate; and (b) the special rate.
- (4) For each mission, how many lives were lost.
- (5) (a) Which missions remain current; and (b) how many personnel are engaged.
- (6) (a) How many missions involving Australian Defence Force service overseas have there been in the same period involving the delivery of humanitarian assistance; and (b) in each case how many personnel participated.
- (7) Service in which peacekeeping missions is eligible for the recently-announced certificates of appreciation to be issued to peacekeepers under the 'Saluting Their Service' program.

922 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) What are the basis and criteria upon which TEST Energy's proposed Brighton incinerator in Tasmania qualified for major project facilitation (MPF) status in October 2002.
- (2) Is documentation concerning the MPF status of the incinerator proposal public information; if so, can a copy of the documentation be provided; if not, why not.
- (3) Is the incineration of residual plastics considered a renewable source of energy.

Notice given 14 November 2002

923 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
With reference to the recently-launched Australian Forestry Standard (AFS):

- (1) Who decides whether a company or product receives an AFS certification label.
- (2) By what process is an AFS certification application assessed.
- (3) Is it only timber products that can receive AFS certification or can companies and government agencies receive AFS certification.
- (4) Will companies involved in, or products produced from, logging of old-growth forests or clearing of rainforests anywhere in Australia be eligible for AFS certification.
- (5) Will any logging operations, regional forest agreements or forest management plans anywhere in Australia be changed to any significant degree as a result of the introduction or awarding of AFS certification.

924 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Minister's letter to Senator Nettle, dated 25 September 2002, regarding the Blacktown City Council's proposal to purchase a block of remnant Cumberland Plain Woodland in Prospect, Western Sydney, and the Minister's decision not to approve funding for this purchase, citing the block's 'degraded condition' as a key factor: Can all the evidence used to establish that the land was in such a condition be provided.

925 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) How many illegal fishing boats have been detained in Darwin Harbour since 2000.
- (2) How many people have been detained in relation to the detention of illegal fishing boats in Darwin Harbour.
- (3) How many people have been charged in relation to illegal fishing boats in Darwin Harbour.
- (4) How many of these vessels had cats or dogs on them.
- (5) Who is responsible for the detection and handling of these animals.
- (6) What is the process followed to detain or destroy these animals.
- (7) How many cats or dogs have been detained or destroyed since 2000.
- (8) How many cats or dogs have been allowed to remain on these boats.
- (9) What explanation is there for these animals remaining on these boats.

926 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What funds has the Commonwealth given to Dungog and District Neighbour Care Inc.
- (2) (a) How much funding was provided; and (b) under what program.
- (3) Are these funds still available to Dungog and District Neighbour Care Inc.; if not, why not.
- (4) If these funds are no longer available to Dungog and District Neighbour Care Inc., what has happened to these funds.
- (5) Were the funds for Dungog and District Neighbour Care Inc. transferred to another service provider; if so: (a) why were they transferred; (b) to which service provider were they transferred; and (c) for what period of time.

927 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Are there plans to expand the Lancelin Defence Training Area.
- (2) Are there plans to allow United States military forces to use the Lancelin Defence Training Area.
- (3) Are there any risks to public health with such an expansion.

928 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) As the majority of burns victims from the recent tragedy in Bali were treated at the Burns Unit at Royal Perth Hospital, will the Commonwealth be providing any additional funding to the unit; if so, how much; if not, why not.
- (2) Will any other additional funding be provided to Western Australia in light of the extraordinary demand on health services following the tragedy in Bali.

Notice given 18 November 2002

931 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Did quarantine negotiations with Korea in the 2001-02 financial year result in improved access to the Korean market for any Australian goods; if so, what goods were concerned and what are the details of the improved market access.

932 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—What International Agricultural Cooperation projects have been funded under the Agriculture – Advancing Australia Program.

933 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) When did negotiations with Environment Australia commence on a memorandum of understanding on consideration of environment issues in import risk analyses.
- (2) Has a memorandum of understanding been agreed to; if so, can a copy be provided.
- (3) If a memorandum of understanding has been agreed, but it cannot be provided, why not.
- (4) If negotiations on a memorandum of understanding are continuing, when will they conclude.
- (5) Has the absence of a memorandum of understanding with Environment Australia, and/or delay in concluding negotiations, delayed or otherwise impacted on import risk analyses.

- 937 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) What projects have been funded under the Wildlife and Exotic Disease Preparedness Program.
 - (2) For each project, can the following information be provided: (a) project descriptions; (b) names of funding recipient; (c) registered addresses of funding recipients; (d) project commencement and conclusion dates; and (e) summaries of project evaluations.
 - (3) What budget has been allocated to this program for each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03.
- 939 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Has the review of the Export Control (Mung Bean) Orders concluded; if so, what recommendations does the review make.
 - (2) Can a copy of the review be provided; if not, why not.
 - (3) Has the Minister adopted the recommendations; if not, why not.
- 940 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Has the Export Documentation Program been reviewed; if so, when did the review commence and conclude.
 - (2) Who conducted the review.
 - (3) What recommendations does the review make.
 - (4) Can a copy of the review be provided; if not, why not.
 - (5) Has the Minister adopted the recommendations; if not, why not.
 - (6) (a) What additional uptake of the program is expected in the 2002-03 financial year; and (b) can details be provided, by industry sector.
- 941 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—What is the budgeted cost of the second phase of the *Quarantine Matters!* campaign, due to conclude in the 2003-04 financial year.
- 943 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) What information is contained on the database established to hold details of participants in the 2002 Independent Assessment of the Sugar Industry.
 - (2) Were the individuals, companies and organisations that participated in the independent assessment informed their details would be entered on the database and subsequently maintained.
 - (3) How many: (a) individuals; (b) companies; and (c) organisations, are listed on the database.
 - (4) What is the purpose of maintaining the database.
 - (5) Who has access to the database.
 - (6) What use was made of the database during the independent assessment.
 - (7) Since the completion of the Independent Assessment of the Sugar Industry report: (a) what use has been made of the database; (b) how many times has the database been accessed; and (c) who has accessed the database.

- (8) Has the Minister, or his office, sought access to data held on the database since the completion of the Independent Assessment of the Sugar Industry report.
- (9) Has anyone else sought access to data held on the database.

944 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) What events and locations has the Agriculture – Advancing Australia Roadshow visited since June 2001; and (b) on what dates did those visits occur.
- (2) (a) Did the Roadshow stage a visit to Ag-Quip in August 2002; and (b) did the Minister feature on a video-link at this event.
- (3) What has been the cost of staging the roadshow since June 2001.
- (4) What events and locations will the roadshow visit in the remainder of the 2002-03 financial year.

945 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) What was the largest individual performance bonus received by a staff member of the department in the 2001-02 financial year; and (b) what was the employee staff classification of the staff member.
- (2) What was the smallest individual performance bonus received by a staff member of the department in the 2001-02 financial year; and (b) what was the employee staff classification of the staff member.
- (3) In relation to performance payments to Senior Executive Service (SES) staff: (a) what performance criteria were used to assess the quantum of performance pay; (b) who assessed the performance against the criteria; and (c) who was the decision-maker.
- (4) Was the Minister and/or his office consulted or involved in the decision-making process in relation to the payment of SES staff performance bonuses.
- (5) In relation to the payment of a performance bonus to the Secretary of the Department, what was the quantum of the bonus, if any, in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02.
- (6) If a performance bonus was paid to the Secretary of the Department in the 2001-02 financial year: why is the quantum of the bonus not divulged in the department's annual report for 2001-02.
- (7) In relation to the payment of a performance bonus to the Secretary of the Department in the 2001-02 financial year, if any: (a) what performance criteria were used; (b) who assessed the Secretary's performance against the criteria; (c) who was the decision-maker; and (d) what role did the Minister and/or his office have in relation to the payment.

946 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Is it the case that no Indigenous Australians were employed at Senior Executive Service (SES) Band 1, 2 or 3 within the department in the 2001-02 financial year.
- (2) Is it the case that no persons from non-English speaking background were employed at SES Band 1, 2 or 3 within the department in the 2001-02 financial year.

- (3) Is it the case that just one person with a disability was employed at SES Band 1, 2 or 3 within the department in the 2001-02 financial year.
 - (4) Is the Minister satisfied with the workplace diversity at senior levels of his department.
- 947 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Has the workers' compensation premium for the department increased in the 2002-03 financial year; if so, what is the percentage increase.
 - (2) What is the extra cost burden of the premium increase.
 - (3) Is it the case that an increased workers' compensation claim frequency in the 2001-02 financial year is responsible for the increased premium in 2002-03.
- 948 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Is it the case that the provisions of the Chief Executive's Instruction relating to procurement require departmental purchases over \$100 000 to be subject to public tender.
 - (2) Is it the case that the public tender requirement is subject to exemptions; if so, can details of the exemption guidelines be provided.
 - (3) How many purchases over \$100 000 in the 2001-02 financial year were exempted from the public tender guidelines.
 - (4) Did the Minister and/or his office have any involvement in the exemption of any purchases from public tender guidelines in the 2001-02 financial year.
- 949 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—
- (1) Will the Minister consider changing Australia's refugee program to allow groups to sponsor Falun Gong practitioners, who live in fear of persecution, to come to Australia, as has occurred in Canada.
 - (2) If such a change will not be considered, why does the Minister think it is inappropriate.
- 950 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—Has the Government considered posting Medicare rebate cheques for accounts not yet paid directly to the practitioner, rather than to the patient; if so, what was the outcome of such consideration.

Notice given 19 November 2002

- 951 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to page 141 of the Department of Defence annual report for 2001-02, which includes a figure of \$835.1 million for the total cash held by Defence as at 30 June 2002: What was the total cash held by Defence as at each of the following dates in 2002: (a) 31 January; (b) 28 February; (c) 31 March; (d) 30 April; (e) 31 May; (f) 31 July; (g) 31 August; (h) 30 September; and (i) 31 October.
- 952 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) During the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit, in October 2002, did the Minister raise the issue of the Chinese Government's detention,

torture and human rights violations of Falun Gong practitioners; if not, why not.

- (2) During discussions in the Australia-China Human Rights Dialogue will the Minister raise the issue of the Chinese Government's detention, torture and human rights violations of Falun Gong practitioners; if not, when will the Minister raise the issue.

Notice given 20 November 2002

953 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the proposed Bickham coal-mine near Murrurundi, New South Wales:

- (1) What notification has the Federal Government had about the project.
- (2) Are proposed water extractions from the Pages River during studies, or when the mine is established, within national guidelines and water policy.
- (3) What environmental assessment has been carried out on mine feasibility studies and/or the impact on the Pages River of a working mine.

Notice given 21 November 2002

954 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) On what date did the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet first become aware that some Farm Management Deposit (FMD) products may not comply with legislation applicable to the Government's FMD scheme.
- (2) (a) What was the source of this information; and (b) in what form was this information conveyed, for example, correspondence, e-mail, telephone conversation or direct conversation.
- (3) What was the nature of the problem specifically identified in this information.
- (4) On what date did the department inform the Prime Minister, or his office, of this problem.
- (5) Did the Prime Minister, or his office, receive advice about this problem from a source other than the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet; if so: (a) on what date was this information first received; (b) what was the source of this information; (c) in what form was this information conveyed; and (d) what was the nature of the problem specifically identified in this information.
- (6) (a) On what date, or dates, did the department take action in response to this identified problem; and (b) what action did the department take.
- (7) (a) What departments, agencies, banks or non-bank financial institutions did the department communicate with in relation to this matter; (b) on what date, or dates, did that communication occur; and (c) what form did that communication take.
- (8) (a) What responses, if any, has the department received in respect to those communications; (b) in what form have those responses been received; and (c) what was the content of those responses.
- (9) What action has the department taken in response to communications from departments, agencies, banks or non-bank financial institutions.
- (10) Was the Prime Minister aware when he spoke to the Committee for Economic Development of Australia, on 20 November 2002, about the FMD scheme, of:

- (a) the report on page 3 of the *Australian Financial Review*, of 20 November 2002, stating that the Government ‘has been forced to seek an Australian Taxation Office ruling over a potential legal flaw in its \$2 billion farm management deposit scheme’; and/or
- (b) evidence given by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee, on 20 November 2002, that the department had been aware of uncertainty over some FMD products since July 2001.

Senator O’Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 955-956)—

- (1) On what date did the department first become aware that some Farm Management Deposit (FMD) products may not comply with legislation applicable to the Government’s FMD scheme.
- (2) What was the source of this information; and (b) in what form was this information conveyed, for example, correspondence, e-mail, telephone conversation or direct conversation.
- (3) What was the nature of the problem specifically identified in this information.
- (4) On what date did the department inform the Minister, or his office, of this problem.
- (5) Did the Minister, or his office, receive advice about this problem from a source other than the Minister’s department; if so: (a) on what date was this information first received; (b) what was the source of this information; (c) in what form was this information conveyed; and (d) what was the nature of the problem specifically identified in this information.
- (6) (a) On what date, or dates, did the department take action in response to this identified problem; and (b) what action did the department take.
- (7) (a) What departments, agencies, banks or non-bank financial institutions did the department communicate with in relation to this matter; (b) on what date, or dates, did that communication occur; and (c) what form did that communication take.
- (8) (a) What responses, if any, has the department received in respect to those communications; (b) in what form have those responses been received; and (c) what was the content of those responses.
- (9) What action has the department taken in response to communications from departments, agencies, banks or non-bank financial institutions.

955 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

956 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

957 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) On what date did the Department of the Treasury and/or the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) first become aware that some Farm Management Deposit (FMD) products may not comply with legislation applicable to the Government’s FMD scheme.
- (2) What was the source of this information; and (b) in what form was this information conveyed, for example, correspondence, e-mail, telephone conversation or direct conversation.
- (3) What was the nature of the problem specifically identified in this information.

- (4) On what date did the department and/or the ATO, inform the Treasurer, or his office, or the Assistant Treasurer, or her office, of this problem.
- (5) Did the Treasurer, or his office, receive advice about this problem from a source other than the Treasurer's department or the ATO; if so: (a) on what date was this information first received; (b) what was the source of this information; (c) in what form was this information conveyed; and (d) what was the nature of the problem specifically identified in this information.
- (6) On what date, or dates, did the department and/or the ATO take action in response to this identified problem; and (b) what action did they take.
- (7) (a) What departments, agencies, banks or non-bank financial institutions did the department and/or the ATO communicate with in relation to this matter; (b) on what date, or dates, did that communication occur; and (c) what form did that communication take.
- (8) (a) What responses, if any, has the department and/or the ATO received in respect to those communications; (b) in what form have those responses been received; and (c) what was the content of those responses.
- (9) What action has the department and/or the ATO taken in response to communications from departments, agencies, banks or non-bank financial institutions.

Notice given 22 November 2002

958 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) What was the number of full-time jobs sustained within the non-plantation forestry industry in Australia for each of the past 6 financial years.
- (2) What was the number of full-time jobs sustained within the plantation forestry industry within Australia for each of the past 6 financial years.
- (3) What was the number of full-time jobs sustained within the manufactured wood and forestry products industry for each of the past 6 financial years.
- (4) What was the number of full-time jobs sustained within the non-manufactured wood and forestry products industry for each of the past 6 financial years.
- (5) What is the projected number of full-time jobs to be sustained within the non-plantation forestry industry in Australia for each of the next 6 financial years.
- (6) What is the projected number of full-time jobs to be sustained within the plantation forestry industry in Australia for each of the next 6 financial years.
- (7) What is the projected number of full-time jobs to be sustained within the manufactured wood and forestry products industry for each of the next 6 financial years.
- (8) What is the projected number of full-time jobs to be sustained within the non-manufactured wood and forestry products industry for each of the next 6 financial years.

Notice given 26 November 2002

959 **Senator Conroy:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With respect to those persons who hold private health insurance which is eligible for the 30 per cent private health insurance rebate and who receive the benefit of the rebate as a rebate through the tax system:

- (1) How many persons are covered by private health insurance by postcode and by federal electorate division, as at: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 30 June 2002; and (c) the most current date for which information has been compiled.
- (2) How many contributor units hold private health insurance by postcode and by federal electorate division, as at: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 30 June 2002; and (c) the most current date for which information has been compiled.

960 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Under the terms of the original contract with ADI Limited, how many Bushmaster infantry mobility vehicles were required to be produced.
- (2) What were the delivery timeframes under the terms of the original contract.
- (3) When was the project due to be completed under the terms of the original contract.
- (4) What was the budget for the original contract, as at: (a) the time the original contract was signed on 1 June 1999; (b) 30 June 2000; (c) 30 June 2001; and (d) 30 June 2002.
- (5) When was it decided that the original contract with ADI Limited needed to be revised.
- (6) Under the terms of the revised contract with ADI Limited, how many Bushmaster infantry mobility vehicles are to be produced.
- (7) What are the delivery timeframes under the revised contract.
- (8) When is the project due to be completed under the revised contract.
- (9) (a) What were the reasons for the delays in this project; and (b) have the causes of the delays been addressed under the revised contract.
- (10) Were there any penalty-type clauses in the original contract with ADI Limited; if so, what did the clauses say; if not, why not.
- (11) If the original contract did contain penalty-type clauses, have these clauses been invoked; if not: (a) why not; and (b) is it normal practice for the department not to invoke penalty clauses and why is this the case.
- (12) (a) Does the revised contract contain penalty-type clauses; and (b) what do these clauses say.
- (13) How much of the money expended on the Bushmaster project to date has been paid to ADI Limited.
- (14) (a) On what basis are these payments being made to ADI Limited; and (b) are payments made on the basis of milestones; if so, can the following information be provided: (i) a list of these milestones, including dates and payments due to ADI Limited at the time of these milestones, (ii) whether these milestones were achieved, and (iii) a list of expected milestones, including payments and milestones, and the dates on which they fall due.
- (15) Are there any costs associated with the delays in this project; if so, what is the nature of these costs.
- (16) Under the terms of the original contract, is the department liable for any increased costs due to the delays in this project.
- (17) Did the department examine options other than revising the contract with ADI Limited; if so, what alternate options were examined; if not, why not.

- (18) Has consideration already been given to not proceeding with the project and terminating the contract with ADI Limited, given its inability to deliver the project on schedule?
- (19) Given that, at a public hearing of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee's inquiry into Defence materiel, Mr Roche, the Under-Secretary of the Defence Materiel Organisation, said of the Bushmaster contract with ADI Limited that, 'if they fail, that is the end of it and the project will be finished': Does this mean that the contract with ADI Limited will be terminated if the terms of the contract, including deliverables and key milestones, are not achieved.
- (20) Given that, in announcing the original contract, the then Minister stated that, 'Australian content will be around 70 per cent, providing significant opportunities for Australian industry to contribute to the project': Is this the case under the revised contract; if not, what is the level of Australian content under the revised contract.
- (21) What will be the impact on capability of the decision to accept the reduction in the number of Bushmaster infantry mobility vehicles under the revised contract.

961 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the LAND 19 Phase 6 project in the Defence Capability Plan:

- (1) When did the Government grant approval for this project.
- (2) (a) When was the request for tender issued; and (b) what was the closing date for tenders.
- (3) (a) How many tenders were submitted; and (b) which organisations submitted tenders.
- (3) (a) Has the preferred tenderer been selected; (b) which organisation was the preferred tenderer; and (c) when will the contract be signed.
- (4) (a) What was the budget for this project at the time approval was granted; (b) has the budget changed since approval was granted; if so, what is the current budget; and (c) why was the budget changed.
- (5) (a) What is the completion date for this project; and (b) is this still the expected completion date.
- (6) (a) Were any options apart from the acquisition of additional RBS 70 systems considered; (b) what were the options; and (c) why was it decided to proceed with the acquisition of additional RBS 70 systems and not the other options.

962 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the LAND 19 project in the Defence Capability Plan:

- (1) When was approval granted for this project?
- (2) Can a description of all of the phases of this project be provided.
- (3) (a) What was the original timeline for the completion of the project, including the dates for all phases in the project; and (b) when was it due to be completed.
- (4) What was the original budget for this project, including the budget for all phases in the project.
- (5) (a) What is the current schedule for the completion of this project, including the dates for all phases in the project; and (b) when is it due to be completed.

- (6) What is the current budget for the project, including the budget for all phases in the project.

963 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Can a list be provided to show those capital equipment projects worth \$10 million or more that are currently behind their original schedule; for example, where the delivery and/or acceptance dates are later than originally planned.
- (2) With respect to each project, can the following information be provided: (a) the original delivery date at the time the project was approved; (b) the original acceptance into service date; (c) the current expected delivery date; (d) the current expected acceptance into service date; (e) the reason or reasons for the delay; (f) whether the cost of the project has increased over the life of the project and, if so, what the increase has been; (g) the reason or reasons for any increase in project cost; and (h) whether the department has incurred any other costs because of the delay to the project and, if so, the total of these additional costs.

964 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to page 299 of the Department of Defence annual report for 2001-02, which notes that the *Review of Australian Defence Force Remuneration 2001* (the 'Nunn Review') was delivered to the Ministers for Defence and Finance and Administration at the end of August 2001 and that a submission setting out the Department of Defence's response to the review recommendations was forwarded to the Minister for Defence on 30 April 2002:

- (1) Can a copy of the submission, setting out the department's response to the Nunn Review recommendations, be provided.
- (2) Has the Government made any response to any of the recommendations of the Nunn Review; if so: (a) what recommendations have been responded to; and (b) what was the response; if not, why not.
- (3) Does the Government still plan to formally respond to the recommendations of the Nunn Review; if so, when will this occur; if not, why not.
- (4) (a) Does the Government's delay in responding to the Nunn Review have implications for the long-standing Australian Defence Force (ADF) pay structure review; and (b) does the Government still expect the department to deliver the first phase of this review late in the 2002-03 financial year.
- (3) Has a new ADF Enterprise Productivity Arrangement been negotiated; if so: (a) does the new arrangement include any changes recommended by the Nunn Review; and (b) can a copy of the new arrangement be provided.

965 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) What is the total budget for the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) for the 2002-03 financial year; and (b) what was the DSTO budget for each of the previous 7 financial years.
- (2) Can a list of DSTO sites be provided.
- (3) How many personnel, by site, are employed by DSTO.
- (3) (a) How many Professional Service Providers (PSPs) are currently engaged by DSTO; (b) what is the total cost of these PSPs; (c) how many PSPs were engaged in each of the past 3 financial years by DSTO; and (d) what was the cost in each of these years.

- (4) Does the department own any of the current DSTO sites; if so, does the Government plan to sell and lease back any of these sites.
- (5) If there are DSTO sites that have previously been sold and are now subject to lease-back arrangements, can details be provided of the cost of these leases and when the leases will expire.
- (6) Have any DSTO sites been relocated in the past 3 financial years; if so: (a) what was the nature of these relocations; and (b) what was the total cost of these relocations.
- (7) Have any DSTO sites undergone refurbishments in the past 3 financial years; if so: (a) what was the nature of these refurbishments; and (b) what was the total cost of these refurbishments.

966 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the JP 117 project in the Defence Capability Plan (DCP):

- (1) Is JP 117 still an ‘unapproved project’, as listed on the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) Internet site; if so, why is this the case and when is it expected that the project will be approved; if not, when was the project approved and what is the project timetable.
- (2) Can a description of all of the phases of this project be provided.
- (3) What was the original timeline for the completion of the project, including the dates for all phases in the project, and when was it due to be completed.
- (4) What was the original budget for this project, including the budget for all phases in the project.
- (5) What is the current schedule for the completion of this project, including the dates for all phases in the project and when is it due to be completed.
- (6) Given that the 2001 DCP estimates that expenditure on JP 117 Phase 2 will be \$250-\$350 million and the 2002 DCP supplement estimates that expenditure on JP 117 Phase 2 will be \$350-\$450 million: (a) Why was the funding estimate revised upwards by \$100 million; and (b) what is the current estimate of expenditure on JP 117 Phase 2.
- (7) The answer to question on notice no. 280 (Senate *Hansard*, 27 August 2002, p. 3035) stated that the Army is equipped with ground-based air defence weapon systems (GBADWS) Rapier and RBS 70: What are the limitations of these systems.
- (8) The answer to question on notice no. 280 indicated that the end-of-life of the Rapier system would occur in 2005: Is this still the case.
- (9) Will any capability be lost once the Rapier system is removed from service in 2005 and the RBS 70 system is the sole GBADWS until the next system is acquired under JP 117 Phase 2 in 2009.
- (10) Given the limitations of the RBS 70 system, why was it decided to maintain the RBS 70 system as the sole GBADWS between 2005 and 2009, rather than acquire a new system once the Rapier system is removed from service in 2005.
- (11) Were any alternatives to maintaining the RBS 70 system as the sole GBADWS between 2005 and 2009 considered; if so, why were the alternatives rejected; if not, why not.
- (12) (a) When is it expected that JP 117 Phase 2 will commence; and (b) is the in-service delivery date of 2009 listed in the DCP and the response to question on notice 280 of 24 April 2002 still current.

967 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the LAND 19 Phase 5A project in the Defence Capability Plan:

- (1) When did the Government grant approval for this project.
- (2) (a) When was the request for tender issued; and (b) what was the closing date for tenders.
- (3) (a) How many tenders were submitted; and (b) which organisations submitted tenders.
- (4) (a) When was the preferred tenderer selected; and (b) when was the contract signed.
- (5) (a) What was the budget for this project at the time approval was granted; and (b) has the budget changed since approval was granted; if so, what is the current budget.
- (6) What is the completion date for this project and is this still the expected completion date.
- (7) When did the RBS 70 system enter service and when was the end-of-life for the RBS 70 system originally due to occur.
- (8) When will the end-of-life for the RBS 70 system occur following the life-of-type extension under this project.
- (9) (a) Were any options apart from a life-of-type extension considered; (b) what were the options; and (c) why was it decided to proceed with a life-of-type extension and not the other options.

Notice given 27 November 2002

968 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) In each of the past 12 months how many payments have been made to specialist doctors for treatment provided under the Repatriation Private Patient Scheme (RPPS) to: (a) Gold Card holders; and (b) White Card holders.
- (2) Can the following information be provided: (a) the total monthly figure for services to Gold Card and White Card holders divided according to the specialty of the doctors; and (b) the number of doctors in each specialty who received payments.
- (3) For each of those doctors who have received payments under the RPPS in the past 12 months, how many payments were received each month.
- (3) For each of the past 12 months: (a) how many doctors in each specialty and how many specialists in total have received payment for services provided under the RPPS; and (b) how many payments have been received in total by specialty.

969 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Will the Minister state whether the Australian Navy or other navies using Australian waters are deploying low frequency active sonar.
- (2) What is the Federal Government's position on the deployment of low frequency active sonar in Australian waters.

970 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—Will the Minister introduce legislation for a protocol which requires, where possible, all stranded cetaceans to be necropsied with

particular attention paid to the ears and lungs so that sonar causes can be eliminated or proven.

971 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—In relation to the stranding of nine sperm whales near Waterhouse Point, in Tasmania:

- (1) Who is undertaking seismic surveys in the Otway Basin off western Victoria and South Australia.
- (2) Did the company or companies involved submit an environmental impact statement (EIS) in order to carry out this work.
- (3) Did the company or companies have to submit any other environmental studies to comply with Commonwealth legislation in order to carry out this seismic survey; if so: (a) what legislation was applicable; and (b) can copies of those studies be provided.
- (4) Was Environment Australia (EA) notified that this survey work was to be carried out.
- (5) Did EA insist on any EIS.
- (6) Was EA or the Minister aware that the seismic survey would use signals up to 240dB.
- (7) Is the Minister aware of the preliminary injunction issued in a San Francisco Court against the United States Navy over the deployment of low frequency active sonar.

972 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Are veterans and war widows still entitled to access the Respite Care Program administered by the Department of Health and Ageing; if so: (a) for each quarter in the past 3 years, how many veterans and widows used that program; and (b) what was the annual cost.
- (2) For each quarter of each of the 2001-02 financial year and the 2002-03 financial year to date: (a) how many veterans and widows received respite care from the Veterans' Home Care (VHC) Scheme; and (b) what was the cost per quarter.
- (3) How many veterans and widows have transferred from respite care services provided under the VHC to the Health and Ageing Respite Care Program.
- (4) What are the existing guidelines for respite care as to which program, either VHC or Health and Ageing, veterans' respite care is to be charged to.
- (5) (a) For each quarter in the past 3 years, how many veterans and widows received services provided by the Community Nursing Program of the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA); and (b) what was the annual cost.
- (6) In each quarter of the past 2 years, how many veterans have been transferred from VHC personal care to DVA's Community Nursing Program.
- (7) (a) What is the source of the \$6 million additional funding for providers with respect to respite care and community nursing, announced in the Minister's media release of 4 November 2002; and (b) is it part of the \$8 million additional spending estimated for the 2002-03 financial year, or is it an estimate of increased usage from the pre-existing standing appropriation for community nursing.
- (8) Where is this \$6 million shown in the DVA Estimates.

Notice given 29 November 2002

973 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) How many matters relating to insolvencies or external administrations in which applications were made for payment of entitlements under the Federal Government's Employee Entitlements Support Scheme or General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme have been referred by the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations to each of: (a) the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC); and (b) the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC).
- (2) In each matter, what concerns were identified.
- (3) What was the outcome of the ASIC's and the ACCC's consideration of each of these matters.

974 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—In relation to project Sea 1429 Phase 2, the replacement of the heavyweight torpedo:

- (1) Given that, in response to question on notice no. 219 (Senate Hansard, 17 June 2002, p. 1910), it was stated that the ADCAP Mod 6 was the torpedo that would be purchased under this project, but in the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee estimates hearing on 21 November 2002 it was stated that the goal for project Sea 1429 is to purchase ADCAP Mod 7 torpedoes: (a) When was the decision made to purchase ADCAP Mod 7s; and (b) why was the decision made not to purchase ADCAP Mod 6 torpedoes, as indicated in June 2002.
- (2) Given that it was stated on 22 November 2002 that a limited number of ADCAP Mod 6 torpedoes would be purchased to trial the new combat system on the submarine: (a) how many ADCAP Mod 6 torpedoes will be purchased for this purpose; and (b) will ADCAP Mod 5 torpedoes also be purchased for this purpose.
- (3) In terms of the integration study now underway: (a) is this study for the ADCAP Mod 6; (b) will another study be needed to install the ADCAP Mod 7; and (c) to date how much has been spent on this study.
- (4) Given that, in response to question on notice no. 219, it was stated that the budget for project Sea 1429 was \$200 million to \$260 million, while in the Senate estimates hearing on 21 November 2002 it was stated that the budget for this project is now a total of \$450m: when was the decision made to increase the budget for this project.
- (5) In terms of the tender process originally started for the replacement torpedoes were any bids: (a) under \$300 million in price; or (b) under \$250 million in price.
- (6) As at today, what is the total funding approved for Sea 1429 Phase 2.
- (7) Why was the change to the funding for the project not indicated in the Defence Capability Plan Supplement released in June 2002.
- (8) Has the department put a proposal to the Government for the approval of this increase in the funding for the replacement of the torpedoes; if so: (a) when was this proposal put to the Government; and (b) has approval been granted for this increase.
- (9) When it was stated at the estimates hearing that funding would be provided from Phase 5 of the continual upgrade project: (a) was this referring to Phase 5 of Sea 1439; and (b) will \$200 million of the funding allocated to this project be used for the purchase of new heavyweight torpedoes.

- (10) (a) Is the purchase of heavyweight torpedoes outside the scope of Sea 1439 Phase 5, as described in the capability plan; (b) is approval needed to use funds allocated to Sea 1439 Phase 5 for the purchasing of the new torpedoes; and (c) has that approval been sought; if so, when.
- (11) (a) What impact will the diverting of \$200 million from project Sea 1439 Phase 5, for the new torpedoes, have on the implementation of this project; (b) will this not reduce the funding for the continual upgrade of the Collins Class submarine; and (c) what elements of the continual upgrade will no longer be implemented as a result.
- (12) (a) In terms of the stated \$450 million project budget for the replacement torpedoes, will that cover the full cost of integrating all new torpedoes into the submarine, in service support, training and purchasing the necessary training torpedoes and warstocks; and (b) are there any plans to spend additional amounts on the replacement torpedoes.
- (13) Given the ADCAP Mod 7 is still under development, and therefore its price would be uncertain: (a) is there the possibility that more will have to be paid for this torpedo at a future date; (b) has a fixed price for the ADCAP Mod 7 been struck with the United States (US) Government.
- (14) Of the \$450 million now to be spent on the new torpedo project, how much of this will be spent on the ADCAP Mod 5s and the ADCAP Mod 6s to be used in trials of the new combat system.
- (15) Of the \$450 million now to be spent on the new torpedo project, how much of this will be spent contributing to the US development project of the ADCAP Mod 7.
- (16) Of the \$450 million now to be spent on the new torpedo project, how much of this will be spent purchasing training and warstocks of the ADCAP Mod 7.
- (17) What is the current estimate on when the ADCAP Mod 7 will be in service on the Collins Class submarine.

975 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Defence Management Audit Branch and the answer to question on notice no. 591 (Senate Hansard, 14 October 2002, p. 5098):

- (1) How many reviews have been carried out by the branch in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02.
- (2) Without providing specific details about any individual review, what was the range of issues investigated by the branch.
- (3) Of the reviews carried out by the branch, how many were top management directed reviews in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02.
- (4) Of the reviews carried out by the branch, how many were audit investigations in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02.
- (5) In terms of the audit investigations carried out by the branch in the 1999-2000 financial year: (a) how many resulted in criminal charges being laid; and (b) how many resulted in administrative action being taken against personnel.
- (6) In terms of the audit investigations carried out by the branch in the 2000-01 financial year: (a) how many resulted in criminal charges being laid; and

- (b) how many resulted in administrative action being taken against personnel.
- (7) In terms of the audit investigations carried out by the branch in the 2001-02 financial year: (a) how many resulted in criminal charges being laid; and (b) how many resulted in administrative action being taken against personnel.
- (8) When a review is completed who receives the findings.
- (9) Who is responsible for ensuring that any recommendations arising from the review are implemented.
- (10) (a) What was the total number of recommendations arising from reviews in 1999-2000 financial year; (b) how many of those have been fully implemented; (c) how many have been partially implemented; and (d) how many have not been implemented.
- (11) (a) What was the total number of recommendations arising from reviews in 2000-01 financial year; (b) how many of those have been fully implemented; (c) how many have been partially implemented; and (d) how many have not been implemented.
- (12) (a) What was the total number of recommendations arising from reviews in 2001-02 financial year; (b) how many of those have been fully implemented; (c) how many have been partially implemented; and (d) how many have not been implemented.

976 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Are retention bonuses currently payable to serving members of the Navy, Army and Air Force.
- (2) In respect of each bonus: (a) what are the eligibility criteria; (b) what duration of additional service is required for payment; (c) what is the amount of the bonus; (d) what penalties apply if the additional service is not performed; (e) how many personnel received the bonus in the last year for which data is available; and (f) what is the estimated cost of providing the bonuses in the 2002-03 financial year.
- (3) Since November 2000, has the Government withdrawn any existing retention bonus; if so, what was the reason for withdrawal and the date that it took effect.
- (4) Since November 2000, has the Government created any additional bonuses; if so, what was the reason for doing so and the date that they took effect.
- (5) Has the department conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of retention bonuses; if so, (a) when was the evaluation completed; and (b) what were the conclusions and recommendations; if not, why not.

977 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer to the question on notice no. 240 (Senate Hansard, 19 August 2002, p. 3150) and the tender for portable sound projection systems for the Navy:

- (1) Can a copy of the request for tender (RFT) be provided.
- (2) What was the delivery date specified in the RFT.
- (3) Did the RFT specify commercial off-the-shelf equipment.
- (4) When was the contract awarded.
- (5) Have the required specifications outlined in the RFT been amended in any way.

- (6) Does the department have any concerns about the winning tenderer's ability to deliver the required number of units that meet all specifications by March 2003.

Notice given 2 December 2002

978 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to Department of Defence annual reports, which show that the following amounts were spent on capital equipment projects in each of the following financial years:

1998-99	\$2 599.1 million;
1999-2000	\$3 219.8 million;
2000-01	\$3 608.5 million;
2001-02	\$2 702.2 million;
2002-03	\$2 482.9 million:

Can the department separately identify for each of those years the amount spent on: (a) existing projects; and (b) new projects (projects where a contract was signed in that year and payments were made for the first time).

Notice given 3 December 2002

979 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the maximum amount of assistance provided to individual rural producers in the form of a Commonwealth re-establishment grant to exit rural enterprise under the AAA Farm Help – Supporting Families Through Change Program and its predecessors is currently \$45 000.
- (2) With reference to the AAA Farm Help – Supporting Families Through Change Program, and its predecessors for the past 10 financial years: (a) how many rural producers have applied for assistance to exit rural enterprise in the form of a Commonwealth re-establishment grant; (b) how many rural producers have received assistance to exit rural enterprise in the form of a Commonwealth re-establishment grant; (c) what has been the total amount of funding expended to provide rural producers with assistance to exit rural enterprise; and (d) how many rural producers have received less than the full amount of assistance available to leave rural enterprise in the form of a Commonwealth re-establishment grant due to their failure to meet the requirements of the assets test.

980 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Is the Government examining options for tracking livestock via systems such as a national livestock identification system.
- (2) Which identification systems has the Government examined in the past 5 years.
- (3) What was the quantum of funding spent by the department during each of the past 5 financial years on feasibility studies on national livestock identification systems.
- (4) What was the quantum of funding spent by the department on feasibility studies of each system examined in past 5 financial years.

- (5) Is the Minister aware of any meetings between the department, and state and territory departments on the issue of a national approach to livestock identification in the past 2 years.
- (6) (a) When did these meetings occur; (b) who attended each meeting; (c) what was discussed at each meeting; and (d) what records have been kept of the discussion at these meetings.

Notice given 4 December 2002

981 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Did the Secretary of the department sign a statement on 30 August 2002 attesting that the departmental financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2002 were a 'true and fair view' of the matters required by the Finance Minister's Orders made under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*:
- (2) Did the Secretary read the annual report prior to signing the statement.
- (3) Does Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements 2001-2002) Orders require the disclosure in the notes to the financial statement of: (a) the aggregate remuneration of all managers of the entity whose remuneration for the financial year is \$100 000 or more; and (b) the number of managers of the entity whose remuneration for the financial year falls within each successive \$10 000 band commencing at \$100 000.
- (4) Is it the case that within the meaning of the Orders' requirement to disclose director/manager remuneration, 'managers' includes executives.
- (5) Does note 21 to Appendix 9 of the department's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2002 declare the highest level of executive remuneration in 2000-01 to be within the band \$250 000 to \$260 000.
- (6) Is it the case that the Secretary's remuneration exceeded this band in 2000-01; if so, should the Secretary's remuneration have been reported in the band \$330 000 to \$340 000.
- (7) Does the declaration therefore fail to comply with the requirements of the Finance Minister's Orders.
- (8) (a) When did the department become aware that the notes to the financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2002 were not accurate; and (b) on what date did the department report the inaccurate remuneration figure for 2000-01 to the Minister.
- (9) (a) What action has the department or the Minister taken to correct the remuneration figure in the note to the 2001-02 annual report; and (b) on what date was this action taken.
- (10) Is the Secretary's declared remuneration for 2001-02 accurate?
- (11) Are any of the other notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2002 inaccurate.
- (12) With reference to evidence provided to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee during the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002 that the remuneration details required to be declared include a number of components: What was the detailed breakdown of the Secretary's remuneration package for the 2001-02 financial year, including: (a) base salary; (b) performance pay; (c) productivity pay; (d) car; (e) fringe

benefits tax; (f) car parking; (g) superannuation; (h) unused leave; and (i) any other components.

982 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Did the Secretary of the department sign a statement on 11 September 2001 attesting that the departmental financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2001 were a 'true and fair view' of the matters required by the Finance Minister's Orders made under section 63 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*:
- (2) Did the Secretary read the annual report prior to signing the statement.
- (3) Does Schedule 1 of the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies (Financial Statements 2000-2001) Orders require the disclosure in the notes to the financial statement of: (a) the aggregate remuneration of all managers of the entity whose remuneration for the financial year is \$100 000 or more; and (b) the number of managers of the entity whose remuneration for the financial year falls within each successive \$10 000 band commencing at \$100 000.
- (4) Is it the case that within the meaning of the Orders' requirement to disclose director/manager remuneration, 'managers' includes executives.
- (5) Does note 20 to Appendix 8 of the department's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2001 declare the highest level of executive remuneration in 2000-01 to be within the band \$250 000 to \$260 000.
- (6) Is it the case that the Secretary's salary exceeded this band in 2000-01; if so, should the Secretary's salary have been reported in the band \$330 000 to \$340 000.
- (7) Does the declaration therefore fail to comply with the requirements of the Finance Minister's Orders.
- (8) (a) When did the department become aware that the notes to the financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2001 were not accurate; and (b) on what date did the department report the inaccurate remuneration figure to the Minister.
- (9) (a) What action has the department or the Minister taken to correct the remuneration figure in the note to the 2000-01 annual report; and (b) on what date was this action taken.
- (10) In respect to note 20 to Appendix 8 of the annual report for the year ended 30 June 2001, what corresponding amendments are required to provide a 'true and fair view' of the remuneration of executives in 2000-01 to: (a) the aggregate amount of total remuneration of executive officers; and (b) the aggregate amount of performance pay paid during the year to executive officers.
- (11) Are any of the other notes to financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2001 inaccurate.
- (12) With reference to evidence provided to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee during the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002 that the remuneration details required to be declared include a number of components: What was the detailed breakdown of the Secretary's remuneration package for the 2000-01 financial year, including: (a) base salary; (b) performance pay; (c) productivity pay; (d) car; (e) fringe benefits tax; (f) car parking; (g) superannuation; (h) unused leave; and (i) any other components.

- 983 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the department's toll-free 24-hour customer service telephone line:
- (1) What is the telephone number.
 - (2) Which output area is responsible for the customer service line.
 - (3) What was the full cost of maintaining the customer service line in the financial year ended 30 June 2002.
 - (4) Can a breakdown of direct and indirect costs be provided, including:
(a) staff costs; (b) infrastructure costs (including maintenance);
(c) telephone costs; (d) departmental costs; and (e) any other costs.
 - (5) Is it the case that the customer service line received three calls in the year 2001-02 financial year and just one call related to a departmental program area.
 - (6) What action was taken in response to this single call.
 - (7) To which two agencies were the other two calls referred.
 - (8) On what days in the 2001-02 financial year were the three calls received.
 - (9) When was the customer service line established.
 - (10) Have the hours of operation, or other operational details, altered since it was established; if so, can details these of changes be provided.
 - (11) What has been the total cost of maintaining the customer service line since its establishment.
 - (12) How many calls have been received, by year, in each year of its operation.
- 984 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to evidence given to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee during the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002, in relation to the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) uniform contracts held by Bizwear Pty Ltd:
- (1) Can a copy of the contract for the period 1996-2002, valued at \$4.1 million, be made available; if not, why not.
 - (2) What was AQIS' average staffing level in the period 1996-2002.
 - (3) During that time, how many staff were provided with the uniform supplied under the terms of the contract.
 - (4) Can a copy of the contract for the period 2002-04, valued at a maximum of \$6 million, be made available; if not, why not.
 - (5) What is AQIS' projected average staffing level for the period 2002-04.
 - (6) During that time, how many staff are projected to be provided with the uniform supplied under the terms of the contract.
- 985 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to evidence given to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee during the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002 that the department's accounts were qualified by the Australian National Audit Office in the 1999-2000 financial year because a payment made in that year breached the Australian Constitution:
- (1) What are the full details of the payment.
 - (2) When did the breach occur.
 - (3) What section of the Constitution did the action breach.

- (4) On what date did the department become aware of the breach; if applicable, who brought the breach to the department's attention.
 - (5) On what date was the breach brought to the attention of the Minister and/or his office.
 - (6) What action did the department take in response to this breach.
 - (7) Was the breach reported in the department's annual reports for the years ending 30 June 2000 or 30 June 2001; if not, why not.
- 986 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement, 'Sheep exports from Portland to resume if tough new conditions are met', issued on 31 October 2002:
- (1) What recommendations did the Independent Reference Group make to the Minister.
 - (2) Have any of these recommendations failed to be incorporated into the new action plan for live animal exports.
 - (3) (a) Who comprised the joint industry/Government working group that developed the action plan; and (b) when was this working group formed.
 - (4) On how many occasions has this working group met.
 - (5) Has the working group been disbanded; if so, when did this occur; if not, what tasks is the working group now undertaking.
- 987 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the answer to the question on notice no. 725 (Senate *Hansard*, 2 December 2002, p. 6612) concerning live animal exports:
- (1) Did the Chief Veterinary Officer recommend to the Secretary of the department that the livestock vessel *Al Kuwait* should be permitted to depart from Portland; if so, did the Chief Veterinary Officer recommend any conditions that were not subsequently applied to its departure; if not, why did the secretary disregard the recommendation of the Chief Veterinary Officer and revoke a direction that an export permit not be granted to the exporter.
 - (2) (a) How many sheep, if any, died aboard the *Al Kuwait* during the voyage that commenced in Portland on 29 September 2002; and (b) what was the principal identified cause of death.
- 988 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to evidence given to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee during the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002 in relation to the Exceptional Circumstances (EC) Program:
- (1) Is it the case that the EC guidelines agreed at the Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand meeting, in March 1999, do not require the states to provide substantial financial support in a region subject to an EC application before an EC declaration can be made.
 - (2) Is it the case that the Commonwealth has imposed changes to the EC guidelines requiring disclosure of state drought expenditure without reaching agreement with any state on this change.
- 989 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) What is the term of the current contract of the Secretary of the department; and (b) when did it commence.
- (2) Has the Commonwealth entered into a previous contract, or contracts, with Mr Taylor as Secretary; if so, can details be provided of the relevant terms.
- (3) Does the current contract contain an entitlement for reunion travel; if so, what is the maximum entitlement per year.
- (4) (a) What are the details of the cost of reunion travel, by year, in the term of the current contract; and (b) can a detailed breakdown of these costs be provided, including: (a) air fares; (b) taxi fares; (c) parking charges; and (d) any other components.
- (6) If different, can a detailed breakdown of all costs incurred in relation to reunion travel since the secretary's appointment on 17 January 2000 be provided.

990 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the answers to the questions on notice nos 168 (Senate *Hansard*, 15 May 2002, p. 1654) and 375 (Senate *Hansard*, 19 August 2002, p. 3226): Given that scientists from the University of Tasmania deny ever having been involved in genetic engineering tree research, does the Minister still consider the above-mentioned answers to be correct.

Notice given 5 December 2002

991 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Is it the case that seafarers are applying for, and are eligible to be issued with, transit visas to enter Australia to join their ships at an Australian port; if so, how many transit visas have been granted for this purpose in each of the past 10 years.
- (2) (a) When were transit visas first introduced; (b) by what legislation and/or regulations were they first introduced; and (c) were seafarers immediately eligible for this visa for the purpose of ship crew changeovers.
- (3) Before transit visas were introduced, what visa did seafarers use for ship crew changeovers.
- (4) (a) What is the stated purpose of transit visas; (b) who is eligible to apply for, or be issued with, a transit visa; and (c) what is the cost of obtaining a transit visa.
- (5) What other visa categories are available without an application cost.
- (6) What arrangements are in place with the department for seafarers to apply for transit visas.
- (7) Are transit visas in an electronic form; if so, how does ACS identify them at the airport for clearance purposes.
- (8) How many transit visas have been issued by the department to seafarers in each of the past 10 years.
- (9) Are foreign crew leaving Australia by air required to apply for visas upon departure; if so, in what visa category.
- (10) Does the department process these applications; if so, what criteria are applied to assess the applications.
- (11) (a) What checks, if any, does the department carry out before issuing these transit visas; and (b) does it include a check against the department's

Movement Alert List; if not: (i) why not; and (ii) are there any other visas for which these checks are not required.

- (12) (a) How do Australian Customs Service (ACS) officers at airports determine that the transit visas are for seafarers; and (b) what additional documentation, if any, are seafarers required to provide to prove that they are joining a ship.
- (13) (a) Do the transit visas for this purpose have any conditions; and (b) what, if any, checks are carried out by either the ACS or the department to determine that the conditions of the transit visa have been met.
- (14) Do seafarers require passports to apply for transit visas.
- (15) (a) What measures, if any, does the department, or any other department or agency, have in place to ensure compliance with the transit visa requirement that seafarers join their ships within 72 hours; and (b) how many times has this requirement been breached in each of the past 10 years.
- (16) (a) What is the penalty for breaching the visa requirements; (b) are visas cancelled as a result; if not, why not; and (c) which other visas are exempt from cancellation for breaching the conditions.
- (17) (a) What visa category is the seafarer on when they board their ship; and (b) what is the process for receiving that visa.
- (18) (a) If a seafarer leaves a ship in an Australian port, what visa is the seafarer on; and (b) how long is the seafarer eligible to be on this visa while away from the ship.
- (19) In relation to the *Stadacona*, which travelled from Melbourne to Brisbane to Port Pirie during May and June 2002, changed crew and remains in Australia: (a) to what place outside Australia, if any, did the *Stadacona* travel during the course of the above-mentioned voyages from Melbourne to Brisbane to Port Pirie; (b) if the ship did travel to a place outside Australia during the course of that voyage, what visas did the foreign crew working on the ship hold whilst they were in Australia; (c) if the crew did not hold any visas, under what authority were they working during their time in Australia; and (d) are any of the members of that crew still in Australia; if so, what visas do they now hold.
- (20) If there are foreign crew in Australia on such vessels as outlined above: (a) what visas do they hold; (b) under what authority are they working in Australia; and (c) are they monitored by the ACS; if not, how does the department determine that the visa conditions have been met.
- (21) Does the department consider the foreign vessels trading between Australian ports using Single Voyage Permits or Continuous Voyage Permits as actually being engaged in international voyages.

992 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 864 (Senate *Hansard*, 3 December 2002, p. 6713) concerning consultation on the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*: What is the total budgeted cost of the 12-month, full-time position at the National Farmers' Federation that commenced on 19 November 2002.

993 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—With reference to the answer to the question on notice no. 500 (Senate *Hansard*, 23 October 2002, p. 5808):

- (1) Why is the Tasmanian Forest Practices Board (TFPB) data on logging from 1996-2001 'incorrect'.
 - (2) What evidence is available that the figures in the question, provided by the TFPB, are incorrect; if no evidence is available, what dispute does the Minister have with the contention in part (2) of the question.
 - (3) With reference to part (4) of the answer to question no. 500 what credit does the Government give to the methods which calculate sustainable yield without data on logging rates being provided.
 - (4) What was the 5-year cut of *Eucalyptus regnans* stated in the first Tasmanian 5-year review.
- 994 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—For each of the 110 cases referred to on page 1 of the report for 2001-02 on the results of the Australian National Residue Survey Results, where residues were above Australian Standards, can details be provided of: (a) the level of residue; (b) the state and place where the measurement occurred; and (c) the penalty which resulted.
- 995 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—Will Federal funding: (a) for the Cities for Climate Protection Program; and (b) to support Local Agenda 21 planning, be provided after the 2002-03 financial year; if not, why not; if so, will this funding be less than, equal to, or more than the funding for the 2002-03 financial year.
- 996 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Defence—Will a 'lessons learnt' report on the Australian defence and emergency management authorities immediate response to the Bali bombings be compiled; if so: (a) will this report be made public; and (b) when will this report be completed.
- 997 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Why is it that passenger vehicles in Australia are currently not manufactured with liquid petroleum gas (LPG) tanks replacing conventional petrol tanks.
 - (2) Would the sale of passenger vehicles manufactured with 100 per cent LPG tanks offset greenhouse gases that are escalating in Australia; if so, when will the Federal Government implement a directive for this to occur.

Notice given 6 December 2002

- 998 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Health and Ageing—Given that, according to the foreword and annexes of the new Radiation Protection Standard RPS3 – Maximum Exposure Levels to Radiofrequency Fields – 3 kHz to 300 GHz, approved by Dr John Loy on 7 May 2002, research papers indicate adverse health problems from extremely low levels of radiofrequency (RF) energy, which have neither been confirmed nor denied:
- (1) How will the Australian Communications Authority (ACA) handle these uncertainties when it integrates the levels specified in the standard into the regulatory framework.
 - (2) Will there be references in the regulations to: (a) the research papers; (b) the precautionary measures contained in clause 5.7(e) of the standard; and (c) the annexes at the back of the standard.
 - (3) Why has the ACA used only selected parts of the RF standard in regulating the mobile phone and broadcasting industries.

- (4) What protection is now offered regarding occupational exposure to workers in these industries since the sections relating to occupational exposure have not been taken up by ACA.
- (5) Why did the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency agree to selective use of parts of the standard.

Notice given 9 December 2002

999 **Senator Sherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) (a) Why has the Government listed a contingent liability of \$104 million relating to the Special Employee Entitlements Scheme for Ansett Group Employees in the 2002-03 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook; and (b) on what specific future events is this liability contingent.
- (2) (a) What is the amount of the contingent revenue relating to the scheme referred to in the mid-year outlook; and (b) on what specific future events is the revenue contingent
- (3) Why was the scheme not listed at all as a contingent liability, quantifiable or unquantifiable, in the 2002-03 Budget papers.
- (4) Why has the scheme only become a contingent liability since the 2002-03 Budget.

1000 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Given that Lake Cowal in central-western New South Wales is included in the Register of the National Estates because of its natural significance is also worthy of Ramsar Convention on Wetlands listing and is included in the Directory of Important Wetlands of Australia: Will Lake Cowal be included in the proposed 'National List' under the new heritage legislation and afforded Commonwealth protection; if not, why not.
- (2) Given that the proposed Cowal Gold Project will be built in the middle of Lake Cowal, which is one of Australia's most important wetlands and habitats for international migratory birds: How can Australia meet its international obligations under such agreements as the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (the Bonn Convention), the Convention on Biological Diversity, China-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement and Japan-Australia Migratory Bird Agreement, when this project goes ahead.

1001 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) What is the total quantity of untreated sewage discharged from vessels into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park each year.
- (2) What is the amount of sewage treated to a standard less than tertiary treatment that is discharged into the marine park.
- (3) Are there any plans for eliminating the discharge of untreated waste into the marine park.
- (4) What is the status of the plan to require tertiary treatment for all sewerage treatment plants that discharge into the marine park.
- (5) Are there requirements for pump out facilities to be installed in marinas, harbours and/or ports along the Great Barrier Reef coast.

- (6) Is there a requirement that new facilities contain pump-out facilities.
- (7) With reference to page 34 of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's report 2001-02, which indicates both a reduction in the number of trawlers and an increased profitability of remaining trawlers: Are there any figures on: (a) the relative levels of catch; and (b) catch per unit effort in the 18 months since the trawl plan took effect.
- (8) When are the results of the seabed recovery work being done by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation expected to be available.
- (9) With reference to page 35 of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's report 2001-02, which notes that agreement has been reached with the Queensland Government regarding management of the take of pipefish and seahorses by trawlers, and given that the report also indicates that agreement was reached on measures that need to be introduced to monitor the impact of trawling on these species: What is the current level of: (a) pipefish; and (b) seahorse take by trawlers.
- (10) What are the current estimated population levels in the marine park of those species listed under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
- (11) What are the agreed measures for monitoring pipefish and/or seahorse take.
- (12) What are potential measures to reduce the take of those threatened species.
- (13) (a) Is it true that prohibitions on spawning aggregations are no longer in the Reef Line Fishing Plan; (b) was it in earlier drafts of the plan; (c) did the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority support its earlier inclusion; and (d) does the authority support the targeting of spawning aggregations under this plan.
- (14) Given that the Government has indicated it will reintroduce regulations relating to commercial netting in Princess Charlotte Bay, and given that approximately 16 fishers that have a history of regularly using the bay: (a) how many of those 16 had other endorsements; and (b) what were the other endorsements.
- (15) Of the total commercial netting effort in the bay, historically, how much of the effort occurred outside the conservation zone, including intertidal and estuarine netting.
- (16) What is the total bill that the authority has submitted to the Queensland Government for monitoring and other work at Nelly Bay Harbour.
- (17) (a) Has the authority inspected the ferry landing area; (b) is it the case that the concrete at the ferry landing is cracking; and (c) has the authority signed off on the landing facilities.
- (18) Given that at the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee estimate hearings on 20 November 2002, the authority indicated there were concerns with sediment at Nelly Bay: Can details be provided of the nature, status and proposed solutions to those concerns.
- (19) Given that at the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee estimate hearings on 20 November 2002, the authority indicated that there was an 'excision' issue in relation to Nelly Bay: Is it correct that this relates to the need for water to be permanently present between the breakwater and the mainland of Magnetic Island

- (20) Is it correct that the authority is recommending a re-profiling of areas inside the harbour in order to ensure that separation is maintained; if so, can a description of the authority requirements be provided.
 - (21) Is this issue the subject of any dispute with the state government.
 - (22) Based on current design, depths and sedimentation rates and the changes in beach profile requested by the authority, how frequently is dredging expected to be required inside Nelly Bay harbour or in the access channel.
 - (23) Has the authority had any discussions with the state, the contractor or others in relation to a proposed groyne at Nelly Bay; if so, can details be provided of: (a) the nature and status of the proposal; and (b) any discussions that have been held.
 - (24) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 525 (*Senate Hansard*, 17 September 2002, p. 4323) in which the authority provided a summary of pending coastal development applications to the Senate: How many additional staged developments are there along the Queensland coast for which there are no current Commonwealth applications, but which have indicated an intent to move to a subsequent development stage.
 - (25) How many coastal development approvals issued by local or state governments are currently on the books that have not yet been acted upon but are still valid.
 - (26) With reference to page 30 of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's report 2001-02, which indicates that the authority acted as advisory agency on a number of occasions under the Integrated Planning Act: (a) How many advices were provided; and (b) for which development proposals.
 - (27) To what extent have the recommendations contained in advices been followed by the relevant state authority.
 - (28) With reference to page 28 of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's report 2001-02 which lists one of the outputs of the authority as the 'pollution status of Cleveland Bay': Can an outline of the pollution issues relating to Cleveland Bay be provided.
 - (29) (a) Is the Queensland nickel outfall discharge pipe still operational; and (b) are there plans to cease discharge from that pipe.
- 1002 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) Who proposed the federal funding of the West Wyalong – Lake Cowal road.
 - (2) Has the Government had any contact with the Lake Cowal mine developers about the road.
 - (3) (a) Why is a federally-funded road being built between West Wyalong and Lake Cowal when other roads in the area will remain as gravel roads; (b) does this mean that the Federal Government is supporting the Lake Cowal gold mine proposal through the back door.
 - (4) Can the Minister assure the Parliament, and the people of the Murray-Darling Basin, that a major toxic release from the proposed Lake Cowal gold project, for example, of cyanide or arsenic, would not harm humans and the environment.
- 1003 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Mr Roger Bennetts, a representative of the Canadian gold mining company, Barrick Gold, which holds exploration licences at Lake Cowal, has admitted in the NSW Land and Environment Court that the company is carrying out exploration work without water licences and without a development consent for a slurry pit on Lot 23.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that, although the company says it is trucking in water from West Wyalong, there appears to be evidence that the company is also taking water from a monitor bore on Lot 23 for which it has sought a licence but which has so far not been granted.
- (3) Is the company's action consistent with Federal Government requirements; and if not, what action will be taken.

1004 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—With reference to paragraph 6.22 in the Australian National Audit Office report no. 6 into fraud control in the Department of Veterans' Affairs, tabled in the Senate on 29 August 2002 and the estimate in the department's Fraud Control Plan that up to \$15 million may be at risk to fraud in the medical accounts treatment processing system:

- (1) (a) What specific items of medical services were included in that estimate; and (b) what was the estimate against each item.
- (2) For each of the past 3 years, what amounts have been recovered, by state, from: (a) providers of medical services, by type; (b) providers of community nursing; (c) providers of other home care and domestic services; and (d) other providers of health-related services.
- (3) What resources are specifically allocated in each state office to fraud control and management in the health area.
- (4) For each state in the past year, how many health providers have been interviewed or counselled with respect to claims lodged for payment.
- (5) In each of the past 5 years, how many providers of health services have been prosecuted for fraudulent claims.
- (6) In each of the past 5 years, how many veterans in relation to fraudulent travel claims have been: (a) investigated; and (b) prosecuted.
- (7) In each of the past 5 years how many transport contractors in relation to fraudulent claims have been: (a) investigated; and (b) prosecuted.
- (8) With reference to state offices, what instructions exist for the implementation of the fraud control plan.

1005 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) What discussions has the Minister undertaken with Japanese officials during 2002 in relation to Australian beef imports to Japan known as 'Aussie Beef'; (b) who attended each meeting; (c) when did each meeting occur; (d) what was discussed at each meeting; and (e) what records were kept of each meeting.
- (2) (a) What discussions has the Minister had with Japanese officials specifically in relation to the import restrictions known as the 'snap-back'; (b) who attended each meeting; (c) when did each meeting occur; (d) what was discussed at each meeting; and (e) what records were kept of each meeting.
- (3) Is the 'snap-back' calculated on total beef imports into Japan, or on a country-by-country basis.

- (4) Will the 'snap-back' be invoked on Australian beef imports to Japan during the 2002-03 and 2003-04 financial years.

1006 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) When did the Minister first become aware of plans by the United States (US) to conduct a consumer marketing campaign to re-build market share for American beef within Japan following the Japanese Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) outbreak of 2001; and (b) how was he advised.
- (2) When did the first advertisements for US beef produce actually appear in the Japanese media.
- (3) Is the Minister aware of the amount of funding, in US dollars, actually expended to date by US beef interests, including the US Government, on the consumer marketing campaign to re-build market share for American beef within Japan following the BSE outbreak in Japan during 2001.
- (4) Is the Minister aware of the planned duration of the consumer marketing campaign to re-build market share for American beef within Japan following the BSE outbreak of 2001.
- (5) What monitoring is the Commonwealth undertaking of the activities of competitors to Australian beef producers to grow or rebuild their market share within the Japanese beef market in the wake of the BSE outbreak of 2001.
- (6) What was the total US market share of the Japanese beef market on a weekly basis for the period 15 September to 15 November 2002, compared with the same period last year.
- (7) What were the results of consumer awareness testing for US beef produce on a weekly basis for the period 15 September to 15 November 2002, compared with the same period last year.
- (8) What were the results of consumer confidence testing into the perception of the safety of US beef produce for the period 15 September to 15 November 2002, compared with the same period last year.
- (9) What were the weekly growth in sales of US beef produce for the period 15 September to 15 November 2002, compared with the same period last year.

1007 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) How much funding has the Commonwealth expended to date to re-build market share, via a marketing campaign for Australian beef produce known as 'Aussie Beef', within Japan following the Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) outbreak of 2001.
- (2) In formulating the amount of Commonwealth funding for the Aussie Beef campaign, what analysis was conducted to ensure the sum budgeted for expenditure would be adequate.
- (3) (a) Which advertising agency is conducting the Aussie Beef campaign; (b) how was the advertising agency selected; and (c) when did the campaign planning begin at the advertising agency.
- (4) On what day did the first advertisement for the Aussie Beef campaign appear in the Japanese media.
- (5) Can the media schedule for the Aussie Beef campaign be supplied.

- (6) What are the specific marketing and sales objectives of this marketing campaign.
- (7) Was the Minister required to approve the Aussie Beef campaign concept; if so, when did the Minister: (a) receive the concept; and (b) approve the concept.
- (8) In the event that officers within the department were authorised to approve the Aussie Beef campaign concepts: (a) what were the positions of those officers; and (b) when did they do so.
- (9) How is the effectiveness of the Aussie Beef marketing campaign being monitored.
- (10) (a) How often does the Minister receive a report on the campaign's effectiveness; and (b) how does the Minister receive this.
- (11) (a) How often does the department receive a report on the campaign's effectiveness; and (b) how is this received.
- (12) How often do the Minister and officers from the department meet with the advertising agency to discuss the progress of the Aussie Beef campaign against the stated marketing and sales objectives.
- (13) What records are kept of these discussions.
- (14) What are the results to date of consumer awareness testing for Aussie Beef since the Aussie Beef campaign commenced in the Japanese media, compared with the same period last year.
- (15) What are the results to date of consumer confidence testing of the perception of the safety of Aussie Beef since the Aussie Beef campaign commenced in the Japanese media, compared with the same period in 2001.
- (16) What weekly growth has there been in Aussie Beef sales since the Aussie Beef campaign commenced in the Japanese media, compared with the same period in 2001.
- (17) What have the weekly market share results for Aussie Beef been since the Aussie Beef campaign commenced in the Japanese media, compared with the same period last year.
- (18) When is the Aussie Beef campaign due to finish.
- (19) Is the department preparing to extend the campaign into the next financial year; if not, will this decision be based upon: (a) budgetary restrictions; or (b) the achievement of a stated marketing objective.

1008 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) How can the Commonwealth Government justify allowing a gold mine to go ahead at Lake Cowal in the Murray-Darling Basin when the area is in a severe drought, and local farmers require water for agriculture and domestic purposes.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the mine will use between 4 and 14 megalitres of water per day taken from a borefield north-east of the lake when operational, which is expected to be in 2005.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that a Wiradjuri sacred site is being desecrated by the Barrick Gold Corporation at Lake Cowal, and is in danger of total destruction now that a National Parks and Wildlife Service section 90 Consent to Destroy has been issued.

- (4) What is the Minister doing to issue an emergency declaration under section 9 of the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984* to stop desecration of this highly significant Aboriginal place.

Notice given 10 December 2002

1009 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) Of the calls made to the Regional Law Hotline from October 2001 to January 2002, how many were: (a) calls in relation to queries on Family Tax Benefit A and B debt advices received during this period; (b) calls on Centrelink issues directly relating to Family Tax Benefit A and/or B; and (c) handled to the satisfaction of the customer.
- (2) (a) What method is used to determine if a customer is satisfied; and (b) what happened to those people who were not satisfied with the response given by the staff of the hotline.
- (3) How many calls were referred to the closest debt recovery section for clarification of the debt.
- (4) What was the maximum and minimum average duration of the calls for this specific period.
- (5) What is the funding formula that Centrelink used to justify its reduction of expenditure on the hotline by \$851 107 for the 2002-03 financial year.
- (6) Who is most likely to be affected by this reduction in funding.
- (7) Can the method used for determining the amount of funding required by Centrelink to respond to queries for the Australian Law Online be provided; if not, why not.
- (8) Will any funding deficits in Centrelink's expenditure for the 2002-03 Regional Law Hotline be adjusted throughout the financial year; if not, why not; if so: (a) at what point will the funding be adjusted; (b) how will this be assessed; and (c) where will it come from.

1010 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) How many offences of the *Copyright Act 1968* in relation to piracy have resulted in: (a) a conviction; (b) a maximum penalty fine of \$65 000 being imposed; and/or (c) imprisonment.
- (2) Can information be provided on individual cases where prosecution of these crimes have led to conviction, financial penalties and/or imprisonment.
- (3) In cases where piracy was found to have occurred, what happened to the copying devices used to pirate movies or sound recordings.
- (4) In each conviction in relation to piracy of movies or sound recordings, did the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions make a submission on behalf of the Government during the trial or sentencing phase which requested the court to take into consideration the quantity and value of the items seized; if so, what was the court's comment or finding in each case in relation to this submission.

1011 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) With reference to question on notice no. 744, how many of the successful claims have been brought to the attention of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and, in particular, the ADF Medical Service.

- (2) What proportion of claims accepted were based on diagnoses of private medical practitioners.
- (3) How many claims have been rejected.
- (4) What is the current fortnightly tax free value of the Total and Permanent Incapacity Pension being paid.
- (5) How many accepted claimants are also in receipt of service pension (invalidity).
- (6) In the event that the Department of Defence is unaware of the payment of such pensions, to either serving or discharged personnel, is that pension additional to salary and/or superannuation payments.

1012 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) In how many cases have claimants for compensation by personnel with East Timor service, pursuant to the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, been referred to and examined by the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Medical Service.
- (2) At what level of injury under the scale set out in the Guide for the Assessment of Rates of Pension, under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, would a serving member be considered unfit for duty.
- (3) What penalty is provided to serving members who conceal an injury or make false statements about their fitness.
- (4) Is evidence of disabilities claimed and accepted under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* considered as part of that assessment.
- (5) Will the Minister ask the Inspector-General to conduct an investigation into alleged fraud by serving ADF personnel making claims under the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* and representing themselves as fit for duty.
- (6) What steps are being taken to remove the effect of the *Privacy Act 1988* which prevents the Department of Veterans' Affairs advising the Department of Defence of disability claims lodged and accepted from serving personnel.
- (7) With reference to the answer given to question on notice no. 743 (Senate *Hansard*, 4 December 2002, p. 6796) on Gulf War compensation, how many personnel with accepted claims are still serving.

1013 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—Is it the case that a public relations contract is proposed to be let, with a budget of \$300 000, with the aim of persuading South Australians to accept nuclear waste; if so: (a) what is the date by which the contract will be awarded or, if already awarded, to whom has it been let; (b) from which budget is this contract being funded; (c) can a copy of the brief given to the public relations company be provided together with a program of events, publications, etc.; and (d) what are the key messages of the campaign.

1014 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that in the recent decision of the Federal Court of Australia in the case of *MLC Limited v Deputy Commissioner of Taxation* [2002] FCA 149, in responding to the Commissioner's statement of reasons which accompanied notification of the disallowance of the applicants' objections, the judge stated: 'It may be said that it is hard to see how the applicants or their agent could have taken into account in preparing the returns lodged in 1996 and 1997 the views expressed in TD 1999/1 when

those views did not appear publicly for some years after the returns were lodged.'

- (2) Is the Minister prepared to make any changes to tax law to avoid the need for a taxpayer to have the crystal ball the Commissioner apparently expects.

1015 **Senator Lundy:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Can the following information be provided in the form of a spreadsheet, in both hard copy and electronically, for each contract entered into by the National Office for the Information Economy which has not been fully performed or was entered into during the 2001-02 financial year, and that is wholly, or in part, information and communications technology-related with a consideration of \$20 000 or more: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (f) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (g) the amount applicable to the current budget year in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).
- (2) With reference to any contracts that meet the above criteria, can a full list of sub-contracts valued at over \$5 000 be provided, including: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (f) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (g) the amount applicable to the current budget year in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).

1016 **Senator Lundy:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—

- (1) Can the following information in the form of a spreadsheet be provided, in both hard copy and electronically, for each contract entered into by the Australian Institute of Marine Science and the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation, which has not been fully performed or was entered into during the 2001-02 financial year, and that is wholly, or in part, information and communications technology-related with a consideration of \$20 000 or more: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (f) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (g) the amount applicable to the current budget year in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry

development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).

- (2) With reference to any contracts that meet the above criteria, can a full list of sub-contracts valued at over \$5 000 be provided, including: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (g) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).

1017 **Senator Lundy:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Can the following information in the form of a spreadsheet be provided, in both hard copy and electronically, for each contract entered into by the Enterprise and Career Education Foundation which has not been fully performed or was entered into during the 2001-02 financial year, and that is wholly, or in part, information and communications technology-related with a consideration of \$20 000 or more: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (g) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).
- (2) With reference to any contracts that meet the above criteria, can a full list of sub-contracts valued at over \$5 000 be provided, including: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (g) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).

1018 **Senator Lundy:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Can the following information in the form of a spreadsheet be provided, in both hard copy and electronically, for each contract entered into by the Australian National Audit Office, the Office of National Assessments, the Commonwealth Ombudsman and the Australian Public Service

Commission which has not been fully performed or was entered into during the 2001-02 financial year, and that is wholly, or in part, information and communications technology-related with a consideration of \$20 000 or more: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (g) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).

- (2) With reference to any contracts that meet the above criteria, can a full list of sub-contracts valued at over \$5 000 be provided, including: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (g) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).

Senator Lundy: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1019-1020)—

- (1) Can the following information in the form of a spreadsheet be provided, in both hard copy and electronically, for each contract entered into by agencies within the department which has not been fully performed or was entered into during the 2001-02 financial year, and that is wholly, or in part, information and communications technology-related with a consideration of \$20 000 or more: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (g) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).
- (2) With reference to any contracts that meet the above criteria, can a full list of sub-contracts valued at over \$5 000 be provided, including: (a) a unique identifier for the contract, for example contract number; (b) the contractor name and Australian Business Number or Australian Company Number; (c) the domicile of the parent company; (d) the subject matter of the contract, including whether the contract is substantially for hardware, software, services or a mixture, with estimated percentages; (e) the starting date of the contract; (f) the term of the contract, expressed as an ending date; (g) the amount of the consideration in Australian dollars; and (h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so, details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of scope).

amount applicable to the current budget year in Australian dollars; and
(h) whether or not there is an industry development requirement and, if so,
details of the industry development requirement (in scope and out of
scope).

1019 Minister representing the Attorney-General

1020 Minister for Family and Community Services

1021 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Gippsland Water has proposed to the Victorian State Government that Dutson Downs should be the site for dumping all the toxic waste generated in Victoria.
- (2) Is the Minister also aware that the Victorian State Government has indicated it will not require a full Environmental Effect Study of the toxic soils proposal.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the proposed site near Sale in Gippsland is between two Convention on Wetlands (RAMSAR) sites.
- (4) Given that, according to the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* website, neither Gippsland Water nor the Victorian State Government, has notified the Minister that this is, or may be, a controlled action under the provisions of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*: (a) is the Minister of the view that the proposed toxic dump and/or the dumping of liquid waste may be, or is, a controlled action; and (b) has the Minister asked that the proposal be referred.
- (5) Is the Minister aware that the Victorian State Government has also proposed to bury low-level radioactive waste at Dutson Downs.
- (6) Has the Minister been notified by Gippsland Water of this proposal.
- (7) Is the Minister aware that large quantities of liquid toxic waste have already been dumped in pools upon which migratory birds swim and that Gippsland Water, in its Expression of Interest, admits that the proposed action has the potential to impact on these RAMSAR sites.
- (8) What action does the Minister intend to take with regard to these two matters.

1022 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Gippsland Water proposed to dump low-level solidified radioactive waste at a site at Dutson Downs near Sale, Victoria.
- (2) What are the processes and requirements of the Federal Government in relation to such a proposal.
- (3) Has Gippsland Water or the Victorian Government contacted the Minister with regard to the proposal.
- (4) Is it the intention of the Government to require such low-level radioactive waste to be stored in a facility that is at least as stringent as the Federal Government's proposed National Waste Repository; if not, why not.

1023 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) How many of the 86 uniformed personnel engaged in health service provision in Victoria have been advised, to date, of their new postings as a result of the decision to award the health services contract to Mayne Health

Services; and (b) of these personnel, how many have be posted to each hospital.

- (2) When will all personnel be advised of their new postings.
- (3) Why has this advice not been given to some personnel.
- (4) What is the average period of notice given to those health personnel who have been notified, that is, what is the average time between notification and uplift to their new position.
- (5) What is the minimum period of notice given to those health personnel who have been notified.

1024 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Defence—Further to the advice given to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee in the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002 that Air Marshal Houston and Airservices Australia had agreed to work towards the provision by Airservices Australia of air traffic control services at Townsville and Darwin airports:

- (1) (a) When will the consultation phase commence and conclude; and (b) which defence agencies and organisations will be included in that consultation.
- (2) Does this decision relate to previous reports of a shortage of defence air traffic controllers; if so, can the Minister assure the public that sufficient defence resources exist to safely cover the functions until the proposed changes occur or, if defence resources are not sufficient, will interim measures be put in place.
- (3) Is the decision to transfer functions from the department to Airservices Australia a ministerial or an agency level decision.
- (4) Will any other airport or aviation functions be involved in the transfer of functions at Darwin and/or Townsville airports, or any other location; if so, which services and locations.

1025 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Further to the advice given to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee in the estimates hearing on 20 November 2002 that Air Marshal Houston and Airservices Australia had agreed to work towards the provision by Airservices Australia of air traffic control services at Townsville and Darwin airports:

- (1) (a) When will the consultation phase commence and conclude; and (b) which transport and related agencies and organisations will be included in that consultation.
- (2) Will this involve Airservices Australia providing defence and civilian air traffic control services.
- (3) Does this decision relate to previous reports of a shortage of defence air traffic controllers; if so, can the Minister assure the public that sufficient defence resources exist to safely cover the functions until the proposed changes occur or, if defence resources are not sufficient, will interim measures be put in place.
- (3) Is the decision to transfer functions from the department to Airservices Australia a ministerial or an agency level decision.
- (4) Will any other airport or aviation functions be involved in the transfer of functions at Darwin and/or Townsville airports, or any other location; if so, which services and locations.

Notice given 11 December 2002

- *1026 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) Can a full list be provided of real property owned by the department, indicating: (a) the address; (b) the type of property (for example, vacant building etc.); (c) the size of the property; and (d) the property valuation.
 - (2) Can a full list be provided of the real property sold by or on behalf of the department in the 2002-03 financial year, indicating: (a) the address; (b) the type of property (for example, vacant building etc.); (c) the size of the property; (d) the type of sale (auction or advertised price); (e) the date of sale; (f) the reason for the sale; and (g) the price obtained.
 - (3) Can a full list be provided of the real property proposed to be sold by or on behalf of the department in the 2002-03 financial year, indicating: (a) the address; (b) the type of property (for example, vacant building etc.); (c) the size of the property; (d) the type of sale proposed (auction or advertised price); (e) the expected price range; and (f) the likely timing of the sale.
 - (4) Can a full list be provided of real property currently leased by the department, indicating: (a) the owner of the property; (b) the address; (c) the type of property; (d) the size of property; (e) the length of current lease; (f) the value of the lease; (g) the departmental activities conducted at the property; and (h) any sub-leases entered into at the property, including details of: (i) the name of sub-tenants; (ii) the length of sub-leases; (iii) the value of sub-leases; and (iv) the nature of sub-tenant activities.
- *1027 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) What guidelines apply in relation to cost recovery in each output area and agency of the department.
 - (2) Can a full list of cost recovery charges in each output area and agency of the department be provided.
 - (3) Which cost recovery charges in each output area and agency of the department have varied in response to the Commonwealth Cost Recovery Policy.
 - (4) (a) What are the details of each variation; and (b) when did each variation occur.
 - (5) What is the expected quantum of revenue from cost recovery arrangements in the 2002-03 financial year in each output area and agency of the department.
 - (6) How does this figure compare with the figure for the 2001-02 financial year.
 - (7) Is the revenue from cost recovery arrangements expected to grow in the 2003-04 financial year; if so, what is the expected revenue growth in each output area and agency of the department.
- *1028 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What is the department's approved method of determining the date of manufacture of used vehicles prior to their being imported.
 - (2) What is the department's approved method of determining the date of manufacture of new vehicles prior to their being imported.

- (3) What is the department's approved method of determining the date of manufacture of new vehicles prior to their being sold, whether or not they have been imported.
- (4) Does the department have a policy and/or guidelines in place for checking the date of manufacture on import approvals prior to their being issued; if so, can copies of these policies or guidelines for each of the years 1997 to 2002 be provided; if not, why not.
- (5) Will the Minister explain why the department will not honour import approvals that have been issued which allow a vehicle to be imported if its date of manufacture is outside the range of the Compliance Plate Approval holder's approval.
- (6) What compensation will the department provide to importers affected by the failure to honour these import approvals.
- (7) Why will the department not issue advice to the industry outlining the department's policy on how the department treats import approvals that have been issued showing incorrect year of manufacture details.
- (8) What is the department doing to rectify the incorrect details shown on the import approvals issued.
- (9) What legal liability does a person have who relies on the information contained in an import approval if the department has used incorrect information.

*1029 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—If the Australian Government's position is just and legal, why has the Australian Government repudiated the International Court of Justice as an arbitrator in determining sea and seabed boundaries between Australia and East Timor.

*1030 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the rape of an estimated 625 women and girls in the past 5 years in Burma by Burmese military personnel.
- (2) Has the Minister raised this issue of rape by military personnel with the Burmese State Peace and Development Council; if not: (a) why did the Minister not raise the issue during the course of his requests for the release of Burmese political prisoners; and (b) now that the Minister is aware of the issue, when will he be raising it with the State Peace and Development Council.

ORDERS OF THE SENATE

Absence of President

1 Authority of Deputy President

- (1) That, during the absence of the President, the Deputy President shall, on each sitting day, take the chair of the Senate and may, during such absence, perform the duties and exercise the authority of the President in relation to all proceedings of the Senate and proceedings of committees to which the President is appointed.

(Agreed to 9 December 2002.)

Committees

2 Allocation of departments

Departments and agencies are allocated to the legislative and general purpose standing committees as follows:

Community Affairs

Family and Community Services
Health and Ageing

Economics

Treasury
Industry, Tourism and Resources

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education

Employment and Workplace Relations
Education, Science and Training

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Environment and Heritage
Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Finance and Public Administration

Parliament
Prime Minister and Cabinet
Finance and Administration

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

Foreign Affairs and Trade
Defence (including Veterans' Affairs)

Legal and Constitutional

Attorney-General
Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

Transport and Regional Services
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

(1 May 1996, amended 2 September 1997, 21 October 1997, 11 November 1998, 8 February 2001 and 13 February 2002.)

3 Committee chair—Temporary absence—Amendment of standing order 25

25 Legislative and general purpose

At the end of paragraph (10), add:

- (g) The chair, or the deputy chair when acting as chair, may appoint another member of a committee to act as chair during the temporary absence of both the chair and deputy chair at a meeting of the committee.

(Agreed to 19 November 2002 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee's second report of 2002.)

*4 Estimates hearings

- (1) That estimates hearings by legislation committees for the year 2003 be scheduled as follows:

2002-03 additional estimates:

Monday, 10 February and Tuesday, 11 February and, if required, Friday, 14 February (*Group A*)

Wednesday, 12 February and Thursday, 13 February and, if required, Friday, 14 February (*Group B*).

2003-04 Budget estimates:

Monday, 26 May to Thursday, 29 May and, if required, Friday, 30 May (*Group A*)

Monday, 2 June to Thursday, 5 June and, if required, Friday, 6 June (*Group B*).

- (2) That the committees consider the proposed expenditure in accordance with the allocation of departments to committees agreed to by the Senate.
- (3) That committees meet in the following groups:

Group A:

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Finance and Public Administration

Legal and Constitutional

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

Group B:

Community Affairs

Economics

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.

- (4) That the committees report to the Senate on the following dates:
 - Wednesday, 19 March 2003 in respect of the 2002-03 additional estimates, and
 - Thursday, 19 June 2003 in respect of the 2003-04 budget estimates.

(Agreed to 11 December 2002.)

5 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee—Authorisation to meet

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

(Agreed to 12 November 2002.)

6 House—Standing Committee—Amendment of standing order 21

That standing order 21 be amended to read as follows:

- (1) A House Committee, consisting of the President, the Deputy President and 5 senators, shall be appointed at the commencement of each Parliament, with power to act during recess, and to confer and sit as a joint committee with a similar committee of the House of Representatives.
- (2) The committee may consider any matter relating to the provision of facilities in Parliament House referred to it by the Senate or by the President.
- (3) The President shall be the chair of the committee.

(Agreed to 13 November 2002.)

7 Privileges—Standing Committee—Adoption of 94th report recommendation

That the Senate authorise the President, if required, to engage counsel as *amicus curiae* if either the action for defamation against Mr David Armstrong or a similar action against Mr William O’Chee is set down for trial.

(Agreed to 4 September 2000.)

8 Quorums in committees—Amendment of standing orders 25, 26 and 29**25 Legislative and general purpose**

At the end of paragraph (7), add:

- (d) A participating member shall be taken to be a member of a committee for the purpose of forming a quorum of the committee if a majority of members of the committee is not present.

26 Estimates

Paragraph (8), after “Participating membership of legislation committees shall not have effect in respect of proceedings on estimates,”, add “other than the formation of a quorum,”.

29 Quorum

Omit paragraph (2), substitute:

- (2) If a senator draws attention to the lack of a quorum at a meeting of a committee, the proceedings shall be suspended until a quorum is present, or, if a quorum is not present after 15 minutes, the committee shall then be adjourned.

(Agreed to 19 November 2002 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee’s second report of 2002.)

Legislation**9 Senate consideration—Variation**

- (1) That a bill shall not be considered in committee of the whole, unless, prior to the resolution of the question for the second reading, any senator has:
- (a) circulated in the Senate a proposed amendment or request for amendment of the bill; or
 - (b) required in debate or by notification to the chair that the bill be considered in committee of the whole.
- (2) That this order operate as a sessional order.

(Agreed to 20 June 2002.)

10 Senate consideration—Variation

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:

Taxation Laws Amendment (Venture Capital) Bill 2002
Venture Capital Bill 2002.

(Agreed to 9 December 2002.)

11 Senate consideration—Variation

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:

Aviation Legislation Amendment Bill 2002
Copyright Amendment (Parallel Importation) Bill 2002

Crimes Legislation Amendment (People Smuggling, Firearms Trafficking and Other Measures) Bill 2002
Financial Sector Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002
Inspector-General of Taxation Bill 2002
National Environment Protection Council Amendment Bill 2002
Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2002
Taxation Laws Amendment (Earlier Access to Farm Management Deposits) Bill 2002
Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Termination) Bill 2002.

(Agreed to 10 December 2002.)

***12 Senate consideration—Variation**

That the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (7) of standing order 111 not apply to the Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Special Benefit Activity Test) Bill 2002, allowing it to be considered during this period of sittings.

(Agreed to 11 December 2002.)

Meeting of Senate

13 Meeting of Senate

That the days of meeting of the Senate for 2002 be as follows:

Summer sittings:

Tuesday, 12 February to Thursday, 14 February

Autumn sittings:

Monday, 11 March to Thursday, 14 March

Tuesday, 19 March to Thursday, 21 March

Budget sittings:

Tuesday, 14 May to Thursday, 16 May

Winter sittings:

Monday, 17 June to Thursday, 20 June

Monday, 24 June to Thursday, 27 June

Spring sittings:

Monday, 19 August to Thursday, 22 August

Monday, 26 August to Thursday, 29 August

Monday, 16 September to Thursday, 19 September

Monday, 23 September to Thursday, 26 September

Monday, 14 October to Thursday, 17 October

Monday, 21 October to Thursday, 24 October

Monday, 11 November to Thursday, 14 November

Monday, 18 November to Tuesday, 19 November

Monday, 2 December to Thursday, 5 December

Monday, 9 December to Thursday, 12 December.

(Agreed to 13 February 2002.)

14 Meeting of Senate

That the days of meeting of the Senate for 2003 shall be as follows:

Summer sittings:

Tuesday, 4 February to Thursday, 6 February

Autumn sittings:

Monday, 3 March to Thursday, 6 March
 Tuesday, 18 March to Thursday, 20 March
 Monday, 24 March to Thursday, 27 March

Budget sittings:

Tuesday, 13 May to Thursday, 15 May

Winter sittings:

Monday, 16 June to Thursday, 19 June
 Monday, 23 June to Thursday, 26 June

Spring sittings:

Monday, 11 August to Thursday, 14 August
 Monday, 18 August to Thursday, 21 August
 Monday, 8 September to Thursday, 11 September
 Monday, 15 September to Thursday, 18 September
 Tuesday, 7 October to Thursday, 9 October
 Monday, 13 October to Thursday, 16 October
 Monday, 27 October to Thursday, 30 October
 Monday, 3 November and Tuesday, 4 November
 Monday, 24 November to Thursday, 27 November
 Monday, 1 December to Thursday, 4 December.

(Agreed to 12 November 2002.)

15 Adjournment—Amendment of standing orders 54, 55 and 57**54 Adjournment without motion**

- (5) Except on Tuesday debate on the question for the adjournment shall not exceed 40 minutes, and a senator shall not speak to that question for more than 10 minutes on any day. On Tuesday at the conclusion of debate, and on other days at the expiration of 40 minutes, at the conclusion of debate, or at the time specified for adjournment, whichever is the earlier, or if there is no debate, the President shall adjourn the Senate without putting the question.

55 Times of meetings

- (1) The days and times of meeting of the Senate in each sitting week shall be:
- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Monday | 12.30 pm – 6.30 pm, 7.30 pm – 10.30 pm |
| Tuesday | 2 pm – adjournment |
| Wednesday | 9.30 am – 8 pm |
| Thursday | 9.30 am – 8.40 pm. |

57 Routine of business

- (1) The routine of business shall be:
- (a) On Monday:
- (i) Government business only
 - (ii) At 2 pm, questions
 - (iii) Motions to take note of answers
 - (iv) Petitions
 - (v) Notices of motion
 - (vi) Postponement and rearrangement of business

- (vii) Formal motions – discovery of formal business
 - (viii) Any proposal to debate a matter of public importance or urgency
 - (ix) Government business
 - (x) At 9.50 pm, adjournment proposed
 - (xi) At 10.30 pm, adjournment.
- (b) On Tuesday:
- (i) Questions
 - (ii) Motions to take note of answers
 - (iii) Petitions
 - (iv) Notices of motion
 - (v) Postponement and rearrangement of business
 - (vi) Formal motions – discovery of formal business
 - (vii) Any proposal to debate a matter of public importance or urgency
 - (viii) Government business
 - (ix) At 6.50 pm, consideration of government documents for up to 30 minutes under standing order 61
 - (x) At 7.20 pm, adjournment proposed
 - (xi) Adjournment.

(Agreed to 28 August 2002 upon adoption of certain recommendations in the Procedure Committee's first report of 2002.)

16 Adjournment debate on Tuesdays—Temporary order

- (1) On the question for the adjournment of the Senate on Tuesday, a senator who has spoken once subject to the time limit of 10 minutes may speak again for not more than 10 minutes if no other senator who has not already spoken once wishes to speak, provided that a senator may by leave speak for not more than 20 minutes on one occasion.
- (2) This order shall cease to have effect at the conclusion of the last sitting day in 2003.

(Agreed to 19 November 2002 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee's second report of 2002.)

Orders for production of documents

17 Mining—Christmas Island—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Tuesday, 25 June 2002, the following documents:

- (a) the current mine lease or leases on Christmas Island held by Phosphate Resource Ltd (PRL), including all conditions;
- (b) the Environment Management Plan for the lease or leases;
- (c) any Environment Australia (EA) documents relating to compliance, oversight and enforcement of the lease or leases and conditions;
- (d) all materials relating to breaches of conditions, including claims, investigations and actions;
- (e) any audits of PRL's rehabilitation program;
- (f) any new mining proposals for Christmas Island;

- (g) a current tenure map of all blocks that have been mined;
- (h) any documents relating to the transfer of any lots to or from PRL;
- (i) any documents relating to the current mine rehabilitation budget for EA on Christmas Island;
- (j) any documents relating to the current status of rehabilitation on lease block 138;
- (k) any documents relating to the payment or non-payment of power bills by PRL;
- (l) any documents relating to alternative locations for the proposed detention centre on Christmas Island;
- (m) any documents containing responses of EA to the detention centre proposal; and
- (n) current funds held for purposes of mine rehabilitation on Christmas Island.

(Agreed to 19 June 2002.)

18 Superannuation system—Order for production of document

That there be laid on the table, on the last sitting day of the winter sittings 2002, the revised costings document, including the correct phasing-in arrangements, of the Australian Labor Party's plan for a fairer superannuation system, prepared by Phil Gallagher (Manager, Retirement and Income Modelling Unit, Treasury) which was sent to the Treasurer's office in the week beginning 20 May 2002 and identified in Mr Gallagher's evidence before the Economics Legislation Committee on 4 June 2002.

(Agreed to 24 June 2002.)

19 Finance—Retirement and Income Modelling—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, on the last sitting day of the 2002 winter sittings, the modelling, including information on projected spending for payments to individuals, education, health and aged care spending, prepared for the draft Intergenerational Report in early 2002 before budget changes were factored in, prepared by the Retirement and Income Modelling Unit, Treasury and identified in Treasury's evidence before the Economics Legislation Committee on 6 June 2002.

(Agreed to 25 June 2002.)

20 Environment—Lucas Heights reactor—Order for production of document

That there be laid on the table, no later than the end of question time on Wednesday, 26 June 2002, the study commissioned by the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation, on behalf of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency, of the preliminary evaluation of the construction site for the replacement research reactor at Lucas Heights, carried out by the New Zealand company, the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences, which included geological mapping of the excavation of the construction site and has revealed a geological anomaly or 'fault' at the site.

(Agreed to 25 June 2002.)

21 Health—Tobacco—Order for production of document

That the Senate—

- (a) notes the report tabled in the Senate on 6 May 2002 from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) on the performance of its functions under the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (the Act) with regard to

- tobacco and related matters, as required by the order of the Senate of 24 September 2001;
- (b) notes that the Senate may require the ACCC to provide it with information in accordance with section 29 of the Act;
 - (c) requires the ACCC to report, as soon as possible, on the following issues:
 - (i) whether Australian tobacco companies have engaged in misleading or deceptive conduct in their use of the terms ‘mild’ and ‘light’, and
 - (ii) whether there has been any misleading, deceptive or unconscionable conduct in breach of the Act by British American Tobacco and/or Clayton Utz with regard to document destruction for the purpose of withholding information relevant to possible litigation;
 - (d) requests the ACCC to engage in consultation with interested parties and stakeholders over the perceived inadequacies in its response to the order of the Senate of 24 September 2001 and requires the ACCC to report on those consultations as soon as possible;
 - (e) notes that once the Senate has had the opportunity to consider the ACCC’s further reports on the use of the terms ‘mild’ and ‘light’, whether there has been misleading, deceptive or unconscionable conduct in relation to document destruction, and the ACCC’s consultations, it will consider whether a further report should be sought from the ACCC in response to the order of the Senate of 24 September 2001;
 - (f) calls on the Commonwealth Government to pursue the possibility of a Commonwealth/state public liability action against tobacco companies to recover healthcare costs to the Commonwealth and the states caused by the use of tobacco; and
 - (g) calls on the Commonwealth to address the issue of who should have access to the more than \$200 million collected in respect of tobacco tax and licence fees by tobacco wholesalers but not passed on to Government (see *Roxborough v. Rothmans*) by introducing legislation to retrospectively recover that amount for the Commonwealth and/or to establish a fund on behalf of Australian consumers and taxpayers, and in either case for the moneys to be used for the purpose of anti-smoking and other public health issues.

(Agreed to 27 June 2002.)

22 Animal Welfare—Cattle—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Wednesday, 21 August 2002, the following documents:

- (a) the Livestock Officer’s report on the voyage of the *Maysora*, a Jordanian flagged vessel, travelling from Australia on 28 February 2001 carrying live cattle; and
- (b) the Master’s reports from the same voyage.

(Agreed to 20 August 2002.)

23 Superannuation Working Group—Order for production of document

That there be laid on the table, on the next day of sitting, the report presented to the Government by the Superannuation Working Group on 28 March 2002.

(Agreed to 28 August 2002.)

24 Health—Assessment reports by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission—Order for production of documents—Variation

That the order of the Senate of 25 March 1999, relating to an order for the production of periodic reports by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on private health insurance, be amended as follows:

Omit “6 months, commencing with the 6 months ending on 31 December 1999”, substitute “12 months ending on or after 30 June 2003”.

(Agreed to 18 September 2002.)

25 **Transport—Ethanol—Order for production of documents**

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.

(Agreed to 16 October 2002.)

26 Environment—Queensland—Nathan Dam—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than 2 pm on 19 November 2002:

- (a) all documents from 2002 relating to any approaches made by Sudaw Developments Ltd (or its agents) to the Government seeking funding or other support for the Nathan Dam on the Fitzroy River in Queensland;
- (b) any documents or comments provided to Environment Australia in response to the referral, Ref. No. 2002/770—Sudaw Developments Ltd—Water management and use—Dawson River—QLD—Nathan Dam, central Queensland;
- (c) any report or document prepared by Environment Australia in response to referral 2002/770; and
- (d) the report, *Literature review and scoping study of the potential downstream impacts of the proposed Nathan Dam on the Dawson River, Fitzroy River and offshore environments*, prepared by the Australian Centre for Tropical Freshwater Research.

(Agreed to 11 November 2002.)

27 Animal welfare—Live animal export—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than 2 pm on 18 November 2002, the October 2002 report of the Independent Reference Group on the options for improving the welfare record of Australia's live animal export trade.

(Agreed to 11 November 2002.)

28 Trade—General Agreement on Trade in Service—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Trade, no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on Monday, 18 November 2002:

- (a) all requests received by the Australian Government for increased access to Australian services markets by other nations, lodged under negotiations, under the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS);

- (b) any documents analysing the likely impact of any requests made of Australia in negotiations under GATS; and
- (c) any requests lodged by Australia of other countries under negotiations on GATS.

(Agreed to 14 November 2002.)

29 Environment—Oceans policy—Order for production of document

That there be laid on the table at the end of taking note of answers to questions without notice on Tuesday, 19 November 2002, the 'Review of the Implementation of Oceans Policy: Final report' by TFG International, dated 25 October 2002.

(Agreed to 18 November 2002.)

30 Superannuation—Insurance and Superannuation Commission—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, in accordance with their respective ministerial responsibilities, by the Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Minchin) and the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan), by 2 December 2002, the following documents:

- (a) the Treasury files, as described in paragraph 10.1.4 of the report to Messrs Corrs Chambers Westgarth from John Palmer, FCA, entitled 'Review of the role played by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority and the Insurance and Superannuation Commission in the collapse of the HIH Group of Companies' and provided as a witness statement to the HIH Royal Commission;
- (b) the files of the Insurance and Superannuation Commission in relation to the application of FAI Insurance Limited for an authority to carry on insurance business following the proclamation of the *Insurance Act 1973* containing the application and all correspondence and documentation relating to the consideration of the application and leading to and including the company's eventual authorisation;
- (c) the files of the Insurance and Superannuation Commission in relation to the application of Fire and All Risks Insurance Company Limited for an authority to carry on insurance business following the proclamation of the *Insurance Act 1973* containing the application and all correspondence and documentation relating to the consideration of the application and leading to and including the company's eventual authorisation;
- (d) the files of the Insurance and Superannuation Commission in relation to the application of Car Owners' Mutual Insurance Company Limited for an authority to carry on insurance business following the proclamation of the *Insurance Act 1973* containing the application and all correspondence and documentation relating to the consideration of the application and leading to and including the company's eventual authorisation; and
- (e) the files of the Insurance and Superannuation Commission in relation to the application of Australian and International Insurance Limited for an authority to carry on insurance business following the proclamation of the *Insurance Act 1973* containing the application and all correspondence and documentation relating to the consideration of the application and leading to and including the company's eventual authorisation.

(Agreed to 19 November 2002.)

31 Health—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Patterson), no later than 4 pm on 4 December 2002, all documents relating to the inter-departmental committee (IDC) examining the effectiveness of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, including but not limited to submissions received by the IDC, the IDC's recommendations to the Minister, and any response by the Minister to those recommendations.

(Agreed to 3 December 2002.)

32 Trade—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Patterson) and the Minister representing the Minister for Trade (Senator Hill), no later than 4 pm on 4 December 2002, all documents relating to the possible inclusion of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme as an item for discussion in negotiations for an Australia-United States free trade agreement, including but not limited to correspondence between the Australian and United States governments, recommendations to the Australian government and/or any Commonwealth government minister, and any Australian government response to those recommendations.

(Agreed to 3 December 2002.)

33 Environment—Walla Weir Irrigation Project—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table no later than 4 pm on Thursday, 12 December 2002, the following documents:

- (a) the agreement signed by the Commonwealth for the Walla Weir Irrigation Project, funded under the Sugar Industry Infrastructure Package; and
- (b) any materials relating to compliance with the terms of the agreement.

(Agreed to 10 December 2002.)

34 Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—Ministerial responsibility—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on Thursday, 12 December 2002, all documents relating to the inquiries undertaken by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet into the possible conflict of interest between the ministerial responsibilities of the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan) and the commercial activities of Endispute Pty Ltd (including, but not limited to, a copy of the report of those inquiries furnished to the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) and referred to by him during question time in the House of Representatives on Tuesday, 3 December 2002).

(Agreed to 10 December 2002.)

35 Environment—Queensland—Seismic testing—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table no later than 4 pm on Thursday, 12 December 2002, all materials prepared by Geoscience Australia in response to the proposal by TGS-NOPEC to conduct seismic testing in the Townsville Trough.

(Agreed to 10 December 2002.)

***36 Environment—Tasmania—Logging—Order for production of documents**

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, no later than noon on Thursday, 12 December 2002, all documents relating to the answers to question on notice no. 404 (Senate *Hansard*, 14 October 2002, p. 5089).

(Agreed to 11 December 2002.)

Orders for production of documents still current from previous parliaments

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
25.10.1995	Administrative decision-making—Effect of international instruments	Minister representing the Attorney-General
13.05.1998	Waterfront reform	Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Development (Senator Alston); Minister representing the Minister for Workplace Relations and Small Business (Senator Alston); and Minister representing the Prime Minister (Senator Hill)
07.03.2000	Environment—Queensland—Tree clearing	Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Senator Hill)
03.04.2000	Aged care—Riverside Nursing Home	Minister representing the Minister for Aged Care
27.06.2000	Tax reform—Petrol pricing	Assistant Treasurer (Senator Kemp)
09.11.2000	Environment—Tasmania	Minister representing the Minister for Sport and Tourism (Senator Minchin)
04.12.2000	Taxation—Opinion polls	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
05.03.2001	Taxation	Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Kemp)
23.05.2001	HIH Insurance	Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Kemp)
24.05.2001	Workplace relations	Minister representing the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business
09.08.2001	Foreign Affairs—Japanese fishing boats	Minister representing the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Trade
21.08.2001	Transport—Black Spot Project	Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services
23.08.2001	Environment—Great Barrier Reef—Water quality control	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
19.09.2001	Transport—Ansett Australia	Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
20.09.2001	Transport—Ansett Australia	Minister representing the Prime Minister

Senate Chamber

37 Dress code—Media representatives and advisers

That the Senate does not require media representatives in the Senate gallery, or senators' advisers, to wear coats.

(Agreed to 20 March 2002.)

38 Chamber photographs

That photographs of any senator may be taken by the media in the chamber whenever that senator has the call.

(Agreed to 21 March 2002.)

CONTINGENT NOTICES OF MOTION

Auditor-General's reports—Consideration

1 Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)

Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)

Senator Brown

Senator Harradine

Senator Harris

Senator Lees

Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on the President presenting a report of the Auditor-General on any day or notifying the Senate that such a report had been presented under standing order 166)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion to take note of the report and any senator speaking to it for not more than 10 minutes, with the total time for the debate not to exceed 60 minutes.

Conduct of business

2 Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill): To move (contingent on the Senate on any day concluding its consideration of any item of business and prior to the Senate proceeding to the consideration of another item of business)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent a minister moving a motion to provide for the consideration of any matter.

3 Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)

Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)

Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)

Senator Brown

Senator Harradine

Senator Harris

Senator Lees
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on the Senate on any day concluding its consideration of any item of business and prior to the Senate proceeding to the consideration of another item of business)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the conduct of the business of the Senate or to provide for the consideration of any other matter.

Government documents

- 4 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**
Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Lees
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on the Senate proceeding to the consideration of government documents)—That so much of the standing orders relating to the consideration of government documents be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the order in which the documents are called on by the President.

Limitation of time

- Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Lees
Senator Nettle
- 6 To move (contingent on a minister moving a motion that a bill be considered an urgent bill)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent debate taking place on the motion.
- 7 To move (contingent on a minister moving a motion to specify time to be allotted to the consideration of a bill, or any stage of a bill)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent the motion being debated without limitation of time and each senator speaking for the time allotted by standing orders.
- 8 To move (contingent on the chair declaring that the time allotted for the consideration of a bill, or any stage of a bill, has expired)—That so much of standing order 142 be suspended as would prevent further consideration of the bill, or the stage of the bill, without limitation of time or for a specified period.

Matters of urgency

- 9 **Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill):** To move (contingent on the moving of a motion to debate a matter of urgency under standing

order 75)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent a minister moving an amendment to the motion.

- 10 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**
Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Lees
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on the moving of a motion to debate a matter of urgency under standing order 75)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving an amendment to the motion.

Order of business

- 11 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**
Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Lees
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on the President proceeding to the placing of business on any day)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion relating to the order of business on the *Notice Paper*.

Statements

- 12 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**
Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)
Senator Brown
Senator Harradine
Senator Harris
Senator Lees
Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on any senator being refused leave to make a statement to the Senate)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent that senator making that statement.

Questions without notice

- 13 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**
Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)
Senator Brown

Senator Harradine

Senator Harris

Senator Lees

Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on a minister at question time on any day asking that further questions be placed on notice)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving a motion that, at question time on any day, questions may be put to ministers until 28 questions, including supplementary questions, have been asked and answered.

Tabling of documents

14 Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)

Leader of the National Party of Australia in the Senate (Senator Boswell)

Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)

Senator Brown

Senator Harradine

Senator Harris

Senator Lees

Senator Nettle

To move (contingent on any senator being refused leave to table a document in the Senate)—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the senator moving that the document be tabled.

TEMPORARY CHAIRS OF COMMITTEES

Senators Bolkus, Brandis, Chapman, Cherry, Collins, Cook, Ferguson, Hutchins, Knowles, Lightfoot, Sandy Macdonald, McLucas and Watson

CATEGORIES OF COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

Appropriations and Staffing

House

Library

Privileges

Procedure

Publications

Selection of Bills

Senators' Interests

Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committees

Regulations and Ordinances

Scrutiny of Bills

Legislative and General Purpose Standing Committees

Community Affairs Legislation
Community Affairs References
Economics Legislation
Economics References
Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation
Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References
Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation
Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References
Finance and Public Administration Legislation
Finance and Public Administration References
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References
Legal and Constitutional Legislation
Legal and Constitutional References
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References

Select Committees

A Certain Maritime Incident
Superannuation
Superannuation and Financial Services

Joint Statutory Committees

ASIO, ASIS and DSD
Australian Crime Commission (to replace the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the National Crime Authority with effect from 1 January 2003)
Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings
Corporations and Financial Services
National Crime Authority
Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund
Public Accounts and Audit
Public Works

Joint Committees

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

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

COMMITTEES

A Certain Maritime Incident—Select Committee

(appointed 13 February 2002; terms of appointment varied 13 March 2002; final report tabled 23 October 2002)

Members

Senator Cook (*Chair*), Senator Brandis (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Collins, Faulkner, Ferguson, Mason and Murphy

Report presented

Report (tabled 23 October 2002)

Erratum (presented to the Deputy President on 25 October 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 November 2002)

Appropriations and Staffing—Standing Committee

Members

The President (*Chairman*), the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Senators Allison, Bolkus, Boswell, Ferris, Heffernan and Ray

Reports presented

36th report—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2002-03 (certified by the President on 22 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 166(2); tabled 18 June 2002)

Annual report for 2001-02 (tabled 29 August 2002)

37th report—Administration of parliamentary security (tabled 18 November 2002)

ASIO, ASIS and DSD—Joint Statutory Committee

Members

Mr Jull (*Chair*), Senators Ferguson, Sandy Macdonald and Ray and Mr Beazley, Mr McArthur and Mr McLeay

Reports presented

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002—Interim report (presented to the Deputy President on 3 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002)

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002—Advisory report (tabled 18 June 2002)

Annual report for 2001-02 (tabled 2 December 2002)

Australian Crime Commission—Joint Statutory Committee

(to replace the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the National Crime Authority with effect from 1 January 2003)

Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings—Joint Statutory Committee

Members

The President (*Vice Chairman*), the Speaker (*Chairman*), Senators Ferris and Stephens and Mr Forrest, Mrs Gash, Mr Lindsay, Ms JS McFarlane and Mr Price

Community Affairs Legislation Committee*Portfolios*

Family and Community Services; Health and Ageing

Members

Senator Knowles (*Chair*), Senators Barnett, Denman, Heffernan, Hutchins and Greig

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Boswell, Buckland, Carr, Chapman, Collins, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Hogg, Lees, Lightfoot, McGauran, McLucas, Moore, Murphy, Payne, Tierney, Watson and Webber

Senator Allison for matters relating to the Health and Ageing portfolio

Reports presented

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 14 February 2002*)

Annual reports—No. 1 of 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

Provisions of the Research Involving Embryos and Prohibition of Human Cloning Bill 2002 (*presented to the President on 24 October 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 November 2002*)

Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Special Benefit Activity Test) Bill 2002 (*tabled 2 December 2002*)

Community Affairs References Committee*Members*

Senator Hutchins (*Chair*), Senator Knowles (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, Lees, McLucas and Moore

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Crossin, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Lightfoot, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Payne, Tierney, Watson and Webber

Senator Greig for matters relating to the Family and Community Services portfolio

Senator Allison for matters relating to the Health and Ageing portfolio

Current inquiries

Operation of the social security breaches and penalties system (*referred 16 October 2002*)

Poverty in Australia (*referred 21 October 2002; reporting date: by the last sitting day in June 2003*)

Reports presented

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 14 February 2002*)

The patient profession: Time for action—Report on the inquiry into nursing (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Participation requirements and penalties in the social security system [Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Australians Working Together and other 2001 Budget Measures) Bill 2002 and related issues] (*tabled 25 September 2002*)

Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee

(formerly the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Securities; name amended 11 March 2002 pursuant to Schedule 1, item 5 of the Financial Services Reform Act 2001)

Members

Senator Chapman (*Chair*), Senator Wong (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Brandis, Conroy and Murray and Mr Byrne, Mr Ciobo, Mr Griffin, Mr Hunt and Mr McArthur

Current inquiries

Review of the *Managed Investments Act 1998* (adopted 20 March 2002)

Banking and financial services in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia (adopted 26 June 2002)

Australia's insolvency laws (adopted 14 November 2002)

Disclosure of commissions on risk products (adopted 14 November 2002)

Report presented

Regulations and ASIC policy statements made under the *Financial Services Reform Act 2001* (tabled 23 October 2003)

Economics Legislation Committee*Portfolios*

Treasury; Industry, Tourism and Resources

Members

Senator Brandis (*Chair*), Senator Collins (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Chapman, Murray, Watson and Webber

Substitute member

Senator Allison to replace Senator Murray for matters relating to the Resources portfolio

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Cherry, Conroy, Cook, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Kirk, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Payne, Ridgeway, Sherry, Stott Despoja, Tchen and Tierney

Current inquiry

* Provisions of the Corporations Amendment (Repayment of Directors' Bonuses) Bill 2002 (referred 11 December 2002; reporting date: 3 March 2003)

Reports presented

Commonwealth Inscribed Stock Amendment Bill 2001 (presented to the Deputy President on 6 December 2001, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002)

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (tabled 19 March 2002)

Taxation Laws Amendment (Superannuation) Bill (No. 1) 2002 and Income Tax (Superannuation Payments Withholding Tax) Bill 2002 (tabled 20 March 2002)

Annual reports—No. 1 of 2002 (tabled 21 March 2002)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (tabled 19 June 2002)

New Business Tax System (Consolidation) Bill (No. 1) 2002 (tabled 26 June 2002)

Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 4) 2002 (tabled 26 June 2002)

Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme Amendment Bill 2002 (tabled 26 June 2002)

Space Activities Amendment Bill 2002 (tabled 27 August 2002)

- Annual reports—No. 2 of 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)
 New Business Tax System (Consolidation, Value Shifting, Demergers and Other Measures) Bill 2002 (*presented to the Deputy President on 18 October 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 21 October 2002*)
 Excise Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002 and Customs Tariff Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002 (*tabled 22 October 2002*)
 New Business Tax System (Consolidation and Other Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2002 (*tabled 18 November 2002*)
 Inspector-General of Taxation Bill 2002 (*tabled 3 December 2002*)
 Trade Practices Amendment (Liability for Recreational Services) Bill 2002 (*tabled 10 December 2002*)
 * Financial Sector Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002 (*tabled 11 December 2002*)

Economics References Committee

Members

Senator Collins (*Chair*), Senator Brandis (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Chapman, Conroy, Ridgeway and Webber

Substitute member

Senator Allison to replace Senator Ridgeway for matters relating to the Resources portfolio

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Cherry, Coonan, Eggleston, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Kirk, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Murray, Payne, Sherry, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Reports presented

Inquiry into mass marketed tax effective schemes and investor protection (*presented to the President on 11 February 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Inquiry into the framework for the market supervision of Australia's stock exchanges (*presented to the President on 11 February 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

A review of public liability and professional indemnity insurance (*tabled 22 October 2002*)

Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee

(*appointed 14 February 2002*)

Members

Mr Georgiou (*Chair*), Mr Danby (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Brandis, Mason, Murray and Ray and Mr Forrest, Mr Melham and Ms Panopoulos

Report presented

The integrity of the electoral roll: Review of ANAO report no. 42 of 2001-02 (*tabled 11 November 2002*)

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee

(formerly the *Employment, Workplace Relations, Small Business and Education Legislation Committee*; name amended 11 March 2002—see standing order 25)

Portfolios

Employment and Workplace Relations; Education, Science and Training

Members

Senator Tierney (*Chair*), Senator George Campbell (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, Carr, Johnston and Stott Despoja

Substitute members

Senator Murray to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Workplace Relations portfolio

Senator Allison to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Training portfolio and the Schools portfolio

Senator Cherry to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Employment portfolio

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Chapman, Cherry, Collins, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Hutchins, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Payne, Santoro, Sherry, Stephens, Watson and Webber

Current inquiry

* Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Termination of Employment) Bill 2002 (*referred 11 December 2002; reporting date 18 March 2003*)

Reports presented

Annual reports—No. 1 of 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Dismissal) Bill 2002, Workplace Relations Amendment (Prohibition of Compulsory Union Fees) Bill 2002, Workplace Relations Amendment (Secret Ballots for Protected Action) Bill 2002, Workplace Relations Amendment (Genuine Bargaining) Bill 2002 and Workplace Relations Amendment (Fair Termination) Bill 2002 (*tabled 15 May 2002*)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 27 June 2002*)

Higher Education Funding Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 22 August 2002*)

Research Agencies Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 29 August 2002*)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Paid Maternity Leave) Bill 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Annual reports—No. 2 of 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Improved Protection for Victorian Workers) Bill 2002 (*presented to the President on 15 November 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 November 2002*)

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee

(formerly the *Employment, Workplace Relations, Small Business and Education References Committee*; name amended 11 March 2002—see standing order 25)

Members

Senator George Campbell (*Chair*), Senator Tierney (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, Carr, Crossin and Stott Despoja

Substitute members

Senator Murray to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Workplace Relations portfolio

Senator Allison to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Training portfolio and the Schools portfolio

Senator Cherry to replace Senator Stott Despoja for matters relating to the Employment portfolio

Senator Conroy to replace Senator Carr for the committee's inquiry into small business employment

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Buckland, Chapman, Cherry, Collins, Coonan, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Hutchins, Johnston, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Payne, Santoro, Sherry, Stephens, Watson and Webber

Current inquiries

Small business employment (*referred 20 March 2002; reporting date: 6 February 2003*)

The refusal of the Government to respond to the order of the Senate of 21 August 2002 for the production of documents relating to financial information concerning higher education institutions (*referred 18 September 2002; reporting date: 6 March 2003*)

Labour market skills requirements (*referred 23 October 2002; reporting date: by the last sitting day in June 2003*)

Reports presented

Education of gifted and talented children (*presented to the President on 2 October 2001, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Universities in crisis: Report into the capacity of public university to meet Australia's higher education needs—Addendum (*presented to the President on 8 November 2001, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Education of students with disabilities (*tabled 10 December 2002*)

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Environment and Heritage; Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Members

Senator Eggleston (*Chair*), Senator Mackay (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Lundy, Santoro and Tchen

Substitute members

Senator Greig to replace Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Information Technology portfolio

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Arts portfolio

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bolkus, Boswell, Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, McLucas, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Ray, Watson and Wong

Senator Cherry for matters relating to the Communications portfolio

Reports presented

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Annual reports—No. 1 of 2002 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)
 Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002 (*presented to the President on 18 June 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 19 June 2002*)
 Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)
 New Zealand/Australia committee exchange program: Report of visit to New Zealand, 15 to 17 April 2002 (*tabled 27 August 2002*)
 Annual reports—No. 2 of 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)
 Telecommunications Competition Bill 2002 (*presented to the Deputy President on 22 November 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 2 December 2002*)
 Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2002—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 28 November 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 2 December 2002*)
 Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 2 December 2002*)

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

Members

Senator Allison (*Chair*), Senator Tierney (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Lundy, Mackay, Tchen and Wong

Substitute members

Senator Crossin to replace Senator Mackay for the committee's inquiry into environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations

Senator Buckland to replace Senator Lundy for the committee's inquiry into environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations

Senator Scullion to replace Senator Tierney for the committee's inquiry into environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations

Senator Moore to replace Senator Wong for the committee's inquiry into the Australian telecommunications network

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bolkus, Boswell, Brown, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Knowles, Lees, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Payne and Watson

Senator Greig for matters relating to the Information Technology portfolio

Senator Ridgeway for matters relating to the Arts portfolio

Senator Nettle for the committee's inquiry into environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations

Current inquiries

Environmental performance at the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium operations (*referred 20 June 2002; reporting date: 4 March 2003*)

The role of libraries as providers of public information in the online environment (*referred 25 June 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in March 2003*)

Australian telecommunications network (*referred 25 June 2002; reporting date: 21 February 2003*)

Reports presented

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 14 February 2002*)

New Zealand/Australia committee exchange program: Report of visit to New Zealand, 15 to 17 April 2002 (*tabled 27 August 2002*)

The value of water: Inquiry into Australia's urban water management (*tabled 5 December 2002*)

Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Parliament; Prime Minister and Cabinet; Finance and Administration

Members

Senator Mason (*Chair*), Senator Murray (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Brandis, Faulkner, Forshaw and Heffernan

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Knowles, Lees, McGauran, Mackay, Marshall, Murphy, Payne, Ray, Ridgeway, Sherry, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Current inquiry

Portfolio Budget Statements (*referred 21 November 1996; readopted 2 December 1998 and 21 March 2002*)

Reports presented

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Annual reports—No. 1 of 2002 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

Charter of Political Honesty Bill 2000 [2002], Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2000 [2002], Government Advertising (Objectivity, Fairness and Accountability) Bill 2000 and Auditor of Parliamentary Allowances and Entitlements Bill 2000 [No. 2] (*tabled 29 August 2002*)

Annual reports—No. 2 of 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Members of Parliament (Life Gold Pass) Bill 2002 (*tabled 19 September 2002*)

Public Interest Disclosure Bill 2001 [2002] (*tabled 26 September 2002*)

Finance and Public Administration References Committee

Members

Senator Forshaw (*Chair*), Senator Watson (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Heffernan, Marshall, Ridgeway and Wong

Substitute member

Senator Allison to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into recruitment and training in the Australian Public Service

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Brandis, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Knowles, Lees, Lundy, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Murray, Payne, Sherry, Tchen and Tierney

Current inquiries

Tabling of indexed lists of files of departments and agencies (*referred 21 August 1996 pursuant to the order of 30 May 1996; readopted 1 December 1998 and 21 March 2002*)

First year of operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (*ordered 20 June 2001; amended 27 September 2001*)

Recruitment and training in the Australian Public Service (*referred 21 March 2002; reporting date: 27 March 2003*)

Report presented

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee

(*appointed 14 February 2002*)

Members

Senator Ferguson (*Chair*), Mr Brereton (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bolkus, Cook, Eggleston, Evans, Harradine, Hutchins, Johnston, Sandy Macdonald, O'Brien, Payne and Stott Despoja and Mr Baird, Mr Baldwin, Mr Beazley, Mr Bevis, Mr Byrne, Mr Edwards, Mr LDT Ferguson, Mrs Gash, Mr Hawker, Mr Jull, Mr Lindsay, Mrs Moylan, Mr Nairn, Mr Price, Mr Prosser, Mr Scott, Mr Snowden, Mr Somlyay and Mr CP Thompson

Current inquiries

Watching brief on the war on terrorism (*adopted 15 May 2002*)

United Nations – Australia's role in the UN (*adopted 15 May 2002*)

World Trade Organisation – Australia's role in the WTO (*adopted 15 May 2002*)

Trade and investment relations with the countries of Central Europe (*adopted 12 August 2002*)

Relations with Indonesia (*adopted 22 August 2002*)

Australia's maritime strategy (*adopted 27 August 2002*)

Review of those aspects of the 2000-01 annual report of the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission relating to conditions at immigration detention centres and the treatment of detainees (*adopted 27 June 2002*)

Human rights and good governance education in the Asia-Pacific region (*referred 3 September 2002*)

Review of the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) annual report for 2001-02 (*adopted 16 October 2002*)

Review of the Australian Trade Commission (Austrade) annual report for 2001-02 (*adopted 16 October 2002*)

Review of the Department of Defence annual report for 2001-02 (*adopted 16 October 2002*)

Review of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade annual report for 2001-02 (*adopted 16 October 2002*)

Review of Australia-Indonesia Institute annual report for 2001-02 (*adopted 2 December 2002*)

Reports presented

Review of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Defence annual reports 2000-01 (*tabled 23 September 2002*)

Enterprising Australia: Planning, preparing and profiting from trade and investment—A short report on the proceedings of the inquiry (*tabled 16 October 2002*)

Parliament's watching brief on the war on terrorism—Visit to Australian forces deployed to the international coalition against terrorism (*tabled 21 October 2002*)

Parliament's watching brief on the war on terrorism—Review of Australia's preparedness to manage the consequences of a terrorist attack (*statement made, by way of a report, 2 December 2002*)

Review of Australia's relations with the United Nations (*statement made, by way of a report, 9 December 2002*)

Scrutiny of the World Trade Organisation (*statement made, by way of a report, 9 December 2002*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Portfolios

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

Members

Senator Sandy Macdonald (*Chair*), Senator Cook (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Evans, Ferguson, Payne and Ridgeway

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Boswell, Brandis, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Eggleston, Faulkner, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Hogg, Hutchins, Johnston, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Mackay, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Santoro, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Reports presented

Annual reports—No. 1 of 2002 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Annual reports—No. 2 of 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Members

Senator Cook (*Chair*), Senator Sandy Macdonald (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Hogg, Johnston, Marshall and Ridgeway

Substitute member

Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into materiel acquisition and management in Defence

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Brandis, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Payne, Santoro, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Current inquiries

Materiel acquisition and management in Defence (*referred 13 March 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in March 2003*)

Australia's relationship with Papua New Guinea and other Pacific island countries (*referred 13 March 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2003*)

An examination of the Government's foreign and trade policy strategy (*referred 10 December 2002; reporting date: 14 May 2003*)

Report presented

Recruitment and retention of ADF personnel (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Chapman, on 4 October 2001, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

House—Standing Committee

Members

The Deputy President (*Chair*), Senators Carr, Colbeck, Collins, Lightfoot and Stephens

Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Attorney-General; Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs

Members

Senator Payne (*Chair*), Senator Bolkus (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Greig, Ludwig, Mason and Scullion

Substitute member

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Greig for matters relating to the Indigenous Affairs portfolio

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Brandis, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Kirk, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, McGauran, McLucas, Murphy, Nettle, Ray, Sherry, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Immigration and Multicultural Affairs portfolio

Current inquiry

Statutory powers and functions of the Australian Law Reform Commission (*referred 1 December 1998 on adoption of the 73rd report of the Committee of Privileges; readopted 11 March 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in 2002*)

Reports presented

Matter not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 11 March 2002*)

Annual reports—No. 1 of 2002 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Proceeds of Crime Bill 2002 and the Proceeds of Crime (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Chapman, on 10 April 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)

Criminal Code Amendment (Espionage and Related Offences) Bill 2002—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 26 April 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)

Proceeds of Crime Bill 2002 and the Proceeds of Crime (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002 (*presented to the Deputy President on 26 April 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)

Security Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 [No. 2], Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism Bill 2002, Criminal Code Amendment (Suppression of Terrorist Bombings) Bill 2002, Border Security Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 and Telecommunications Interception Legislation Amendment Bill 2002—Interim report

(presented to the Deputy President on 3 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002)

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002—Interim report (presented to the Deputy President on 3 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002)

Security Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 [No. 2], Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism Bill 2002, Criminal Code Amendment (Suppression of Terrorist Bombings) Bill 2002, Border Security Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 and Telecommunications Interception Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Knowles, on 8 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002)

Criminal Code Amendment (Espionage and Related Offences) Bill 2002 (presented to the Deputy President on 10 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002)

Family Law Amendment (Child Protection Convention) Bill 2002 (tabled 15 May 2002)

Proceeds of Crime Bill 2002 and the Proceeds of Crime (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002—Erratum (tabled 16 May 2002)

Migration Legislation Amendment (Procedural Fairness) Bill 2002—Interim report (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Cook, on 22 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 June 2002)

Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002—Interim report (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Cook, on 22 May 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 June 2002)

Migration Legislation Amendment (Procedural Fairness) Bill 2002 (presented to the Deputy President on 5 June 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 June 2002)

Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002 (presented to the Deputy President on 5 June 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 June 2002)

Australian Protective Service Amendment Bill 2002 (presented to the Deputy President on 13 June 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 18 June 2002)

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 (tabled 18 June 2002)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (tabled 25 June 2002)

Government amendments to the Proceeds of Crime Bill 2002 and the Proceeds of Crime (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2002 (presented to the President on 28 June 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 19 August 2002)

Annual reports—No. 2 of 2002 (tabled 18 September 2002)

Legal and Constitutional References Committee

Members

Senator Bolkus (*Chair*), Senator Payne (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Greig, Kirk, Scullion and Stephens

Substitute member

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Greig for matters relating to the Indigenous Affairs portfolio

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Brandis, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Sherry, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Immigration and Multicultural Affairs portfolio

Current inquiry

Progress towards national reconciliation (*referred 27 August 2002; reporting date: March 2003*)

Reports presented

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 11 March 2002*)

Human Rights (Mandatory Sentencing for Property Offences) Bill 2000 (*tabled 12 March 2002*)

Inquiry into s. 46 and s. 50 of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (*tabled 14 May 2002*)

Outsourcing of the Australian Customs Service's Information Technology (*tabled 16 May 2002*)

Migration zone excision: An examination of the Migration Legislation Amendment (Further Border Protection Measures) Bill 2002 and related matters (*tabled 21 October 2002*)

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment (Terrorism) Bill 2002 and related matters (*tabled 3 December 2002*)

Library—Standing Committee

Members

The President (*Chair*), Senators Kirk, Ludwig, Scullion, Tchen, Tierney and Wong

Migration—Joint Standing Committee

(*appointed 14 February 2002*)

Members

Ms Gambaro (*Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Eggleston, Kirk and Tchen and Mr LDT Ferguson, Mrs Gash, Mrs Irwin, Mr Ripoll and Mr Randall

Current inquiry

Review of skilled migration (*referred 18 June 2002*)

National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee

(*appointed 14 February 2002*)

Members

Senator Lightfoot (*Chair*), Senator Crossin (*Deputy Chair*), The Deputy President and Chairman of Committees, the Deputy Speaker, Senators Lundy, Scullion and Stott Despoja and Ms Ellis, Mr Johnson, Mr Neville, Mr Snowdon and Mr CP Thompson

Reports presented

Norfolk Island electoral matters (*tabled 26 August 2002*)

Striking the right balance: Draft amendment 39, National Capital Plan (*tabled 21 October 2002*)

National Crime Authority—Joint Statutory Committee

(to be replaced by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission with effect from 1 January 2003)

Members

Mr Baird (*Chair*), Mr Sercombe (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Denman, Ferris, Greig, Hutchins and McGauran and Mr Dutton, Mr Kerr and Mr CP Thompson

Reports presented

Australian Crime Commission Establishment Bill 2002 (*tabled 11 November 2002*)

- * Examination of the annual report for 2000-01 of the National Crime Authority (*tabled 11 December 2002*)

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

Members

Senator Johnston (*Chair*), Senator McLucas (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Crossin, Lees and Scullion and Mr Cobb, Dr Lawrence, Mrs Ley, Mr Secker and Mr Snowdon

Privileges—Standing Committee

Members

Senator Ray (*Chair*), Senator Knowles (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Evans, Johnston, Payne, Reid and Sherry

Current inquiry

Having regard to the matter raised by the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee in its letter of 26 June 2002 to the President, whether there was an unauthorised disclosure of a report of that committee, and whether any contempt was committed in that regard (*referred 27 June 2002*)

Reports presented

102nd report—Counsel to the Senate (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

103rd report—Possible improper influence and penalty on a senator (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

104th report—Possible false or misleading evidence before the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

105th report—Execution of search warrants in senators' offices – Senator Harris (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

106th report—Possible improper interference with a witness before the Senate Select Committee on a Certain Maritime Incident (*tabled 27 August 2002*)

107th report—Parliamentary privilege precedents, procedures and practices in the Australian Senate 1996-2002 (*tabled 27 August 2002*)

108th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Mr John Hyde Page) (*tabled 15 October 2002*)

109th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Mr Tony Kevin) (*tabled 22 October 2002*)

110th report—Persons referred to in the Senate (Dr Geoffrey Vaughan, Dr Peter Jonson, Professor Brian Anderson) (*tabled 10 December 2002*)

Document presented

Advices to the Senate Committee of Privileges from the Clerk of the Senate and Senior Counsel—March 1988 to April 2002 (*tabled 27 August 2002*)

Procedure—Standing Committee

Members

The Deputy President (*Chair*), the President, the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Senators Allison, Brandis, Eggleston, Ferguson, Ludwig and Ray

Current inquiry

Recommendations in the Procedure Committee's first report of 2002 relating to standing order 74(5) (*referred 28 August 2002*)

Reports presented

First report of 2002—Adjournment debate; Unanswered questions on notice (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

Second report of 2002—Chairs and quorums in committees; Adjournment debate on Tuesdays (*tabled 18 November 2002*)

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Statutory Committee

Members

Mr Charles (*Chairman*), Ms Plibersek (*Vice Chairman*), Senators Colbeck, Hogg, Lundy, Murray, Scullion and Watson and Mr Ciobo, Mr Cobb, Mr Georgiou, Ms Grierson, Mr Griffin, Ms CF King, Mr PE King and Mr Somlyay

Current inquiry

Management and integrity of electronic information in the Commonwealth (*referred 23 October 2002*)

Reports presented

Report 388—Review of the accrual budget documentation (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

Report 389—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2000-01: Fourth quarter (*tabled 27 June 2002*)

Report 390—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2001-02: First, second and third quarters (*tabled 29 August 2002*)

Report 391—Review of independent auditing by registered company auditors (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Report 392—Annual report 2001-02 (*tabled 14 November 2002*)

Report 390—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2001-02: First, second and third quarters—Erratum (*tabled 14 November 2002*)

Public Works—Joint Statutory Committee

Members

Mrs Moylan (*Chairman*), Mr BPJ O'Connor (*Deputy Chairman*), Senators Colbeck, Ferguson and Forshaw and Mr Jenkins, Mr Lindsay, Mr Lloyd and Mr Ripoll

Reports presented

Sixty-fifth annual report, March 2002 (*tabled 15 May 2002*)
Common use infrastructure on Christmas Island (First report of 2002) (*tabled 27 August 2002*)
RAAF Base Williamtown redevelopment stage 1 and facilities for the airborne early warning and control aircraft (Second report of 2002) (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

Publications—Standing Committee

Members

Senator Colbeck (*Chair*), Senators Hutchins, Johnston, Kirk, Marshall, Moore and Scullion

Reports presented

1st report (*tabled 21 March 2002*)
2nd report (*tabled 29 August 2002*)
3rd report (*tabled 26 September 2002*)
4th report (*tabled 23 October 2002*)
5th report (*tabled 14 November 2002*)

Regulations and Ordinances—Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committee

Members

Senator Tchen (*Chairman*), Senators Bartlett, Marshall, Mason, Moore and Santoro

Report presented

110th report—Annual report 2000-01 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Document presented

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, March – June 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Transport and Regional Services; Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Members

Senator Heffernan (*Chair*), Senator Buckland (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Cherry, Colbeck, Ferris and O'Brien

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Harradine, Harris, Hutchins, Knowles, Lightfoot, Mason, Sandy Macdonald, McLucas, Murphy, Payne, Ray, Santoro, Stephens, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Greig for matters relating to the Fisheries portfolio

Senator Lees for matters relating to air safety

Senator Allison for matters relating to the Transport portfolio

Current inquiries

Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (*adopted 22 October 1999; readopted 13 March 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2003*)

Import risk assessment on New Zealand apples (*referred 2 November 2000; readopted 13 March 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2003*)

Administration of AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Margaret J* (*referred 25 June 2001; readopted 13 March 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2003*)

Australian meat industry and export quotas (*referred 27 June 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in 2002*)

Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002 (*referred 16 October 2002; reporting date: 4 February 2003*)

Reports presented

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

Annual reports—No. 1 of 2002 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Additional estimates 2001-02, March 2002 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Airports Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 16 May 2002*)

Administration by the Department of Transport and Regional Services of Australian Motor Vehicle Standards under the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* and Regulations (*tabled 18 June 2002*)

Budget estimates 2002-03, June 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

The introduction of quota management controls on Australian beef exports to the United States by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority—Interim report (*tabled 27 June 2002*)

Proposed importation of fresh apple fruit from New Zealand—Interim report (*tabled 27 June 2002*)

Administration of AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Margaret J*—Interim report (*tabled 27 June 2002*)

Annual reports—No. 2 of 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

The Australian meat industry consultative structure and quota allocation—Interim report: Allocation of the US beef quota (*tabled 24 September 2002*)

Egg Industry Service Provision Bill 2002 and Egg Industry Service Provision (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Bill 2002 (*tabled 23 October 2002*)

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002 (*tabled 12 November 2002*)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

Members

Senator Ridgeway (*Chair*), Senator Heffernan (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Buckland, McGauran, O'Brien and Stephens

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Colbeck, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Hutchins, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Mason, Sandy Macdonald, Murphy, Payne, Santoro, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Greig for matters relating to the Fisheries portfolio

Senator Allison for matters relating to the Transport portfolio

Current inquiries

Forestry plantations (*referred 27 June 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in August 2003*)

Rural water resource usage (*referred 21 October 2002; reporting date: by the last sitting day in 2003*)

Scrutiny of Bills—Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committee

Members

Senator McLucas (*Chairman*), Senators Barnett, Crossin, Johnston, Mason and Murray

Alert Digests presented

No. 1 of 2002 (presented to the President on 21 February 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); *tabled 11 March 2002*)

No. 2 of 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

No. 3 of 2002 (*tabled 20 March 2002*)

No. 4 of 2002 (*tabled 15 May 2002*)

No. 5 of 2002 (*presented 19 June 2002*)

No. 6 of 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

No. 7 of 2002 (*tabled 21 August 2002*)

No. 8 of 2002 (*tabled 28 August 2002*)

No. 9 of 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

No. 10 of 2002 (*tabled 25 September 2002*)

No. 11 of 2002 (*tabled 16 October 2002*)

No. 12 of 2002 (*tabled 23 October 2002*)

No. 13 of 2002 (*tabled 13 November 2002*)

No. 14 of 2002 (*tabled 19 November 2002*)

No. 15 of 2002 (*tabled 4 December 2002*)

* No. 16 of 2002 (*tabled 11 December 2002*)

Reports presented

No. 1 of 2002 (*presented to the President on 21 February 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 March 2002*)

No. 2 of 2002 (*tabled 13 March 2002*)

No. 3 of 2002 (*tabled 20 March 2002*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

No. 4 of 2002 (*tabled 15 May 2002*)

No. 5 of 2002 (*tabled 19 June 2002*)

No. 6 of 2002: Application of absolute and strict liability offences in Commonwealth Legislation (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

No. 7 of 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Work of the committee during the 39th Parliament, November 1998-October 2001 (*tabled 27 June 2002*)

No. 8 of 2002 (*tabled 21 August 2002*)

No. 9 of 2002 (*tabled 28 August 2002*)

No. 10 of 2002 (*tabled 18 September 2002*)

No. 11 of 2002 (*tabled 25 September 2002*)

No. 12 of 2002 (*tabled 16 October 2002*)

No. 13 of 2002 (*tabled 23 October 2002*)

No. 14 of 2002 (*tabled 13 November 2002*)

No. 15 of 2002 (*tabled 4 December 2002*)

* No. 16 of 2002 (*tabled 11 December 2002*)

Selection of Bills—Standing Committee

Members

The Government Whip (*Chair*), the Opposition Whip, the Australian Democrats Whip, the National Party of Australia Whip and Senators Buckland, Ian Campbell, Eggleston and Ludwig

Reports presented

Report no. 1 of 2002 (*presented 13 March 2002*)

Report no. 2 of 2002 (*presented 20 March 2002*)

Report no. 3 of 2002 (*presented 15 May 2002*)

Report no. 4 of 2002 (*presented 19 June 2002*)

Report no. 5 of 2002 (*presented 26 June 2002*)

Report no. 6 of 2002 (*presented 21 August 2002*)

Report no. 7 of 2002 (*presented 28 August 2002*)

Report no. 8 of 2002 (*presented 18 September 2002*)

Report no. 9 of 2002 (*presented 25 September 2002*)

Report no. 10 of 2002 (*presented 16 October 2002*)

Report no. 11 of 2002 (*presented 23 October 2002*)

Report no. 12 of 2002 (*presented 13 November 2002*)

Report no. 13 of 2002 (*presented 4 December 2002*)

* Report no. 14 of 2002 (*presented 11 December 2002*)

Senators' Interests—Standing Committee

Members

Senator Denman (*Chair*), Senator Lightfoot (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Allison, Forshaw, McGauran, Reid, Webber and Wong

Notifications of alterations of interests

Register of senators' interests incorporating declarations of interests and notifications of alterations of interests lodged between 26 June 2001 and 6 December 2001 (*presented to the President on 21 December 2001, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Register of senators' interests incorporating declarations of interests and notifications of alterations of interests lodged between 7 December 2001 and 24 June 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Register of senators' interests incorporating current statements of interests, including new statements of interests, and notifications of alterations of interests lodged between 25 June 2002 and 5 December 2002 [2 vols] (*tabled 10 December 2002*)

Reports presented

Report 1/2002: Annual report 2001 (*presented to the President on 28 March 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 May 2002*)

Report 2/2002: Proposed changes to resolutions relating to declarations of senators' interests and gifts to the Senate and the Parliament (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Superannuation—Select Committee*(appointed 14 March 2002)**Members*

Senator Watson (*Chair*), Senator Sherry (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Buckland, Chapman, Cherry, Lightfoot and Wong

Current inquiry

Tax arrangements for superannuation and related policy (*referred 14 March 2002; reporting date: 12 December 2002*)

Reports presented

Taxation Laws Amendment (Superannuation) Bill (No. 2) 2002 and Superannuation Guarantee Charge Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 25 June 2002*)

Taxation treatment of overseas superannuation transfers (*presented to the President on 25 July 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 19 August 2002*)

Superannuation (Government Co-contribution for Low Income Earners) Bill 2002 and Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 26 September 2002*)

Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Choice of Superannuation Funds) Bill 2002 (*tabled 12 November 2002*)

Superannuation and Financial Services—Select Committee

(appointed 22 September 1999 with effect on and from 11 October 1999; re-appointed as the Superannuation—Select Committee, see above)

Report presented

Early access to superannuation benefits (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Hogg, on 31 January 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Documents presented

Early access to superannuation benefits—Discussion paper (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Hogg, on 31 January 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Investing superannuation funds in rural and regional Australia—Issues paper (*presented to the Deputy President on 7 February 2002, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2002*)

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee*(appointed 14 February 2002)**Members*

Ms JI Bishop (*Chair*), Mr Wilkie (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Kirk, Marshall, Mason, Santoro, Stephens and Tchen and Mr Adams, Mr Bartlett, Mr Ciobo, Mr Evans, Mr Hunt, Mr PE King and Mr Scott

Current inquiry

Proposed agreement relating to US nationals and the International Criminal Court (*referred 2 December 2002*)

Reports presented

Report 44—Four nuclear safeguards treaties tabled in August 2001 (*tabled 15 May 2002*)

Report 45—The Statute of the International Criminal Court (*tabled 15 May 2002*)

- Report 46—Treaties tabled 12 March 2002 (*tabled 24 June 2002*)
Statement on the 46th report, dated 26 June 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)
Report 47—Treaties tabled on 18 and 25 June 2002 (*tabled 26 August 2002*)
Report 48—Treaties tabled in August and September 2002 (*tabled 21 October 2002*)
Report 49—The Timor Sea Treaty (*tabled 12 November 2002*)
Report 50—Treaties tabled 15 October 2002 (*tabled 10 December 2002*)

SENATE APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

Advisory Council on Australian Archives

Senator Faulkner—(*appointed 27 June 2002 for a period of 3 years*).

Council of the National Library of Australia

Senator Tierney (*appointed 14 February 2002 for a period of 3 years*).

Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Trust

Senators Cook and Watson (*appointed 13 May 1998 and 10 February 1994, respectively*).

HARRY EVANS
Clerk of the Senate

MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION

Minister	Representing
Senator the Honourable Robert Hill <i>Minister for Defence</i> <i>Leader of the Government in the Senate</i>	Prime Minister Minister for Trade Minister for Foreign Affairs Minister for the Environment and Heritage Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Senator the Honourable Richard Alston <i>Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts</i> <i>Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate</i>	Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations Minister for Education, Science and Training Minister for Science Minister for Employment Services
Senator the Honourable Nicholas Minchin (<u>Nick</u>) <i>Minister for Finance and Administration</i>	Treasurer Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
Senator the Honourable Amanda Vanstone <i>Minister for Family and Community Services</i> <i>Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women</i>	Minister for Children and Youth Affairs
Senator the Honourable Kay Patterson <i>Minister for Health and Ageing</i>	Minister for Ageing
Senator the Honourable Christopher Ellison (<u>Chris</u>) <i>Minister for Justice and Customs</i>	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs Attorney-General Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs
Senator the Honourable Ian Macdonald <i>Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation</i>	Minister for Transport and Regional Services Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government
Senator the Honourable Charles Kemp (<u>Rod</u>) <i>Minister for the Arts and Sport</i>	
Senator the Honourable Eric Abetz <i>Special Minister of State</i>	Minister for Small Business and Tourism
Senator the Honourable Helen Coonan <i>Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer</i>	
Parliamentary Secretaries	
Senator the Honourable Ian Campbell <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer</i> <i>Manager of Government Business in the Senate</i>	
Senator the Honourable Judith Troeth <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</i>	
Senator the Honourable Ronald Boswell (<u>Ron</u>) <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Regional Services</i>	

In those instances where Senators prefer to be known by other than their first name, the preferred name is underlined.

A GUIDE TO THE DAILY NOTICE PAPER

The *Notice Paper* is issued each sitting day and contains details of current business before the Senate. Its structure is based on four main types of business, as follows:

Matters of privilege take precedence over all other business and are listed at the beginning of the *Notice Paper* when they arise. They consist of notices of motion which the President has determined warrant such precedence and any orders relating to uncompleted debates on such motions.

Business of the Senate has precedence over government and general business for the day on which it is listed. It includes disallowance motions, orders of the day for the presentation of committee reports, motions to refer matters to standing committees, motions for leave of absence for a senator and motions concerning the qualification of a senator.

Government business is business initiated by a minister. It takes precedence over general business except for a period of 2½ hours each week set aside on Thursdays for general business.

General business is all other business initiated by senators who are not ministers. It takes precedence over government business only as described above.

Within each of these categories, business consists of notices of motion and orders of the day:

Notices of motion are statements of intention that senators intend to move particular motions on the days indicated. They are entered on the *Notice Paper* in the order given and may be given jointly by two or more senators. Notices of motion are usually considered before orders of the day.

Orders of the day are items of business which the Senate has ordered to be considered on particular days, usually arising from adjourned debates on matters (including legislation) or requirements to present committee reports.

On days other than Thursdays, the *Notice Paper* records in full current items of business of the Senate and government business, but includes only new items of general business from the previous sitting day. On Thursdays, business relating to the consideration of government documents, committee reports and government responses to committee reports is also published.

Other sections in the *Notice Paper* are as follows:

Orders of the day relating to committee reports and government responses follows government business and lists orders of the day for adjourned debates on motions to consider or adopt committee reports and government responses which have been presented during the week. These orders may be considered for one hour on Thursdays at the conclusion of general business. New items appear in the following day's *Notice Paper*. The section is printed in full on Thursdays.

Orders of the day relating to government documents appears in general business and lists orders of the day for adjourned debates on motions to take note of government documents. Such orders arise from consideration of the government documents presented on a particular day and include consideration of any documents not reached on the day. They are also listed for consideration for one hour on Thursdays during the consideration of general business. New items appear in the following day's *Notice Paper*. The section is printed in full on Thursdays.

Business for future consideration lists any notice of motion or order of the day to be considered on a specific day in the future; for example, a committee report ordered to be presented on a specific date, or a notice of motion given for a day other than the next day of sitting.

Bills referred to committees lists all bills or provisions of bills currently being considered by committees.

Questions on notice includes the text of new questions on notice and lists the numbers of unanswered questions.

Orders of the Senate includes orders of short-term duration such as orders for production of documents and those relating to days of sitting for a period of sittings.

Contingent notices of motion are statements of intention by senators that, contingent on a specified occurrence, they may move a motion, usually to suspend standing orders. They are grouped by subject.

Temporary chairs of committees: is a daily list of all senators appointed to take the chair in the absence of the President or Deputy President.

Categories of committees: is a daily list, categorised by type, of Senate and joint committees. Details of each committee appear in the committee section.

Committees: a daily list of Senate and joint committees, including membership, current inquiries and reports presented on or since the previous sitting day.

Senate appointments to statutory authorities lists the statutory authorities on which the Senate is represented and details of representation.

Ministerial representation lists Senate ministers and the portfolios they represent.

A GUIDE TO THE FULL NOTICE PAPER

On the first day of each period of sittings a full *Notice Paper* is printed listing all outstanding business before the Senate, including the full text of all unresolved notices of motion and unanswered questions on notice. This edition is a complete reference to unresolved business from earlier in the session and is useful to keep. All business before the Senate is published daily in the full electronic version of the *Notice Paper*, available on ParlInfo and on the parliament's Internet site.

Inquiries concerning the *Notice Paper* or business listed in it may be directed to the Senate Table Office on (02) 6277 3015.

