

2002-04

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

NOTICE PAPER

No. 144

WEDNESDAY, 12 MAY 2004

The Senate meets at 9.30 am

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

MATTER OF PRIVILEGE

Notice of Motion

Notice given 11 May 2004

- *1 **Senators Knowles and Humphries:** To move—That the following matter be referred to the Committee of Privileges:

Whether there was an unauthorised disclosure of the draft report of the Community Affairs References Committee in relation to poverty and financial hardship and whether any contempt was committed in that regard.

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Notices of Motion

Notice given 10 March 2004

- 1 **Senator Forshaw:** To move—That the following matters be referred to the Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 31 August 2004:

- (a) the adequacy of staffing levels in residential aged care facilities;
- (b) the impact of staffing levels on the care and safety of residents in residential aged care facilities;
- (c) the adequacy of qualification levels and ongoing training of staff in the aged care system, both residential and community care;
- (d) the effectiveness of the current regulatory framework in ensuring adequate staffing levels and proper standards of care in the aged care industry both residential and community care;
- (e) the performance and effectiveness of the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency in assessing and monitoring care, health and safety and staffing levels in aged care facilities;
- (f) the performance of the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency in identifying best practice and providing information, education and training to aged care facilities;
- (g) the impact on public hospitals of the shortage of nursing home beds; and
- (h) the appropriateness of accommodating young people with disabilities in aged care facilities and the effect this has on young people with disabilities and on the availability of aged care beds for elderly Australians.

Notice given 30 March 2004

- 2 **Senator Allison:** To move—That the following matter be referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee for inquiry and report by 11 August 2004:

Government funding of government and non-government schools, with particular reference to:

- (a) the adequacy of funding levels to meet current and future school needs and the achievement of the Adelaide Declaration (1999) on National Goals for Schooling in the Twenty-First Century;
- (b) the desirability of, and extent of, needs-based funding;
- (c) the extent to which current resources provide equal opportunity and equity in outcomes for students;
- (d) the effectiveness of accountability requirements for state, territory and Commonwealth funding provided to non-government schools and for funding provided to state governments for government schools;
- (e) the extent to which current school funding arrangements between the Commonwealth and the states and territories represent an effective and efficient use of resources; and
- (f) in relation to the above terms of reference, how school funding systems compare with other Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development countries.

Notice given 11 May 2004

*3 **Senator Brown:** To move—That the following matter be referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for inquiry and report by 23 June 2004:

The Australian Government's knowledge of the mistreatment of prisoners detained under the control of the United States of America or its coalition partners in Iraq, Afghanistan and at Guantanamo Bay, with particular reference to:

- (a) when the Government or its agencies first received information about the abuse;
- (b) when and how this information first came to the notice of the Prime Minister (Mr Howard), the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr Downer), or other members of the Government;
- (c) what action has been taken to assure that there has been and will be no Australian involvement, or Australian acquiescence, in this matter;
- (d) how and when the Prime Minister conveyed Australia's rebuke to Washington and London;
- (e) the extent of government knowledge about abuse of prisoners in prisons in Afghanistan, including at Bagram Air Base; and
- (f) what disapprovals Australia has conveyed to the White House about the practice of placing hoods and manacles on prisoners, including Australians, at Guantanamo Bay and what other information the Government has about mistreatment of prisoners there.

Orders of the Day

1 Economics Legislation Committee

Report to be presented on the New International Tax Arrangements Bill 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

2 Economics Legislation Committee

Report to be presented on the Tax Laws Amendment (2004 Measures No. 1) Bill 2004. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

3 Economics Legislation Committee

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Treasury Legislation Amendment (Professional Standards) Bill 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Notice of Motion

Notice given 11 May 2004

- *1 **Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads (Senator Ian Campbell):** To move—That consideration of the business before the Senate on Wednesday, 12 May 2004 be interrupted at approximately 5 pm, but not so as to interrupt a senator speaking, to enable Senator Fifield to make his first speech without any question before the chair.

Orders of the Day

- 1 **Postal Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2003**—(*Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 1 March 2004*).
- 2 **Veterans' Entitlements Amendment (Electronic Delivery) Bill 2004**—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*29 March 2004*).
- 3 **Australian Federal Police and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Defence, Senator Hill*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*4 December 2003*).
- 4 **Sex Discrimination Amendment (Teaching Profession) Bill 2004**—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*29 March 2004*).
- 5 **Tax Laws Amendment (2004 Measures No. 1) Bill 2004**—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*8 March 2004*).
- 6 **New International Tax Arrangements Bill 2003**—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Crossin, 8 March 2004*).
- *7 **Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment Bill 2004**—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Ian Macdonald*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Crossin, 11 May 2004*).
- 8 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting the Low Paid) Bill 2003**—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Crossin, 6 March 2003*).

- 9 **Law and Justice Legislation Amendment Bill 2004**—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Ian Macdonald*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*1 April 2004*).
- 10 **Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2002 [No. 2]**—(*Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Minchin*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Buckland, 2 December 2003*).
- 11 **Corporations (Fees) Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003**
Corporate Law Economic Reform Program (Audit Reform and Corporate Disclosure) Bill 2003—(*Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 1 March 2004*).
- 12 **Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2002**
Consideration in committee of the whole of message no. 561 from the House of Representatives (*1 April 2004*).
- 13 **Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Choice of Superannuation Funds) Bill 2003**—(*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, Senator Vanstone*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Buckland, 10 February 2004*).
- 14 **Health Legislation Amendment (Medicare and Private Health Insurance) Bill 2003**—(*Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 17 June 2003*).
- 15 **Taxation Laws Amendment (Superannuation Contributions Splitting) Bill 2003**—(*Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*18 September 2003*).
- 16 **Family and Community Services (Closure of Student Financial Supplement Scheme) Bill 2003**
Student Assistance Amendment Bill 2003
Adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—That this bill be now read a second time.
And on the amendment moved by Senator Nettle—At the end of the motion, add “but the abolition of the Student Financial Supplement Scheme be opposed until such time as the Commonwealth moves to improve student financial support measures to meet the need this scheme currently addresses and that the Commonwealth move to improve current financial support measures in the following ways:
- (a) that the Commonwealth Government replace Youth Allowance and Austudy with one simple payment that incorporates the following measures:
 - (i) the age of independence be reduced to 18,
 - (ii) the eligibility criteria should not be based upon previous personal earnings,

- (iii) the personal income threshold (currently set at \$236 per fortnight, without affecting benefit payments) should be increased to a more realistic figure,
- (iv) the parental income test cut-off threshold should be increased to allow greater access to higher education,
- (v) that same sex couples be recognised as de facto relationships for the purposes of income support measures including student income support,
- (vi) all postgraduate awards be redefined as ‘approved courses’ for the purposes of rent assistance,
- (vii) as a minimum, students be provided with benefits consistent with the Henderson poverty line, and
- (viii) that these benefits be indexed to the Consumer Price Index, with reference to the Henderson poverty line; and

further, that Abstudy be maintained as a separate scheme, and that within this payment structure:

- (b) all supplementary benefits, allowances and payments available under the Abstudy scheme be maintained;
- (c) all payment structures be endorsed and approved by Indigenous community organisations;
- (d) any future rationalisation of the Abstudy allowances only occur after sustained and authentic dialogue with Indigenous communities across Australia; and
- (e) the changes made to Abstudy in the 1997-98 Commonwealth Budget should be reversed” (*Minister for Family and Community Services (Senator Patterson), in continuation, 26 November 2003*).

17 Australian Human Rights Commission Legislation Bill 2003—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Abetz*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 11 August 2003*).

18 Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 7) 2003

Consideration in committee of the whole of message no. 428 from the House of Representatives (*15 October 2003*).

19 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*).

20 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).

***21 Budget statement and documents 2004-05**

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, Senator Buckland, 11 May 2004*).

22 Budget statement and documents 2003-04

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, Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell), 15 May 2003*).

23 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 Privileges—Standing Committee—118th report—Joint meetings of the Senate and the House of Representatives on 23 and 24 October 2003**
Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Ray)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett), in continuation, 1 April 2004*).
- 2 Ministerial Discretion in Migration Matters—Select Committee—Report**
Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Ludwig)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 31 March 2004*).
- 3 Community Affairs References Committee—Report—A hand up not a hand out: Renewing the fight against poverty**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Hutchins)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Moore, 25 March 2004*).

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

- 1 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 36 of 2003-04—Performance audit—The Commonwealth's administration of the Dairy Industry Adjustment Package: Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Australia; Dairy Adjustment Authority**
Consideration (*25 March 2004*).
- 2 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 37 of 2003-04—Performance audit—National Marine Unit: Australian Customs Service**
Consideration (*30 March 2004*).
- 3 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 38 of 2003-04—Performance audit—Corporate governance in the Australian Broadcasting Corporation follow-up audit**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Mackay—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Mackay, in continuation, 31 March 2004*).
- *4 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 39 of 2003-04—Performance audit—Integrity of the Electoral Roll follow-up audit: Australian Electoral Commission**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).
- *5 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 40 of 2003-04—Performance audit—Department of Health and Ageing's management of the Multipurpose Services Program and the Regional Health Services Program**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).
- *6 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 41 of 2003-04—Performance audit—Management of repatriation health cards: Department of Veterans' Affairs**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).
- *7 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 42 of 2003-04—Business support process audit—Financial delegations for the expenditure of public monies in FMA agencies**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).
- *8 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 43 of 2003-04—Performance audit—Defence Force preparedness management systems: Department of Defence**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).
- *9 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 44 of 2003-04—Performance audit—National Aboriginal Health Strategy delivery of housing and infrastructure to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities follow-up audit: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).
- *10 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 45 of 2003-04—Performance audit—Army individual readiness notice follow-up audit: Department of Defence**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).

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, Isaac Isaacs, 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 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 spent 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 18 March 2003

393 Senator Stott Despoja: To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes, with concern, the serious hardship facing coffee producers of the developing world as a result of low coffee prices and, in particular, that:
 - (i) many coffee farmers are being forced to abandon their livelihoods and sell their land at a loss,
 - (ii) the financial strain on coffee farming families reduces their capacity to meet their basic needs, including schooling, food and medicines,
 - (iii) a lack of money in coffee-producing communities, together with overburdened health-care systems, threatens the stability of already vulnerable economies, and
 - (iv) intensive farming methods, adopted by reason of financial necessity, seriously damage the natural environment;
- (b) acknowledges the financial support provided by the Government through AusAid to rural development and other assistance for coffee producing nations; and
- (c) requests that the Government provide further political and economic support for:

- (i) the International Coffee Organisation's Coffee Quality Scheme, which aims to restrict coffee exportation on the basis of quality,
- (ii) the destruction of lowest quality coffee stocks, and
- (iii) direct poverty alleviation programs targeted at coffee producing communities.

Notice given 15 May 2003

466 **Senator Lees:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to enhance the protection of biodiversity on private land, and for related purposes. ***Protection of Biodiversity on Private Land Bill 2003.***

Notice given 18 August 2003

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

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the Special Minister of State (Senator Abetz) has launched a petition in Tasmania calling on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) to overturn its decision to cancel the program *Behind the News*, and
 - (ii) this decision by the ABC was taken in response to insufficient funding to allow the ABC to deliver its full range of services; and
- (b) given the Government's direct responsibility for the lack of funding, calls on Senator Abetz to more usefully use his ministerial influence to lobby his colleagues, the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts (Senator Alston) and the Prime Minister (Mr Howard), to provide sufficient funding to the ABC to allow the show to be continued.

Notice given 10 September 2003

575 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner):** To move—That the Senate notes with grave concern:

- (a) the leaking of an Office of National Assessment (ONA) document dated December 2002 and classified top-secret AUSTEO;
- (b) that material from the ONA classified report was published in an article by Mr Andrew Bolt in the *Herald Sun* of 23 June 2003;
- (c) the failure to ensure immediate and thorough investigation of the circumstances surrounding this unprecedented leak; and
- (d) the failure of the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) and other ministers to fully explain their involvement in this matter.

Notice given 15 October 2003

657 **Senator Conroy:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that the Government's draft Corporate Law Economic Reform Program (Audit Reform and Corporate Disclosure) Bill 2003 needs to go further in order to create a robust regulatory framework which firstly, ensures that boards are accountable and secondly, ensures that shareholders are empowered;
- (b) condemns the Government for its failure to crack down on corporate greed; and
- (c) expresses its concern that the self-regulatory approach of the Howard Government in relation to executive remuneration has failed.

Notice of motion altered on 15 October 2003 pursuant to standing order 77.

Notice given 1 March 2004

776 **Senator Murray:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) considers that, in light of the Government's revised approach to parliamentary superannuation arrangements, the Life Gold Pass retirement benefit should also be immediately reviewed;
- (b) acknowledges that its decision not to accept the Australian Democrats amendment to the Members of Parliament (Life Gold Pass) Bill 2002 to 'ensure that a member of Parliament, other than a Prime Minister, who first commences his or her term as a member of Parliament in the next Parliament will not be entitled to hold a Life Gold Pass', was not in line with accepted community standards; and
- (c) requests the Government to discontinue the Life Gold Pass retirement perk for retired politicians, with the exception of retired prime ministers.

Notice given 9 March 2004

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

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the Australian Council for Overseas Aid (ACFOA) was formed in 1965 and continues to play a significant role as a representative and regulatory body for non-government organisations in Australia,
 - (ii) ACFOA provides representation, advocacy and a forum for cooperation for some 80 member agencies, and
 - (iii) on 10 March 2004, ACFOA will change its name to the Australian Council for International Development (ACFID);
- (b) further notes that:
 - (i) the United Nations has warned that the international community is falling short of achieving the goals set by world leaders at the Millennium Development Summit in 2000 (the Millennium Development Goals),
 - (ii) Australia's aid budget currently remains at 0.25 per cent of gross national income, which is less than half the level of contribution advocated by the United Nations,
 - (iii) ACFID's submission to the 2004-05 Budget calls on the Government to increase the aid budget by approximately \$500 million in the next budget year, as a first step towards ensuring that Australia contributes its fair share towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, and
 - (iv) ACFID also calls on the Government to implement fair trade, debt relief and good governance policies that underpin the poverty reduction objective of Australia's aid program; and
- (c) calls on the Government to consider increasing the aid budget in the 2004-05 Budget, as advocated by ACFID.

Notice given 10 March 2004

803 **Senator Conroy:** To move—That the Senate calls on the Government to request the Productivity Commission, in accordance with the *Productivity Commission Act 1998*, to:

- (a) undertake a thorough assessment of the impact of the free trade agreement (FTA) made between the governments of Australia and the United States of America in February 2004 on Australia's economy, focussing in particular on:
 - (i) the impact on employment and investment,
 - (ii) the impact on Australian agriculture,
 - (iii) the impact on Australia's manufacturing sector across states, territories and regions,
 - (iv) rules of origin,
 - (v) government procurement,
 - (vi) intellectual property,
 - (vii) the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme, and
 - (viii) the audio-visual sector; and
- (b) report on any anticipated trade creation and trade diversion effects arising from the agreement and include in its analysis a full assessment of the environmental, social and cultural impact of the FTA.

Notice given 31 March 2004

850 **Senator Allison:** To move—

- (1) That a select committee, to be known as the Select Committee on Tobacco, be appointed to inquire into and report by 1 September 2004 on the following matters:
 - (a) the adequacy of the response to date of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) to the orders of the Senate of 24 September 2001, 27 June 2002 and 12 November 2002, which require the ACCC to report to the Senate on various issues concerning tobacco, including:
 - (i) what further action, if any, the ACCC should take to address any perceived inadequacies in the ACCC response so far, and
 - (ii) whether the ACCC has failed to competently and promptly discharge its statutory obligations;
 - (b) the adequacy and effectiveness of current Federal Government anti-smoking initiatives and comparisons with best practice;
 - (c) the Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Preventing Smoking Related Deaths) Bill 2004; and
 - (d) the Tobacco Advertising Prohibition (Film, Internet and Misleading Promotion) Amendment Bill 2004.
- (2) That the committee consist of 7 senators, 3 nominated by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, 3 nominated by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, and 1 to be nominated by the Leader of the Australian Democrats.
- (3) That the committee may proceed to the dispatch of business notwithstanding that all members have not been duly nominated and appointed and notwithstanding any vacancy.
- (4) That the chair of the committee be elected by and from the members of the committee.
- (5) That the chair of the committee may, from time to time, appoint another member of the committee to be the deputy chair of the committee and that

the member so appointed act as chair of the committee at any time when there is no chair or the chair is not present, at a meeting of the committee.

- (6) That the quorum of the committee be 4 members.
- (7) That the committee and any subcommittee have power to send for and examine persons and documents, to move from place to place, to sit in public or in private, notwithstanding any prorogation of the Parliament or dissolution of the House of Representatives, and have leave to report from time to time its proceedings and the evidence taken and such interim recommendations as it may deem fit.
- (8) That the committee have the power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 2 or more of its members and to refer to any such subcommittee any of the matters which the committee is empowered to consider, and that the quorum of the subcommittee be a majority of the members appointed to the subcommittee.
- (9) That the committee be provided with necessary staff, facilities and resources and be empowered to appoint persons with specialist knowledge for the purposes of the committee with the approval of the President.
- (10) That the committee be empowered to print from day to day such documents and evidence as may be ordered by it, and a daily Hansard be published of such proceedings as take place in public.

Notice given 1 April 2004

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

- (a) commends Taiwan for its contributions to international health, particularly in assisting in developing countries;
- (b) acknowledges the need for a fully integrated global healthcare system and recognises the appropriateness of Taiwan's cooperation with World Health Organization (WHO) activities;
- (c) recognises that Taiwan's participation as an observer in the WHO would be consistent with a fully-integrated global healthcare system; and
- (d) looks forward to Taiwan's participation in the World Health Assembly as an observer, through consensus of all members.

Notice given 11 May 2004

*855 **Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (Senator Heffernan):** To move—That the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 12 May 2004, from 4 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment (Mutual Recognition with New Zealand and Other Matters) Bill 2003.

*856 **Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (Senator Heffernan):** To move—That the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 13 May 2004, from 4 pm to 6 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the administration of Biosecurity Australia concerning the revised draft import risk analysis for bananas.

*857 **Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (Senator Heffernan):** To move—That the time for the presentation of

the report of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on the administration of AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Margaret J* be extended to 5 August 2004.

- *858 **Chair of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (Senator Payne):** To move—That the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 12 May 2004, from 4.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee’s inquiry into the provisions of the Migration Amendment (Judicial Review) Bill 2004.
- *859 **Chair of the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee (Senator Mason):** To move—That the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 13 May 2004, from 3.30 pm to 6 pm, to take evidence for the committee’s inquiry into the Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Employee Involvement and Compliance) Bill 2002.
- *860 **Chair of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee (Senator Ridgeway):** To move—That the time for the presentation of reports of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee be extended as follows:
- (a) forestry plantations—to 24 June 2004; and
 - (b) rural water resource usage—to 12 August 2004.
- *861 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that on 12 May 2004 there will be national action by university students, who will be protesting against the Government’s ‘Backing Australia’s future: Our universities’ policy and, specifically, against higher education contribution scheme (HECS) increases;
 - (b) supports students in their non-violent attempts to prevent the remaining universities from increasing HECS; and
 - (c) condemns the Government for under-funding universities for the past 7 years to such an extent that universities are now turning to students to provide a short-term increase in funding.
- *862 **Senator Lees:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes:
 - (i) the excellent work of the Centre for Sustainable Energy Systems in relation to renewable energy, and
 - (ii) the \$4.5 million of commercial commitment and the \$5.5 million universities commitment that the centre has acquired;
 - (b) condemns the Government for not funding the centre; and
 - (c) calls on the Government to rethink its opposition to and to re-fund research into renewable energy.
- *863 **Senator Marshall:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that 2004 is the 150th anniversary of the Eureka rebellion, which took place in Ballarat, Victoria, on 3 December 1854;
 - (b) recognises the importance of commemorating this important occasion; and
 - (c) accordingly invites and authorises the President to make arrangements for the Eureka flag to be flown from two of the four flag masts at the Senate entrance for the period Monday, 29 November to and including Friday, 3 December 2004.

- *864 **Senator Brown:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) congratulates the German Government on its initiative proposing to host the International Conference for Renewable Energies in Bonn from 1 June to 4 June 2004, as a follow-up to the Johannesburg Earth Summit; and
 - (b) calls on the Australian Government to be represented at the conference by a delegation headed by a minister.
- *865 **Senator Brown:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes the German Government initiative to establish an International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) as an international governmental organisation in order to support and advance the active utilisation of renewable energies on a global scale; and
 - (b) calls on the Australian Government to support IRENA strongly and to establish a complementary organisation in Australia.

Orders of the Day relating to Government Documents

- *1 **Trade 2004—Statement by the Minister for Trade (Mr Vaile)**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).
- *2 **Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Progress in implementing the *Charter of Public Service in a Culturally Diverse Society*—Access and equity report for 2003**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).
- *3 ***Tobacco Advertising Prohibition Act 1992*—Report for 2003 pursuant to section 34A of the Act**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).
- *4 **Central Land Council—Report for 2002-03—Addendum**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).
- *5 **Gene Technology Regulator—Quarterly report for the period 1 October to 31 December 2003**
Consideration (*11 May 2004*).

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 **Charter of Political Honesty Bill 2000 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*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*).
- 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 (*Senator Heffernan, in continuation, 27 November 2003*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 13 February 2002*).
- 13 **State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2002]**—(*Senate bill*)
 Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Murray—That this bill be now read a second time.
And on the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)—Omit all words after “That”, substitute “the bill be referred to the Legal and Constitutional References Committee for inquiry and report by 30 October 2003” (*Senator Murray, in continuation, 21 August 2003*)—(*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 Santoro, in continuation, 11 March 2004*).

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).

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).

48 Environment—National radioactive waste repository

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate condemns the Government for:

- (a) its failure to respect the rights of the people of South Australia in its consultation process over the location of the planned low-level radioactive waste repository;

- (b) its decision to replace effective and meaningful consultation and discussion with a \$300 000 propaganda campaign, designed to sway the opinions of South Australians towards locating the repository in that state, in the absence of genuine efforts to provide accurate and exhaustive information on the suitability of the selected site, close to Woomera; and
- (c) its lack of a thorough examination of the environmental impact of this plan, in particular the possible dangers caused by the site's proximity to the Woomera rocket range, and the serious concerns of both the Department of Defence and private contractors on this issue (*Senator Buckland, in continuation, 6 February 2003*).

49 Immigration—East Timorese asylum seekers—Document

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Bartlett)—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Crossin, in continuation, 3 March 2003*).

50 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Protecting the Great Barrier Reef from Oil Drilling and Exploration) Amendment Bill 2003 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator McLucas and the Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Bartlett)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*6 March 2003*).

51 Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Conroy)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Conroy, in continuation, 6 March 2003*).

52 Islamic Republic of Iran and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan—Report of the Australian parliamentary delegation, October to November 2002

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ferris—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ferris, in continuation, 6 March 2003*).

53 Taxation—Small business

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Conroy—That the Senate—

- (a) calls on the Government to take action to crack down on late payments by big business and government customers to their small business suppliers; and
- (b) notes that:
 - (i) late payments by big businesses are a major issue for small businesses as they create cash flow problems,
 - (ii) this comes on top of the cumbersome administrative arrangements of the new tax system, and
 - (iii) the problems faced by small business are being ignored by the Howard Government (*adjourned, 20 March 2003*).

54 Environment—Rehabilitation of former nuclear test sites at Emu and Maralinga (Australia)—Ministerial statement

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Chapman, in continuation, 25 March 2003*).

55 Building and Construction Industry—Royal Commission—Ministerial statement and documents

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Sherry—That the Senate take note of the documents (*Senator Santoro, in continuation, 26 March 2003*).

56 Defence Amendment (Parliamentary approval for Australian involvement in overseas conflicts) Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Bartlett, and Senator Stott Despoja)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 27 March 2003*).

57 Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Murray, in continuation, 27 March 2003*).

58 Sexuality Anti-Vilification Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Greig)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Greig, in continuation, 27 March 2003*).

59 Governor-General

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)—That the Senate—

(a) notes with concern that:

- (i) the Government has failed to respond to evidence of sexual abuse of children in our society and within our public institutions,
- (ii) the independent report of the Diocesan Board of Inquiry found that Dr Peter Hollingworth, while occupying a position of public trust as Archbishop of Brisbane, allowed a priest to remain in the ministry after an admission of sexual abuse, and the Board of Inquiry found this decision to be ‘untenable’,
- (iii) the Governor-General has admitted that he made a serious error in doing so,
- (iv) Dr Peter Hollingworth, through his actions while in the Office of Governor-General, in particular his interview on ‘Australian Story’ and his apparent ‘reconstruction’ of evidence before the Diocesan Board of Inquiry, has shown himself not to be a person suitable to hold the Office of Governor-General,
- (v) members of the House of Representatives, senators, and premiers and members of state parliaments have called upon the Governor-General to resign, or failing that, to be dismissed by the Prime Minister,
- (vi) the Governor-General is now no longer able to fulfil his symbolic role as a figure of unity for the Australian people,
- (vii) the Governor-General is now no longer able to exercise the constitutional powers of the Office in a manner that will be seen as impartial and non-partisan,
- (viii) the Governor-General’s action in standing aside until the current Victorian Supreme Court action is resolved, does not address any of the issues surrounding his behaviour as Archbishop of Brisbane, and is therefore inadequate,
- (ix) the Governor-General has failed to resign and the Prime Minister has failed to advise the Queen of Australia to dismiss him, and
- (x) the Australian Constitution fails to set out any criteria for the dismissal of a Governor-General or a fair process by which this can be achieved; and

(b) urges:

- (i) the Prime Minister to establish a Royal Commission into child sexual abuse in Australia, and
- (ii) the Governor-General to immediately resign or, if he does not do so, the Prime Minister to advise the Queen of Australia to terminate the Commission of the Governor-General.

And on the amendment moved by Senator Murphy—Omit all words after “That”, substitute “the Senate—

- (a) notes with concern that:
 - (i) Dr Peter Hollingworth, while in the Office of Governor-General, gave in an interview on ‘Australian Story’, a version of events which have been found by the diocesan Board of Inquiry to be untrue, and
 - (ii) the same Board of Inquiry found that they could not accept Dr Hollingworth had a belief that the child sexual abuse was an isolated incident and that his handling of the matters was untenable;
- (b) finds that:
 - (i) the circumstances that have developed around the Office of Governor-General are doing irreparable damage to the Office and must be resolved,
 - (ii) the conclusions of the report of the Anglican Church clearly demonstrates that Dr Hollingworth failed in his duty as Archbishop,
 - (iii) such failing in a position of significant public trust renders Dr Hollingworth an unsuitable person to fill the Office of Governor-General,
 - (iv) the Governor-General’s action in standing aside until the current Victorian Supreme Court action is resolved does not address any of the issues surrounding his behaviour as Archbishop of Brisbane, and is therefore inadequate,
 - (v) the Governor-General is now no longer able to fulfil his symbolic role as a figure of unity for the Australian people, and
 - (vi) the Governor-General is now no longer able to exercise the constitutional powers of the Office in a manner that will be seen as impartial and non-partisan; and, therefore, in light of these unacceptable circumstances
- (c) urges:
 - (i) the Governor-General to immediately resign or, if he does not do so, the Prime Minister to advise the Queen of Australia to terminate the Commission of Governor-General, and
 - (ii) the Prime Minister to establish a Royal Commission into child sexual abuse in Australia” (*Senator Collins, in continuation, 14 May 2003*).

60 Textbook Subsidy Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Stott Despoja)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 18 June 2003*).

61 Health—Medicare—Bulk billing

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator McLucas—That the Senate—

- (a) condemns the most damaging effects of the Government’s proposed reforms to Medicare, which will create a user-pays, two-tiered health system in Australia and dismantle the universality of Medicare;

- (b) acknowledges that the first of the damaging effects of the Government's reform package is to cause bulk-billing rates to decline further, and that these reforms do nothing to encourage doctors to bulk bill any Australians other than pensioners and concession cardholders but make it clear that the Government considers bulk billing to be a privilege that accrues only to a subset of Australians, not an entitlement that all Australians have as a result of the Medicare charge;
- (c) notes that the second most damaging effect of the Government's proposed changes to Medicare is the facilitation and encouragement of higher and higher co-payments to be charged by medical practitioners, and that a central plank of the Government's package is the facilitation of co-payments to be charged by doctors who currently bulk bill Australian families, as well as to make it easier for doctors who currently charge a co-payment to increase the amount of this co-payment; and
- (d) notes, with concern, that the Government seeks to allow private health funds to offer insurance for out-of-pocket expenses in excess of \$1 000, a measure which, if implemented, would inflate health insurance premiums as well as be a real step towards a user-pays system in Australia where people who can afford co-payments and insurance premiums will be treated when they are sick, whereas those individuals and families on lower incomes will be forced to go without medical assistance (*Senator Eggleston, in continuation, 19 June 2003*)

62 Freedom of Information Amendment (Open Government) Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Murray, in continuation, 25 June 2003*).

63 Looking to the future: A review of Commonwealth fisheries policy—Ministerial statement

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O'Brien—That the Senate take note of the statement (*adjourned, Senator McGauran, 25 June 2002*).

64 Social Security Amendment (Supporting Young Carers) Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Lees)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Lees, in continuation, 26 June 2003*).

65 National Animal Welfare Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Bartlett)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 11 August 2003*).

66 Transport—Ethanol—Manildra Group

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O'Brien—That the Senate condemns the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) for his ongoing pattern of deceit in relation to his dealings with the chair of the Manildra Group, Mr Dick Honan, prior to a Cabinet decision that delivers direct financial benefits to that company (*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Ian Macdonald), in continuation, 14 August 2003*).

67 Regional Australia

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O'Brien—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 (*Senator Colbeck, in continuation, 11 September 2003*).

68 Financial Management and Accountability (Anti-Restrictive Software Practices) Amendment Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Greig)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Greig, in continuation, 18 September 2003*).

69 Health—Medicare—Bulk billing

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator McLucas—That the Senate—

- (a) notes, with grave concern, the crisis in Australia's health system, including:
 - (i) bulk billing rates falling by more than 12 per cent since 1996,
 - (ii) 10 million fewer services being bulk-billed each year by general practitioners than in 1996,
 - (iii) the 59 per cent rise since 1996 in the average amount patients are required to pay to see a general practitioner (GP),
 - (iv) the largely unaddressed GP workforce shortage, which government policies have exacerbated,
 - (v) the unaddressed shortages in nurses, dentists, radiographers and other vitally-needed health professionals,
 - (vi) emergency departments in public hospitals being strained by the increasing numbers of patients who could have been attended to by a GP, and
 - (vii) frail aged people being accommodated in acute hospital beds because there is nowhere else for them to go; and
- (b) calls on the Government to respond to community concerns about its health policies, as evidenced by tens of thousands of petitions, by:
 - (i) addressing the health crisis in co-operation with the states,
 - (ii) strengthening Medicare by taking steps to ensure universal access to bulk-billing, and
 - (iii) ensuring that enough GPs, nurses, dentists, radiographers and other vitally-needed health professionals are trained and retained in the health system (*Senator Barnett, in continuation, 18 September 2003*).

70 Truth in Food Labelling Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Brown)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 13 October 2003*).

72 Sexuality and Gender Identity Discrimination Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Greig)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Greig, in continuation, 25 November 2003*).

73 Racial and Religious Hatred Bill 2003 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Ludwig)

- Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Ludwig, in continuation, 1 December 2003*).
- 74 **Sri Lanka and the 49th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, Bangladesh—Report of the Australian parliamentary delegation, 1 to 12 October 2003**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Watson—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Watson, in continuation, 1 December 2003*).
- 75 **Broadcasting Services (Safeguarding Local Content and Local Audience Needs) Amendment Bill 2003—(Senate bill)—(Senator Lees)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Lees, in continuation, 3 December 2003*).
- 76 **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act—Statement under subsection 40(3)—Suspension of a commissioner from office, dated 11 February 2004—Document**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O'Brien—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator O'Brien, in continuation, 12 February 2004*).
- 77 **Trade—Free Trade Agreement**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Conroy—That the Senate—
- (a) expresses great concern that the Howard Government has sold out Australian sugar growers;
 - (b) notes that:
 - (i) the expected gains from the trade deal with the United States of America (US) are based on unrealistic assumptions, and
 - (ii) the US offered a better deal on agriculture to Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua; and
 - (c) has referred the trade deal with the US to a select committee for thorough examination to assess if it is in Australia's national interest (*Senator Ferris, in continuation, 12 February 2004*).
- 78 **Invasion of Iraq Royal Commission (Restoring Public Trust in Government) Bill 2004 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senators Brown and Nettle)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Brown, in continuation, 3 March 2004*).
- 79 **Euthanasia Laws (Repeal) Bill 2004—(Senate bill)—(Senator Allison)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Allison, in continuation, 3 March 2004*).
- 80 **Superannuation—Retirement income measures**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator George Campbell—That the Senate—
- (a) condemns the Liberal Government for the underlying thrust of its recently-announced retirement incomes measures, that Australians should forget full-time retirement and work longer and longer – in reality, work until they drop;
 - (b) while acknowledging that the Government's announced policies may be of value to some retirees, considers that they must be implemented with a guarantee that:

- (i) current access ages for superannuation, 55 for those born before 1 July 1960, phasing up to a retirement age of 60 for those born after 30 June 1964,
 - (ii) current eligibility ages for the age pension of 62 and 65 years, and
 - (iii) indexation of the age pension to Male Total Average Weekly Earnings,
- shall be maintained;
- (c) notes that:
- (i) Australia does not face a retirement incomes ‘crisis’ resulting from the ageing of the population, because of the efficiency and effectiveness of the combined operation of the age pension and the 9 per cent superannuation guarantee contribution, and
 - (ii) there is active discrimination occurring in the workforce against those aged 40 and over who are seeking meaningful full-time employment and for whom retirement is the only option; and
- (d) is of the opinion that:
- (i) all Australians are entitled to retire at a time of their choosing to enjoy rest, recreation, community activity and family, at their leisure, and
 - (ii) for many Australians, it is impractical to expect them to work beyond the current retirement ages because they will not be able to find either full- or part-time work, or the nature of their employment involves a mandatory retirement age or is of such a physically and mentally stressful nature that employment beyond the current retirement age is not possible (*Senator McGauran, in continuation, 4 March 2004*).

81 Resale Royalty Bill 2004—(Senate bill)—(Senator Lundy)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Lundy, in continuation, 11 March 2004*).

82 Flags Amendment (Eureka Flag) Bill 2004—(Senate bill)—(Senator Marshall)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Marshall, in continuation, 23 March 2004*).

83 Interim Building Industry Taskforce—Findings—Upholding the law – one year on—Ministerial statement and document

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Cook—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Nettle, in continuation, 25 March 2004*).

84 Syria, Lebanon and Israel—Report of the Australian parliamentary delegation, 9 to 12 November 2003

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Sandy Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 25 March 2004*).

85 Politics—Public sector

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)—That the Senate expresses its deep concern at the continuing politicisation of the public sector by the Howard Government (*adjourned, 25 March 2004*).

86 **Foreign Affairs Defence and Trade References Committee—Report—A Pacific engaged: Australia’s relations with Papua New Guinea and the island states of the south-west Pacific—Presiding Officers’ response**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ferris—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ferris, in continuation, 1 April 2004*).

BUSINESS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Next day of sitting (13 May 2004)

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee**
Report to be presented on forestry plantations.
- 2 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**
Report to be presented on the Customs Tariff Amendment (Paraquat Dichloride) Bill 2004. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)
- 3 **Economics Legislation Committee**
Report to be presented on the provisions of the Tourism Australia Bill 2004.

Government Business—Order of the Day

- 1 **Customs Tariff Amendment (Paraquat Dichloride) Bill 2004**—(*Minister for Family and Community Services, Senator Patterson*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*3 March 2004*).

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 15 May 2003

- 467 **Senator Lees:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to encourage a stronger civic culture in Australia, and for related purposes. *Encouraging Communities Bill 2003.*

On 26 May 2004

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Legal and Constitutional References Committee**
Report to be presented on the capacity of current legal aid and access to justice arrangements to meet the community need for legal assistance.

On 27 May 2004

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **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.*

2 Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Surveillance Devices Bill 2004.
(*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Order of the Day

- *1 **Surveillance Devices Bill 2004**—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Ian Macdonald*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Crossin, 11 May 2004*).

**On 4 June 2004, or on such later date as is
determined by the committee**

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Free Trade Agreement—Australia and the United States of America—Select Committee**

Report to be presented.

On 15 June 2004

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

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

Report to be presented on the exposure draft of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2003 and the provisions of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2003 and the Building and Construction Industry Improvement (Consequential and Transitional) Bill 2003.

- 2 **Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Migration Amendment (Judicial Review) Bill 2004. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2003**

Building and Construction Industry Improvement (Consequential and Transitional) Bill 2003—(*Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, Senator Vanstone*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Buckland, 10 February 2004*).

- 2 **Migration Amendment (Judicial Review) Bill 2004**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Troeth*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*31 March 2004*).

On 16 June 2004

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.

On 17 June 2004

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Community Affairs References Committee**
Report to be presented on Hepatitis C in Australia.
- 2 **Legislation Committees**
Reports to be presented on the 2004-05 Budget estimates.
- 3 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee**
Report to be presented on the provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Award Simplification) Bill 2002 and on the Workplace Relations Amendment (Better Bargaining) Bill 2003, the Workplace Relations Amendment (Choice in Award Coverage) Bill 2004 and the Workplace Relations Amendment (Simplifying Agreement-making) Bill 2004. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)
- 4 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**
Report to be presented on the provisions of the Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment (Mutual Recognition with New Zealand and Other Matters) Bill 2003. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)
- 5 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**
Report to be presented on current health preparation arrangements for the deployment of Australian Defence Forces overseas.
- 6 **Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**
Report to be presented on the Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Employee Involvement and Compliance) Bill 2002. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Better Bargaining) Bill 2003**—(*Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 1 March 2004*).
- 2 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Choice in Award Coverage) Bill 2004**—(*Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 1 March 2004*).
- 3 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Simplifying Agreement-making) Bill 2004**—(*Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Mackay, 1 March 2004*).
- 4 **Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Employee Involvement and Compliance) Bill 2002**—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*30 March 2004*).
- *5 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Award Simplification) Bill 2002**—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Ian Macdonald*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Crossin, 11 May 2004*).

On 21 June 2004

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Community Affairs References Committee

Report to be presented on children in institutional care.

On 24 June 2004

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

Report to be presented on rural water resource usage.

2 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Report to be presented on the performance of government agencies in the assessment and dissemination of security threats in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002.

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

Report to be presented on competition in broadband services.

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

Report to be presented on the Office of the Chief Scientist.

By the last sitting day in June 2004 (24 June 2004)

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Economics References Committee

Report to be presented on the structure and distributive effects of the Australian taxation system.

2 Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee

Report to be presented on electoral funding and disclosure and any amendments to the Commonwealth Electoral Act necessary in relation to political donations.

On 30 June 2004

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Civil Aviation Amendment (Relationship with Anti-discrimination Legislation) Bill 2004. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On the first sitting day in August 2004 (3 August 2004)

Business of the Senate—Notice of Motion

Notice given 25 June 2003

- 1 **Senator Tierney:** To move—That the following matter be referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee for inquiry and report by the last sitting day in June 2004:

Parents as educators in the early childhood years, with particular reference to:

- (a) the extent to which parenting skills and family support are factors in reducing educational and social risks of children in the 3 years and under age group;
- (b) whether current patterns of parental involvement in community and school-based programs are adequate to respond to the challenge of assisting children with early learning and social behaviour problems;
- (c) the current state and territory provisions and programs, whether based on pre-schools, schools, play groups or day-care centres etc, established to assist parents with early childhood learning support;
- (d) best practice in home to school transition programs for children, and an assessment as to whether they can be adapted for national implementation; and
- (e) the most appropriate role for the Commonwealth in supporting national programs for raising parental consciousness and levels of knowledge and competence in relation to the early educational, social and emotional and health needs of children.

On 5 August 2004

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee**

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

2 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee**

Report to be presented on the effectiveness of the Australian military justice system.

Thirteen sitting days after today (10 August 2004)

Business of the Senate—Notices of Motion

Notice given 1 April 2004

1 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances**

(Senator Tchen): To move—That the Excise Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 2004 No. 27 and made under the *Excise Act 1901*, be disallowed.

Fourteen sitting days remain for resolving.**

2 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances**

(Senator Tchen): To move—That Temporary Order No. 4 of 2003, made under subsection 43(8) of the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*, be disallowed.

Fourteen sitting days remain for resolving.**

** *Indicates sitting days remaining, including today, within which the motion must be disposed of or the Order will be deemed to have been disallowed.*

On the tenth sitting day after 30 June 2004 (1 September 2004)

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Legislation Committees**

Reports to be presented on annual reports tabled by 30 April 2004.

On 1 September 2004

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Legal and Constitutional References Committee**

Report to be presented on the needs of expatriate Australians.

On 5 October 2004

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Lindeberg Grievance—Select Committee**

Report to be presented.

On 25 November 2004

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

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

Report to be presented on the progress and future direction of life-long learning.

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

Report to be presented on Indigenous training and employment outcomes.

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

Report to be presented on student income support.

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

Report to be presented on the regulation, control and management of invasive species.

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

Report to be presented on the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

General Business—Order of the Day

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.*)

On the first sitting day in March 2005

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Scrutiny of Bills—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on entry, search and seizure provisions in Commonwealth legislation.

BILLS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

Bills currently referred†

Customs Tariff Amendment (Paraquat Dichloride) Bill 2004‡

Referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (*referred 10 March 2004; reporting date: 13 May 2004*).

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002‡

Referred to the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee (*referred 26 March 2003; order varied 26 June 2003; reporting date varied 16 September 2003 and 30 March 2004; reporting date: 25 November 2004*).

New International Tax Arrangements Bill 2003‡

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred 10 March 2004; reporting date: 12 May 2004*).

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

Referred to the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee (*referred 31 March 2004; reporting date: 17 June 2004*).

Tax Laws Amendment (2004 Measures No. 1) Bill 2004‡

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred 10 March 2004; reporting date: 12 May 2004*).

Workplace Relations Amendment (Better Bargaining) Bill 2003‡

Workplace Relations Amendment (Choice in Award Coverage) Bill 2004‡

Workplace Relations Amendment (Simplifying Agreement-making) Bill 2004‡

Referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee (*referred 3 March 2004; reporting date: 17 June 2004*).

Provisions of bills currently referred†

Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2003‡

Building and Construction Industry Improvement (Consequential and Transitional) Bill 2003‡

Referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee (*referred 3 December 2003; reporting date varied 4 December 2003 and 30 March 2004; reporting date: 15 June 2004*).

Civil Aviation Amendment (Relationship with Anti-discrimination Legislation) Bill 2004‡

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (*referred 24 March 2004; reporting date: 30 June 2004*).

Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment (Mutual Recognition with New Zealand and Other Matters) Bill 2003‡

Referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (*referred 10 March 2004; reporting date: 17 June 2004*).

Migration Amendment (Judicial Review) Bill 2004‡

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (*referred 31 March 2004; reporting date: 15 June 2004*).

Surveillance Devices Bill 2004‡

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee (*referred 31 March 2004; reporting date: 27 May 2004*).

Treasury Legislation Amendment (Professional Standards) Bill 2003‡

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred 11 February 2004; reporting date varied 1 April 2004; reporting date: 12 May 2004*).

Tourism Australia Bill 2004

Referred to the Economics Legislation Committee (*referred 1 April 2004; reporting date: 13 May 2004*).

Workplace Relations Amendment (Award Simplification) Bill 2002‡

Referred to the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee (*referred 3 March 2004; reporting date: 17 June 2004*).

‡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 DISCHARGED, LAID ASIDE OR NEGATIVED

Government Bills

Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Australians Working Together and other 2001 Budget Measures) Bill 2002

Redundant order relating to the bill discharged from *Notice Paper*, 12 December 2002.

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

Second reading negatived, 19 November 2002.

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

Second reading negatived, 24 June 2003.

Migration Amendment (Duration of Detention) Bill 2004

Second reading negatived, 8 March 2004.

Migration Legislation Amendment (Further Border Protection Measures) Bill 2002

Second reading negatived, 9 December 2002.

Migration Legislation Amendment (Further Border Protection Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]

Second reading negatived, 16 June 2003.

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

Second reading negatived, 20 June 2002.

National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical Benefits—Budget Measures) Bill 2002 [No. 2]

Second reading negatived, 4 March 2003.

Superannuation (Surcharge Rate Reduction) Amendment Bill 2003

Second reading negatived, 24 June 2003.

Restored to *Notice Paper* pursuant to resolution of 10 September 2003.

Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2003

Second reading negatived, 30 October 2003.

Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2003 [No. 2]

Second reading negatived, 30 March 2004.

Trade Practices Amendment (Small Business Protection) Bill 2002

Third reading negatived, 19 August 2002.

Trade Practices Amendment (Small Business Protection) Bill 2002 [No. 2]

Third reading negatived, 3 March 2003.

Workplace Relations Amendment (Codifying Contempt Offences) Bill 2003

Third reading negatived, 3 March 2004.

Workplace Relations Amendment (Compliance with Court and Tribunal Orders) Bill 2003

Third reading negatived, 8 March 2004.

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

Third reading negatived, 25 September 2002.

Workplace Relations Amendment (Secret Ballots for Protected Action) Bill 2002 [No. 2]

Third reading negatived, 24 March 2003.

Workplace Relations Amendment (Termination of Employment) Bill 2002

Third reading negatived, 11 August 2003.

Workplace Relations Amendment (Termination of Employment) Bill 2002 [No. 2]

Third reading negatived, 22 March 2004.

Private Senator's Bills

Constitution Alteration (Right to Stand for Parliament—Qualification of Members and Candidates) 1998 (No. 2) [2002]

Laid aside pursuant to standing order 135, 15 May 2003.

Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2000 [2002]

Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 27 March 2003.

Freedom of Information Amendment (Open Government) Bill 2000 [2002]

Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 25 June 2003.

Public Interest Disclosure Bill 2001 [2002]

Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 11 December 2002.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Question Nos, as shown, from 55 to 2828 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 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 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 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 representing the 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 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 representing the 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 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

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

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.

Notice given 24 September 2002

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.

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.

Notice given 7 November 2002

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.

Notice given 8 November 2002

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

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.

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.

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.

Notice given 3 December 2002

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 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.

Notice given 17 January 2003

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1090-1120)—

- (1) What programs and/or grants administered by the department provide assistance to the people living in the federal electorate of Gippsland.
- (2) When did the delivery of these programs and/or grants commence.
- (3) What funding was provided through these programs and/or grants for the people of Gippsland in each of the following financial years: (a) 1999-2000; (b) 2000-01; and (c) 2001-02.
- (4) What funding has been appropriated for these programs and/or grants in the 2002-03 financial year.
- (5) What funding has been appropriated and/or approved under these programs and/or grants to assist organisations and individuals in the electorate of Gippsland in the 2002-03 financial year.

1102 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

1116 Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer

1120 Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation

Notice given 17 February 2003

- 1163 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) With reference to the Minister's media release of 19 July 2001 announcing a 3-year project to examine the feasibility of segregating genetically-modified products across their entire production chains: what are the specific stated objectives of this study.
 - (2) Does the study deal with issues of food safety and food quality; if so, how.
 - (3) Does the study deal with making sure that products are identified to meet labelling laws and to preserve the identity of products in the market place; if so, how.
 - (4) How specifically do the objectives of the study announced on 19 July 2001 differ from those of the four case studies announced on 10 February 2003.
- 1168 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's joint statement of 11 February 2003, reference AFFA03/023WTJ, regarding the \$5.3 million water saving pilot program in the Murrumbidgee Valley:
- (1) What are the specific stated objectives of the pilot program as presented to the Commonwealth by Pratt Water and upon which Commonwealth funding was approved.
 - (2) Can a copy be provided of the Pratt Water proposal upon which Commonwealth funding was approved; if not, why not.
 - (3) What is the total budgeted cost of the pilot program.
 - (4) Which Commonwealth departments are contributing to the funding of the pilot program; and (b) how much will each department contribute.
 - (5) Which non-government organisations or individuals are contributing to the pilot program and what is their budgeted contribution.
 - (6) (a) When will the pilot program commence; and (b) when is it due to be completed.
 - (7) In relation to the joint media statement, which quotes Mr Pratt as saying that his 'company has contributed significant resources to get the proposal to its current stage of development and is contributing key staff to manage the project': (a) what is the quantum and exact type of resources Mr Pratt is referring to; (b) what is the number of staff Pratt Water will contribute to the management of this project; and (c) what are the names and qualifications of those staff.
 - (8) Where exactly in the Murrumbidgee Valley the pilot program will be conducted.
 - (9) (a) What consultations have been undertaken with residents within the Murrumbidgee Valley; and (b) who will be affected by the pilot program.
 - (10) If no consultations have yet taken place: (a) when will these consultations take place; and (b) how will these consultations be conducted.

Notice given 25 February 2003

- 1202 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the department's evidence to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee on 10 February 2003 concerning

under-reporting of executive remuneration in the department's 2000-01 and 2001-02 financial statements:

- (1) On what day did the department seek advice from the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) about whether the under-reporting constituted a 'material breach'.
- (2) Which officer sought that advice.
- (3) Was the request oral or written.
- (4) On what day did the ANAO provide advice to the department.
- (5) Which officer provided this advice.
- (6) What was the content of this advice.
- (7) Was this advice oral or written.
- (8) If oral, can confirmation of this advice be provided; if not, why not.
- (9) If written, can a copy of this advice be provided.
- (10) Has the department sought advice from the ANAO on whether it is necessary to issue a corrigendum to the 2000-01 and 2001-02 financial statements: (a) if so: (i) on what day was this advice sought, (ii) which officer sought this advice, and (iii) was the request for this advice oral or written; and (b) if not, (i) from which agency was this advice sought, (ii) which officer sought this advice, and (iii) was the request oral or written.
- (11) On what day was advice on the matter of the corrigendum received.
- (12) What was the content of this advice.
- (13) Was this advice oral or written.
- (14) Which officer and agency provided this advice.
- (15) What specific change to departmental procedures has occurred since the under-reporting of executive remuneration was revealed in November 2002.

1203 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the department's portfolio additional estimates statements for the 2002-03 financial year:

- (1) Why has the estimate of revenue from the all milk levy increased by \$5 509 000 from \$30 000 000 to \$35 509 000.
- (2) Can the data for the revised estimate be provided.

1204 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's media statement AFFA03/033WT:

- (1) To what time period does the expenditure in the 'EC Expenditure' column relate.
- (2) Can an explanation of the figures, including a state and financial year breakdown, be provided.

1209 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) On what date did the department first receive a request from the Department of Finance and Administration (DOFA) for payment of \$1 144.64 relating to the Minister's police escort during a 2002 visit to the Philippines.

- (2) On what dates have the department and DOFA communicated in relation to this matter.
- (3) Has the department complied with the request from DOFA for payment of this account; if so, when was the account paid; if not, why not.
- (4) Did the negotiation of heavy traffic facilitated by the police escort enable the Minister to attend his key meetings on time.

1211 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—In relation to the administration of Australia's United States (US) beef quota:

- (1) Why is it that the US Customs figures do not correspond with export figures maintained by the department for the 2002 quota year.
- (2) What are the details of the 5 500 tonne discrepancy for the 2002 quota year, on a month-by-month basis.
- (3) When did the department first become aware that the Australian quota would be under-filled for the 2002 quota year.
- (4) How will the 5 500 tonnes of quota be allocated.
- (5) On what date or dates did the department consult with US authorities on this proposal.
- (6) (a) On what date or dates did the department consult with Australian beef exporters on this proposal; and (b) which exporters were consulted.
- (7) What action has been taken to ensure the discrepancy between Australian and US export figures does not recur in the 2003 quota year.

Notice given 18 March 2003

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1270-1272)—With respect to the additional \$8 per passenger increase in the Passenger Movement Charge that came into effect on 1 July 2001 to fund increased passenger processing costs as part of Australia's response to the threat of the introduction of foot and mouth disease:

- (1) What was the total additional revenue raised by this extra \$8 in each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03 to date.
- (2) What is the total additional revenue estimated to be raised by this extra \$8 in each of the following financial years: (a) 2002-03; (b) 2003-04; (c) 2004-05; and (d) 2005-06.
- (3) What was the total amount of Passenger Movement Charge collected at each airport and port for each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03 to date.
- (4) What is the total amount of Passenger Movement Charge estimated to be collected at each airport and port for each of the following financial years: (a) 2002-03; (b) 2003-04; (c) 2004-05; and (d) 2005-06.
- (5) How much has been spent by the Government on new quarantine screening equipment at each airport and port since 1 July 2001.
- (6) (a) How much additional money has the Government spent on other quarantine processing costs at each airport and port since 1 July 2001; and (b) what services, measures or expenses comprise that additional expenditure at each airport and port.
- (7) How much additional money is estimated to be spent on new quarantine screening equipment and other processing costs respectively at each airport

and port for each of the following financial years: (a) 2002-03; (b) 2003-04; (c) 2004-05; and (d) 2005-06.

- (8) (a) Which programs are administering costs associated with increased passenger processing costs as part of Australia's response to the threat of the introduction of foot and mouth disease; (b) how much has been spent, and is it estimated will be spent, from each program in each year it has or is budgeted to operate; and (c) which department is responsible for the administration of each program.
- (9) Are there any outstanding claims by any organisation or individual for expenditure on equipment or measures as part of Australia's response to the threat of foot and mouth disease; if so: (a) who are the claimants; (b) what is each claim for; and (c) will each be paid and when.
- (10) (a) How many passengers departing Australia were exempted from paying the Passenger Movement Charge; and (b) what is the legal basis and number of passengers for each category of exempted passengers.
- (11) Will the \$8 foot and mouth response component of the Passenger Movement Charge be removed, increased or reduced commensurate with the movement in costs associated with Australia's response to the threat of the introduction of foot and mouth disease; if so, when; if not, why not.

1271 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

1274 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement, dated 31 October 2001, concerning support for the bio-fuels industry:

- (1) Was the statement issued during the 2001 Federal Election campaign.
- (2) Did the Minister promise that, 'the current excise exemption for fuel ethanol will be retained'.
- (3) Was the Minister consulted before the Prime Minister announced the imposition of an excise on fuel ethanol on 12 September 2002.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1280-1287)—What payments, subsidies, grants, gratuities or awards have been made to the Manildra group of companies, including but not necessarily limited to Manildra Energy Australia Pty Ltd, since March 1996.

1285 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

1288 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What has been the measurable increase in use of sugar and/or sugar by-products as feedstock for fuel ethanol since the introduction of the ethanol production subsidy on 17 September 2002.
- (2) What is the projected increase in the use of sugar and/or sugar by-products as feedstock for fuel ethanol over the 12-month life of the ethanol production subsidy introduced on 17 September 2002.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1289-1290)—

- (1) What representations has the Government received from Brazil about its decision to impose a customs duty of 38.143 cents per litre on fuel ethanol and provide a subsidy to domestic ethanol producers.
- (2) (a) When were those representations received; and (b) what was the Government's response.

- (3) Has the Government received representations from countries other than Brazil about its decision to impose a customs duty of 38.143 cents per litre on fuel ethanol and provide a subsidy to domestic ethanol producers.
- (4) (a) When were those representations received; and (b) what was the Government's response.

1289 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

1290 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

1291 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Trade—

- (1) Did any government seek consultations through the World Trade Organization in relation to the Government's decision in September 2002 to impose a customs duty of 38.143 cents per litre on fuel ethanol and provide a subsidy to domestic ethanol producers; if so: (a) on what date did each country seek consultations; and (b) on what basis were consultations sought.
- (2) Did any third party participate in these consultations.
- (3) In each case, has the matter been resolved; if so, on what date and how was the matter resolved; if not, what resolution process is underway.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1292-1298)—

- (1) On what date or dates did: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department, become aware that Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd proposed to import a shipment of ethanol to Australia from Brazil in September 2002.
- (2) What was the source of this information to: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's office; and (c) the department.
- (3) Was the Minister or his office or the department requested to investigate and/or take action to prevent the arrival of this shipment by any ethanol producer or distributor or industry organisation; if so: (a) who made this request; (b) when was its made; and (c) what form did this request take.
- (4) Did the Minister or his office or the department engage in discussions and/or activities in August 2002 or September 2002 to develop a proposal to prevent the arrival of this shipment of ethanol from Brazil; if so, what was the nature of these discussions and/or activities, including dates of discussions and/or activities, personnel involved and cost.

1292 Minister representing the Prime Minister

1294 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

1295 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

1296 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

1299 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Trade—

- (1) Did the Minister, his office and/or the department ask the Australian Embassy in Brazil in August 2002 and/or September 2002 to make enquiries about the proposed export of ethanol to Australia by Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd.
- (2) How did the Minister, his office and/or the department become aware of the proposed shipment.
- (3) On what date did the Minister, his office and/or the department become aware of the proposed shipment.
- (4) Who made this request.

- (5) Why was the request made.
- (6) Was the request made at the behest of the Prime Minister, another minister, an ethanol producer, and/or an industry organisation.
- (7) On what date was this request made.
- (8) In what form was the request made.
- (9) Who received this request.
- (10) Did the Australian Embassy in Brazil make this enquiry on behalf of the Minister, his office and/or the department; if so, on what date or dates was this enquiry made and what form did it take.
- (11) What information was provided to the Minister, his office and/or the department.
- (12) On what date and in what form was this information provided.
- (13) On what dates and to whom did the Minister, his office and/or the department communicate the information provided by the Embassy.

1300 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Did the Minister receive a request from the Minister for Trade to authorise staff at the Australian Embassy in Brazil in August 2002 and/or September 2002 to gather and provide information about a proposed shipment of ethanol to Australia by Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd.
- (2) Did staff at the Australian Embassy in Brazil in August 2002 and/or September 2002 gather and provide information about a proposed shipment of ethanol to Australia by Trafigura Fuels Australia Pty Ltd; if so: (a) who requested the staff to engage in that task; (b) who authorised staff to agree to the request; (c) what action did staff take; (d) which staff engaged in the task; (d) on what date or dates did staff engage in the task; (e) what was the cost of engaging in the task; (f) to whom did the staff deliver this information in Australia; and (g) what form did that communication take.

1302 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Has the Minister received written or oral representations from representatives of the Manildra group of companies, including but not necessarily limited to Manildra Energy Australia Pty Ltd, concerning government support for the ethanol industry; if so: (a) on what dates were those representations received; and (b) in what form were they made.
- (2) Has the Minister received written or oral representations from representatives of the Australian Bio-fuels Association concerning government support for the ethanol industry; if so: (a) on what dates were those representations received; and (b) in what form were they made.

Notice given 20 March 2003

1319 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—For each of the following financial years: 1996-97, 1997-98, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03: (a) how many overseas trips did the minister responsible for primary industries and agriculture undertake; (b) what countries were visited on those trips; and (c) on how many of those trips was the Minister accompanied by a business delegation.

Notice given 25 March 2003

1348 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—How many consignments of genetically-modified seeds have been imported into Australia with an import permit in each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03.

1349 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to public quarantine alert PQA0251:

- (1) How many consignments of genetically-modified seeds have been imported into Australia without an import permit in each of the following financial years: (a) 2001-02; and (b) 2002-03.
- (2) Have all these consignments been detected by the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service.
- (3) What action was taken when these unauthorised consignments were detected.

1350 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—What are the details of the import conditions and treatment requirements that apply to imported stock feed, including but not limited to conditions C5278 and C8779 and treatment T9902.

1351 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—In respect of the 2002-03 financial year:

- (1) How many expressions of interest for the importation of grain for stock feed have been received.
- (2) (a) How many applications for the importation of grain for stock feed have been received; and (b) how many tonnes have these applications concerned.
- (3) (a) How many applications for the importation of grain for stock feed have been approved; and (b) how many tonnes have these approvals concerned.
- (4) (a) How many applications for the importation of grain for stock feed have been rejected; and (b) how many tonnes have these rejections concerned.
- (5) How many shipments of grain for stock feed have been imported.
- (6) How many tonnes have been imported.
- (7) In relation to each shipment: (a) what country and region was the source of the grain; (b) how many tonnes have been imported; (c) at what port or ports has the grain been off-loaded and on what dates; and (d) what pre-entry and post-entry quarantine measures have been applied.

1353 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to public quarantine alert PQA0221:

- (1) When did the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service review of import conditions for frozen fruit and vegetables commence.
- (2) Was the review due to be completed by 31 December 2002.
- (3) Why was the review not completed by 31 December 2002.
- (4) Has the review been completed; if so, what changes, if any, have been made to the import conditions for frozen fruit and vegetables; if not: (a) why not; and (b) when will the review be completed.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1355-1356)—

- (1) Does the European Union prohibit the export of ruminant livestock from Australia; if so, when was this prohibition applied.
- (2) Has the European Union recently moved to regularise third-country trade in live animals.

- (3) Has a draft amendment to Council Decision 79/542/EEC been prepared.
- (4) When did the Minister become aware the draft amendment was in preparation.
- (5) Would the application of this amendment further restrict live animal exports from Australia to member countries of the European Union.
- (6) Has the amendment been agreed to by the European Union; if so, when was it agreed to; if not, when is it likely to be agreed to.
- (7) Has the Minister sought advice on the impact on Australian exporters of the application of this amendment; if so, what is the likely impact, including affected breeds, export volume, export value and number of affected producers and exporters.
- (8) Has the Minister made representations to the Commission of European Communities, or individual member countries of the European Union, about this matter; if so: (a) when were these representations made; and (b) what form did they take.
- (9) Has the Minister received any representations from Australian producers and/or exporters about this matter; if so: (a) when were those representations received; and (b) what form did they take.

1356 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Notice given 17 April 2003

1393 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement AFFA02/289WT of 17 October 2002 announcing the provision and requirements under the Sugar Industry Reform Program relating to Sugar Enterprise Viability Assessments (SEVAs) and Sugar Enterprise Activity Plans (SEAPs):

- (1) How many applications have been received to date for the preparation of SEVAs and SEAPs from: (a) cane farmers; and (b) cane harvesters.
- (2) How many SEVAs and SEAPs have been completed to date for: (a) cane farmers; and (b) cane harvesters.
- (3) With reference to Fact Sheet SE020.0210 (page 1) accompanying the Minister's statement: (a) what are the 'special provisions' that customers who have accessed Farm Help within the past 12 months prior to claiming will be subject to; (b) how many calls have been received on the 1800 050 585 telephone number from: (i) cane farmers, and (ii) cane harvesters, querying their position regarding these 'special provisions' and the preparations of SEVAs and SEAPs; and (c) how many, (i) cane growers, and (ii) cane harvesters, have had their access eligibility for funds to pay for SEVAs or SEAPs reduced or rejected on the basis of these 'special provisions'.
- (4) What has been the total expenditure by the Commonwealth on SEVAs or SEAPs to date under the Sugar Industry Reform Program.
- (5) What is the total projected expenditure by the Commonwealth on SEVAs or SEAPs under the Sugar Industry Reform Program.

1394 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement AFFA03/008WT of 5 February 2003 announcing the provision under the Sugar Industry Reform Program of the availability of sugar industry exit grants:

- (1) On what date do applications for these grants close.

- (2) How many application forms for these grants have been distributed to date.
- (3) On what date did the application form become available on a Commonwealth website.
- (4) On what date did the printed application form become available.
- (5) On what date were the first application forms mailed to potential applicants.
- (6) To date how many applications for these grants have been: (a) received; (b) rejected; and (c) approved.
- (7) What has been the total expenditure by the Commonwealth on these grants to date.
- (8) What is the total projected expenditure on these grants under the Sugar Industry Reform Program.

1395 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement AFFA02/300WT of 29 October 2002 announcing the provision under the Sugar Industry Reform Program of 50 per cent interest rate subsidies over two years on loans of up to \$50,000 taken out for replanting purposes:

- (1) On what date do applications for these subsidies close.
- (2) How many application forms for these subsidies have been distributed to date.
- (3) On what date did the application form become available on a Commonwealth website.
- (4) On what date did the printed application form become available.
- (5) On what date were the first application forms mailed to potential applicants.
- (6) To date, how many applications for these subsidies have been: (a) received; (b) rejected; and (c) approved.
- (7) What has been the total expenditure by the Commonwealth on these subsidies to date.
- (8) What is the total projected expenditure on these subsidies under the Sugar Industry Reform Program.

1396 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement of 10 September 2002 (reference AFFA02/233WT) announcing the provision of short-term income support measures to help stabilise the industry and to help those in immediate need:

- (1) How many applications had been received from cane farmers for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.
- (2) How many applications from cane farmers had been approved for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.
- (3) How many applications from cane farmers had been rejected for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.
- (4) How many applications had been received from cane harvesters for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.
- (5) How many applications had been approved for cane harvesters for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.
- (6) How many applications from cane harvesters had been rejected for these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003.

- (7) What has been the total expenditure by the Commonwealth on these measures as at 31 December 2002 and as at 31 March 2003 for: (a) cane farmers; and (b) cane harvesters.
- (8) What is the total projected expenditure under these measures for: (a) cane farmers; and (b) cane harvesters.

1397 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) (a) When did the Minister become aware that the CSIRO plant laboratories in Canberra were suspected of being infected with wheat streak mosaic virus; (b) who advised the Minister; and (c) how was the Minister advised.
- (2) (a) When did the Minister become aware that the CSIRO plant laboratories in Canberra were confirmed as being infected with wheat streak mosaic virus; (b) who advised the Minister; and (c) how was the Minister advised.
- (3) When did CSIRO first suspect that its plant laboratories in Canberra were infected with wheat streak mosaic virus.
- (4) With reference to the suspicion by CSIRO that its Canberra or other plant laboratories were infected with wheat streak mosaic virus (i.e. before the virus was confirmed as being present in the Canberra laboratories in April 2003): (a) what actions were taken by the Commonwealth (and on what dates) to advise the following stakeholders: (i) rural industry peak bodies, (ii) state government agriculture ministers and/or their departments, (iii) individual growers, (iv) appropriate government agencies within overseas trading nations, and (v) any other stakeholders; and (b) in each instance: (i) who was advised, and (ii) how were they advised.
- (5) Did the Department advise Plant Health Australia (PHA) of CSIRO's suspicion that wheat streak mosaic virus may be present in its Canberra or other plant laboratories; if so, when and how was PHA advised.
- (6) With reference to the confirmation by CSIRO that its Canberra plant laboratories were infected with wheat streak mosaic virus: (a) what actions were taken by the Commonwealth (and on what dates) to advise the following stakeholders: (i) rural industry peak bodies, (ii) state government agriculture ministers and/or their departments, (iii) individual growers, (iv) appropriate government agencies within overseas trading nations, and (v) any other stakeholders; and (b) in each instance: (i) who was advised, and (ii) how were they advised.
- (7) Did the Minister's Department advise Plant Health Australia (PHA) of CSIRO's confirmation that wheat streak mosaic virus was present in their Canberra or other plant laboratories; if so, on what day and how was PHA advised.
- (8) With reference to the suspicion by CSIRO that its Canberra plant laboratories were infected with wheat streak mosaic virus (i.e. before the virus was confirmed as being present in April 2003) what actions were taken by the Commonwealth to trace the destination of plant seeds or other plant material from CSIRO plant laboratories in Canberra.
- (9) With reference to the confirmation by CSIRO that its Canberra plant laboratories were infected with wheat streak mosaic virus: (a) what actions were taken by the Commonwealth to trace the destination of plant seeds, or other plant material from CSIRO plant laboratories in Canberra; and (b) can a list of confirmed destinations be provided.

- (10) On what date did the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) commence investigations to determine the source of the suspected introduction of wheat streak mosaic virus into the CSIRO Canberra plant laboratories.
- (11) (a) What actions were taken by AQIS to determine the source of the introduction of wheat streak mosaic virus into the CSIRO Canberra plant laboratories; and (b) what was the outcome of those enquiries (if completed).
- (12) If AQIS has not completed its investigations, when are those investigations likely to be concluded.

1399 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the Minister's statement AFFA02/300WT of 29 October 2002 announcing that a "levy will be placed on all domestic sugar sales (for manufacturing, food service and retail uses) at 3 cents a kilogram for approximately 5 years" (sugar tax) and that exports of refined sugar will be exempt from the levy, and that a rebate will be available for sugar used in manufactured products for export (sugar tax rebate):

- (1) How many Australian companies or other enterprises are currently paying the sugar tax.
- (2) For each of the 5 years of its proposed existence, what is the total projected amount to be collected under the sugar tax.
- (3) How much has been collected under the sugar tax to date.
- (4) How many Australian companies or other enterprises have applied for a sugar tax rebate to date.
- (5) For each of the 5 years of its proposed existence, what is the total projected amount to be repaid to Australian companies or other enterprises under the sugar tax rebate.
- (6) What steps is the Commonwealth taking to monitor the effect of the sugar tax on Australian companies or other enterprises in terms of: (a) international price competitiveness of Australian manufactured products which use sugar as an input; (b) employment growth or decline within Australian manufacturing sectors which produce goods which use sugar as an input; (c) the increase or decrease in sugar imports by Australian manufacturing sectors which produce goods which use sugar as an input; (d) the increase or decrease in sugar exports by Australian manufacturing sectors which produce goods which use sugar as an input; (e) the substitution of sugar with non-sugar products by Australian manufacturing sectors which produce goods which normally use sugar as an input; and (f) the substitution within the Australian market of the consumption of manufactured sugar bearing products manufactured in Australia with imported manufactured sugar bearing products.
- (7) What is the department's current estimate of how much the sugar tax will cost to administer for: (a) the department; and (b) industry.
- (8) What is the department's current estimate of how much the sugar tax rebate will cost to administer for: (a) the department; and (b) industry.

Notice given 22 April 2003

1403 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) With reference to a claim made by the Prime Minister before the war that only the threat of force by the United States of America (US) allowed the

United Nations Monitoring Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) weapons inspectors back into Iraq, and given that it was the threat of force by Washington which pulled the weapons inspectors out of Iraq in March 2003 before they could complete their work (as in December 1998), does the Prime Minister now concede that the threat of force failed again to disarm Iraq of its weapons of mass destruction.

- (2) What is the Government's response to the claim of the Executive Chairman of UNMOVIC, Dr Blix, that the US was guilty of 'fabricating' evidence against Iraq to justify the war, and his belief that the discovery of weapons of mass destruction had been replaced by the main objective of the US of toppling Saddam Hussein (The Guardian, 12 April 2003).
- (3) With reference to claims made by the Prime Minister before the war that there was no doubt that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and that that this was the primary reason for Australia's participation in the 'coalition of the willing', what is the Prime Minister's position now that, even after the collapse of the regime in Baghdad, no weapons of mass destruction have been found despite United States Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's claim to know where they are.
- (4) Given the Prime Minister's statements that 'regime change' was only a secondary concern for Australia, does the Government agree that the primary justification for the war may prove to be a lie.
- (5) If, as the Prime Minister repeatedly claimed, Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and Saddam Hussein could not be contained or deterred, what is the Government's analysis of why they were not used in the regime's terminal hours against the invading US, United Kingdom and Australian forces.
- (6) With reference to the Prime Minister's argument that stopping the spread of weapons of mass destruction was a primary motive for Australia's participation in a war against Iraq: (a) is the Government concerned that one of the direct effects of the war may be the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to third parties, including other so called 'rogue states' and possibly terrorist groups, and (b) what analysis has the Government done of this likelihood, and (c) can details be provided.
- (7) Does the Prime Minister now regret saying just before the war (at the National Press Club and elsewhere) that Saddam Hussein could stay on in power providing he got rid of his weapons of mass destruction, thus allowing him to continue the repression of Iraqis; if so, what circumstances altered the Prime Minister's view.

Notice given 23 June 2003

Senator Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1564-1565)—

- (1) (a) Does the Minister support the integrated management of surface run-off, river water and ground water, recognising that these systems are physically interconnected; and (b) will the Minister make this a pre-requisite for water reform through the Council of Australian Governments process.
- (2) What steps are being taken to achieve integrated water management, including protection of the environment and common systems of allocating water so that switching between sources is accounted for.

1565 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Senator Webber: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1570-1575)—

- (1) How many staff at the senior executive service (SES) level are employed in the department within Western Australia.
- (2) Given Western Australia's contribution to the nation's economy, is the department adequately represented in Western Australia to ensure that development opportunities are maximised.
- (3) Does the lack of senior Commonwealth departmental representatives or SES staff have a negative impact on Commonwealth program funds in Western Australia.
- (4) Would Western Australia be advantaged by an increase in the number of SES staff located within the state.

1572 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Notice given 3 July 2003

1600 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Has the Minister authorised the aerial baiting of pests using 1080 on Commonwealth land in Western Australia in the past 12 months; if so: (a) where was the aerial baiting conducted or where will it be conducted; and (b) when was the aerial baiting conducted or when will it be conducted.
- (2) Has the aerial baiting program been referred to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

Notice given 7 July 2003

1606 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What was the quantum of funding provided to the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) by the department for each of the following financial years: (a) 1997-98; (b) 1998-99; (c) 1999-2000; (d) 2000-01; (e) 2001-02; and (f) 2002-03.
- (2) What was the quantum of funding provided by the GRDC to the Gene Technology Grains Council (GTGC) for each of the financial years mentioned in (1).
- (3) What role does the department or the GRDC play in the selection of members to the GTGC.
- (4) In what way is the GRDC accountable to the Minister for expenditure made to the GTGC.
- (5) Can a synopsis be provided for each GTGC member, including: (a) full name; (b) details of formal qualifications; (c) details of current industry experience and employment; (d) details of past industry experience and employment; (e) details of the process of selection; and (f) term of membership.
- (6) Are members of the GTGC required to disclose their financial interests to the Government as a means of preventing any perception of a conflict of interest; if so, can a copy of the current register of interests be supplied; if not, why not.

Notice given 10 July 2003

1619 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What has been the total Commonwealth funding given to Telstra since the Coalition came to government.
- (2) Given that Telstra is 49 per cent privately-owned, does the Commonwealth funding given to Telstra provide a benefit to these private shareholders; if so, what is the rationale for funding the private half of the company.

Notice given 22 July 2003

1644 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) How many personnel recently deployed to Iraq were in payment of a Department of Veterans' Affairs disability pension, under the Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986; and (b) at what level.
- (2) What physical and medical examinations were conducted prior to departure of each person deployed to Iraq.
- (3) In the event that there is conflict between the medical assessment and the compensation assessment, what action has been or will be taken.

Notice given 28 July 2003

1668 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Defence and Industry Advisory Council

- (1) When was the council established.
- (2) Who established the council.
- (3) For what purpose was the council established.
- (4) Can a copy of the council's terms of reference be provided.
- (5) What is the membership of the council.
- (6) What are the reporting arrangements for the council, for example: (a) to whom does it report; (b) how regularly are such reports made; and (c) what do the reports contain.
- (7) Can a list be provided of meeting dates for the council since its establishment.

Notice given 1 August 2003

1684 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1370 concerning the northern peninsula of Research Bay, Tasmania, in which it was stated that 'sites are currently being assessed by the Tasmanian Heritage Council':

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Tasmanian Heritage Council has resolved that 'the onus of providing information which would be considered in establishing significance was a matter for the nominator(s) and accordingly it [the Heritage Council] would not be carrying out any further research'.
- (2) Given the potential and international significance of the area, does the Minister consider it adequate for an assessment by the Tasmanian Heritage Council to rely on the efforts of volunteer members of the community.
- (3) In relation to the assessment and protection of the northern peninsula of Research Bay: (a) what communication has the Commonwealth had with the Tasmanian Government, Gunns Pty Ltd and the owners of relevant

land; and (b) can details be provided of correspondence and meetings, including the parties involved, dates and the matters discussed.

Notice given 22 August 2003

1816 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm whether the proposed fish farm development planned for Moreton Bay would need full scientific certainty pursuant to section 3A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the proposed fish farm is under Commonwealth jurisdiction until full scientific certainty is achieved.

Notice given 2 September 2003

1835 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the ex-Defence lands managed by the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust:

- (1) Were there any valuations done on any of the sites prior to the transfer from the Department of Defence to the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust.
- (2) What was the valuation for each of the sites managed by the Trust.
- (3) (a) Who undertook these valuations; and (b) when were they undertaken.
- (4) What is the estimated current valuation for each of the sites being managed by the Trust.
- (5) (a) Was there any valuation of the cost of the remediation works that were required at each of the ex-Defence sites being managed by the Trust; and (b) what was the amount of these valuations.
- (6) For each financial year to date: How much has been spent on remediation and environmental works at each of the ex-Defence sites now managed by the Trust.
- (7) When is it expected that all remediation work at the ex-Defence sites will be completed.
- (8) What is the process by which the ex-Defence sites will be transferred to the State of New South Wales following completion of remediation works at these sites.
- (9) (a) Will the sites then become part of the Sydney Harbour National Park, under the management of the New South Wales Government; and (b) when is it expected that this will occur.

1836 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) How much funding has the Sydney Harbour Federation Trust received from the Commonwealth Government in each financial year since its establishment.
- (2) Does this include the initial funding of \$96 million that the Trust received as part of the Federation Fund.
- (3) Can a breakdown be provided of how this funding has been spent for each financial year since the Trust was established.
- (4) Can a breakdown be provided of how the \$96 million allocated to the Trust as part of the Federation Fund was spent.

- (5) Can a breakdown be provided of every payment greater than \$1 million made by the Trust since its establishment.
- (6) (a) When is it expected that the work of the Trust will be completed; and (b) will the Trust be closed down once its work is completed.
- (7) What are the forecasts for Commonwealth funding to the Trust for the next 4 financial years.
- (8) Has the New South Wales Government made any financial contributions to the Trust at any time since its establishment; if so, can a list be provided of these contributions (i.e. date, amount, purpose etc.).
- (9) Is it expected that the New South Wales Government will make any financial contributions to the Trust at any time over the next 4 years.
- (10) When the remediation work being undertaken at the ex-Defence sites managed by the Trust is fully completed, and the lands are transferred to the State of New South Wales, will the New South Wales Government have to pay any money to the Commonwealth in respect of the transfer; if not, why not.

Notice given 9 September 2003

1937 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—For each of the past 10 years: (a) how much federal funding has been allocated to environment groups in Australia; and (b) how much went to each environment group which was funded, directly or indirectly.

Senator Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1944-1945)—With reference to wheat streak mosaic virus:

- (1) Has the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation or any other Australian research organisation, ever imported the virus for research or any other purpose: if so; (a) who licenced and monitored importation of the virus; (b) when was the virus imported; (c) by what means was the virus imported; (d) by what route was the virus imported and transported; (e) in which facilities is, or in which facilities was, the virus stored and used; (f) has the virus been transported to other facilities; (g) has the virus imported under OGTR/GMAC1507 been destroyed; (h) who is or was responsible for containing and managing the virus; (i) has the Office of the Gene Technology Regulation (OGTR) ever inspected, assessed or approved any facilities in which the organisms licenced under GMAC1507 are stored or used; if so, what were the results of those inspections; (j) is there any evidence that the virus may have escaped from storage or research facilities into any other environments; (k) is there any evidence that the virus, licenced by OGTR/GMAC1507 or any other research project using the virus, may be the source of infections recently identified in wheat plants in various research facilities around Australia.
- (2) If the virus was used for research or other purposes in Australia, what evidence shows that this was not the source of the current infection in wheat at various locations, which threatens the Australian wheat industry.

1944 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Notice given 10 September 2003

1974 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—With reference to the answer to paragraph (3)(a) of question on notice no. 565 (Senate *Hansard*, 11 November 2002, p. 6016):

- (1) Was the alleged broadcasting of bogus Emergency Position Indicating Rescue Beacon signals by the *Volga* to assist the illegal fishing vessel the *Lena* to evade hot pursuit by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority contracted *Southern Supporter* subject to investigation by Australian authorities; if so, what was the outcome of the investigation and do current charges against the crew of the *Volga* relate to this alleged activity; if no investigation has been undertaken, why not.
- (2) Was the alleged broadcasting of bogus Emergency Position Indicating Rescue Beacon signals by the *Florence* during the *Southern Supporter's* hot pursuit of the illegal fishing vessel the *Lena*, and the *Florence's* alleged re-fuelling of the *Lena*, subject to investigation by Australian authorities; if so, what was the outcome of this investigation and what legal action, if any, has been initiated against the crew of the *Florence*; if no investigation has been undertaken, why not.

1990 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) When were Australian authorities first made aware of alleged, actual or intended illegal fishing activity by the vessel the *Viarsa* in Australian waters near the Heard and McDonald Islands (HIMI).
- (2) What was the source of the information.
- (3) When did Australian authorities authorise the Australian Fisheries Management Authority-contracted vessel the *Southern Supporter* to intercept the *Viarsa*.
- (4) Where and when did the *Southern Supporter* first locate the *Viarsa*.
- (5) (a) What action, pursuant to what international or domestic law, did the *Southern Supporter* order the *Viarsa* to undertake; (b) when was this order made; and (c) what was the *Viarsa's* response.
- (6) (a) Were the *Viarsa's* identifiers displayed at the time it was located by the *Southern Supporter*; if so, were these identifiers later removed and when.
- (7) When and how did the *Viarsa* first identify itself to the *Southern Supporter*.
- (8) Was authorisation from a Minister or departmental officer required before the *Southern Supporter* commenced its hot pursuit of the *Viarsa*; if so: (a) when was this authorisation requested; (b) when was it provided; and (c) who provided it.
- (9) When did the 'hot pursuit' of the *Viarsa* by the *Southern Supporter* commence.
- (10) Why did the Minister not announce the commencement of the pursuit until 12 August 2003.
- (11) With reference to the Minister's statement on 13 May 2003 concerning armed enforcement in HIMI, was the *Southern Supporter* armed; if not, what capacity did the *Southern Supporter* have to apprehend the *Viarsa* without additional enforcement assistance.
- (12) Was the Department of Defence asked to provide logistical or enforcement assistance in the interception of the *Viarsa*; if so: (a) when was the request made; (b) what was the department's response; and (c) what assistance was provided.
- (13) (a) When did the Australian Government first make direct representations to the Uruguayan Government urging it to exercise its flag state responsibilities and require the *Viarsa* to accompany the *Southern Supporter* to the nearest Australian port; (b) what form did those

- representations take; (c) what was the Uruguayan Government's initial response and when was that response received; (d) did the Uruguayan Government consent to Australia's request that the *Viarsa* be ordered to accompany the *Southern Supporter*; (e) did the Uruguayan Government order the *Viarsa* to accompany the *Southern Supporter* to an Australian port; if so, when was that order made and what is the source of that information.
- (14) (a) What subsequent representations did the Government make to the Uruguayan Government prior to the vessel's apprehension; (b) what was the Uruguayan Government's response to these representations; (c) when did the Minister make direct contact with the Uruguayan Minister for Livestock, Agriculture and Fisheries; (d) what assistance did the Minister seek; (e) how did the Uruguayan Minister respond to the Minister's request for assistance; and (f) what assistance has the Uruguayan Embassy in Canberra provided in the *Viarsa* matter.
- (15) Did the Uruguayan Government order the *Viarsa* to return to Montevideo; if so, when was that order made and what is the source of the information.
- (16) (a) When was the Minister and/or his department informed that a Uruguayan Government official was aboard the *Viarsa*; (b) what was the source of this information; (c) what is the name of the Uruguayan Government official and what position does the official hold; (d) what representations has the Government made to the Uruguayan Government in this matter; (e) what was the Uruguayan Government's response; (f) when did the Uruguayan official board the *Viarsa*.
- (17) (a) What representations has the Government received from the Uruguayan Government since the vessel's apprehension; and (b) how has Australia responded to those representations.
- (18) When did the Government first alert the secretariat of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) of the alleged illegal fishing activity by the *Viarsa*.
- (19) (a) What assistance did the Government, through its secretariat, ask members of CCAMLR to provide in relation to the *Viarsa*; (b) when was that assistance sought; and (c) what assistance, by country, was provided.
- (20) (a) When did the Government first make direct representations to the South African Government seeking assistance in the apprehension of the *Viarsa*; (b) what request did the Government make; (c) what response did the South African Government provide and when was it received; (d) when was the Government informed that the *SA Agulhas* would be directed to intercept the *Viarsa*; and (e) when did the *SA Agulhas* join the "hot pursuit" of the *Viarsa*.
- (21) (a) When did the Government initiate commercial negotiations on the hire of the tug boat *John Ross* to assist in the apprehension of the *Viarsa*; (b) when did the tug commence pursuit of the *Viarsa*; (c) what was the composition of the crew aboard the tug; (d) did the tug operate under Australian command; (e) what was the total cost of the tug hire; (f) was the cost of hiring the tug reduced as a result of Australia's cooperative relationship with the South African Government on illegal fishing matters; and (g) what total cost is payable to South African interests for assistance in the *Viarsa* matter.
- (22) (a) When did the Government first make direct representations to the United Kingdom Government seeking assistance in the apprehension of the

Viarsa; (b) what request did the Government make; (b) what response did the United Kingdom Government provide and when was it received; (c) what assistance did the United Kingdom Government provide; and (d) what total cost is payable to United Kingdom interests for assistance in the *Viarsa* matter.

- (23) When and where was the apprehension of the *Viarsa* effected.
- (24) (a) What was the number and composition of the crew aboard the *Viarsa* upon its apprehension; (b) has the Government made representations to other governments on the presence of their nationals aboard the *Viarsa*; if so, what representations has the Government made and what was the response.
- (25) What fish and equipment was allegedly found aboard the vessel.
- (26) (a) What progress has been made in the investigation into the *Viarsa*'s conduct in Australian waters; and (b) where is the vessel and its crew currently located.
- (27) What arrangements has the government made for the disposal of fish allegedly found aboard the vessel.
- (28) How has the Government recognised the performance of the Australian officers involved in the pursuit and apprehension of the *Viarsa*.
- (29) What was the cost of the operation to apprehend the *Viarsa*.
- (30) What total cost has the Government incurred in the *Viarsa* matter, including the cost of pre-pursuit and post-apprehension operations.
- (31) Will the cost of the *Viarsa* operation be met from the \$12 million budget allocation for Southern Ocean fisheries enforcement in the 2003-04 financial year, announced by the Minister on 13 May 2003; if so, how will the operational plan for the 2003-04 financial year be amended to account for the *Viarsa* operation.
- (32) What provision has the Government made for Southern Ocean fisheries enforcement beyond 2003-04.

1998 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Does the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) receive advice from Livecorp on all withdrawals of accreditation and accreditation downgrades under the Live Export Accreditation Program (LEAP).
- (2) Can details of all such accreditation withdrawals be provided for each of the following financial years; 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, including for each withdrawal: (a) the name of the company; (b) reason for withdrawal; and (c) consequential action by AQIS.
- (3) Can details of all such accreditation downgrades be provided for each of the following financial years: 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, including for each downgrade: (a) the name of the company; (b) change in accreditation level; (d) reason for downgrade; and (d) consequential action by AQIS.

1999 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Which countries have banned, suspended or varied conditions of export for Australian live animals since 1996; and in each case, can details of the ban, suspension or variation, including date of action and basis of action, be provided.

2000 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What action has been taken to investigate claims of serious animal cruelty involving Australian export cattle slaughtered at the abattoir in Bassatin, Egypt.
- (2) When did the Minister, his office and his department become aware of claims of animal cruelty at the abattoir involving Australian export cattle.
- (3) (a) What action has been taken to improve animal welfare practices at the abattoir; (b) what improved animal welfare practices have resulted from this action; and (c) what is the source of information about these improved practices.

Notice given 11 September 2003

2021 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the answer to question no. 131 taken on notice by the department during the May 2003 Budget estimates hearings of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee:

- (1) Who briefed the Minister on 19 August 2002 and 26 September 2002 about Marian Wilkinson's questions.
- (2) Who initiated the briefing.
- (3) Was the briefing oral or in writing.
- (4) If it was an oral briefing: (a) who briefed the Minister; (b) who else was present; (c) were minutes and/or notes taken; if so, can a copy of minutes and/or notes be provided; and (d) what action, if any, did the Minister take after he was provided with the two briefings in August and September 2002.
- (5) If it was a written briefing: (a) who prepared the brief; (b) who cleared the brief; (c) apart from the Minister, who else saw the brief; and (d) what action, if any, did the Minister take after he was provided with the two briefings in August and September 2002.

Notice given 15 September 2003

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2034-2064)—

- (1) For each of the following financial years: (a) 1996-97; (b) 1997-98; (c) 1998-99; (d) 1999-2000; (e) 2000-01; (f) 2001-02; (g) 2002-03; and (h) 2003-04, has the department or any agency for which the Minister is responsible, including boards, councils, committees and advisory bodies, made payments to the Institute of Public Affairs (IPA) for research projects, consultancies, conferences, publications and/or other purposes; if so, (i) how much each payment, (ii) when was each payment made, and (iii) what services were provided.
- (2) In relation to each research project or consultancy: (a) when was the IPA engaged; (b) for what time period; (c) what were the terms of reference; (d) what role did the Minister and/or his office have in the engagement of the IPA; (e) was the contract subject to a tender process; if so, was it an open tender or a select tender; if not, why not.

2046 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

2050 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

2052 Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation

2054 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism

Notice given 18 September 2003

2119 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the discovery of live sea lice in a shipment of imported salmon on 3 September 2003:

- (1) What was the exporting country.
- (2) When did the shipment depart.
- (3) If not exported from the country of origin, what was the exporting country.
- (4) What was the port of departure.
- (5) When did the shipment arrive in Australia.
- (6) Was Sydney the port of arrival
- (7) What salmonid species did the shipment contain.
- (8) When did the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) issue the permit to import quarantine material.
- (9) When was the official certificate issued by an AQIS-recognised Competent Authority in the exporting country.
- (10) What was the form, presentation and weight of the salmon
- (11) What was the intended end use of the salmon, including, if applicable, commercial processing, processing for retail sale and/or direct retail sale.
- (12) When and where did AQIS first inspect the salmon.
- (13) When was the salmon seized.
- (14) Was the salmon ordered to be frozen, if so: (i) when was that order made, and (ii) on what date was the salmon frozen.
- (15) In relation to the sea lice analysis: (a) when did this commence and conclude; (b) where was this done; and (c) who conducted the analysis.
- (16) When was the Minister and/or his office and/or his department informed about the analysis findings; (a) what are the analysis findings, including: (i) details of the sea lice species, (ii) whether the species are usually found in Australian waters, and (iii) whether the sea lice present a quarantine risk.
- (17) (a) When did AQIS consult with Food Standards Australia New Zealand and state and territory food agencies about the salmon; (b) what state and territory food agencies were consulted; and (c) what was the nature of those consultations.
- (18) In relation to the outcome of the sea lice discovery and analysis: (a) If the salmon was released for sale: (i) when, (ii) what conditions, if any, were placed on its end use, and (iii) what was its end use; (b) if the salmon was ordered to be re-exported: (i) when was that order made, (ii) when was the salmon exported, (iii) how was the exported salmon labelled; and (iv) to what country was it exported; (c) if the salmon was ordered to be destroyed: (i) when was that order made, (ii) when and how was it destroyed.

2120 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Can details be provided of all breaches of import conditions applying to the commercial importation of uncanned salmonid product since new quarantine conditions came into effect on 1 June 2000, including, for each breach: (a) the date of importation; (b) the nature of the breach, including: (i) failure to provide an Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) permit, (ii) failure to provide a completed official certificate issued by an AQIS-

recognised competent authority, (iii) failure to remove the head and gills, and (iv) any other reasons; (c) the salmonid species; (d) the country of export; (e) if not exported from the country of origin, the country that exported the salmonid product; (f) the product presentation and form; and (g) action taken in response to the breach including, if applicable: (i) the suspension or revocation of the import permit, and (ii) the disposal or re-export of the salmonid product.

2123 **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. 1688 (Senate *Hansard*, 8 September 2003, p. 14043) concerning Area Consultative Committees (ACC):

- (1) Why have the ACC Handbook and the Governance Manual not been publicly released.
- (2) Can copies of the ACC Handbook and the Governance Manual be provided; if not, why not.

2138 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—With reference to the hiring by the department of public relations consultants to work on the proposed nuclear waste dump in South Australia in late 2002:

- (1) How many companies were: (a) sent a copy of the public relations brief; and (b) requested to submit a proposal.
- (2) How many attended a question and answer session after receiving the brief.
- (3) How many developed a written proposal.
- (4) How many presented a proposed strategy to the evaluation panel.
- (5) How many consultants were shortlisted to give a presentation before the Ministerial Committee on Government Communications.
- (6) Who are the members of this ministerial committee.

Notice given 22 September 2003

2167 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to the supplementary estimates question no. RDG04, provided to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on 11 February 2003, containing a table of Sustainable Regions Program direct funding and other contributions:

- (1) Can an updated table be provided which includes: (a) all projects approved for funding and the approved level of funding; (b) funding already provided and the amount outstanding; and (c) the financial years in which expenditure of outstanding funds is likely to occur.
- (2) In relation to the Regional Partnerships Program: (a) how many projects have been approved for funding in the 2003-04 financial year; (b) what is the total level of funding for these projects; and (c) how much has been committed for expenditure in the following financial years: (i) 2003-04, (ii) 2004-05, (iii) 2005-06, and (iv) 2006-07.
- (3) In relation to projects approved prior to 1 July 2003 under the Regional Solutions Program, the Rural Transaction Centres, the Regional Assistance Program, the Dairy Regional Assistance Program, the Wide Bay Burnett Structural Adjustment Package, the Namoi Valley Package, the Weipa Electricity Generation Compensation Package and the South West Forests of Western Australia Structural Adjustment Package: (a) how much has been committed for expenditure in the 2003-04 financial year; (b) how much of the funds committed for expenditure in the 2003-04 financial year

has been expended to date; and (c) how much has been committed for expenditure in the following financial years: (i) 2004-05, (ii) 2005-06, and (iii) 2006-07.

Notice given 23 September 2003

2168 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Can a schedule be provided of all partnerships or programs commenced within the past 3 financial years, between the department and biotechnology companies or their agents, including but not limited to AVCARE, Agrifood Awareness Australia Limited, Monsanto Australia Ltd (Monsanto) and Bayer Crop Science Australia (Bayer) or its predecessor, Aventis, including the following details for each:
 - (a) the stated aim;
 - (b) the proposed duration;
 - (c) the forecast financial or in-kind contribution to be provided by the department;
 - (d) the forecast financial or in-kind contribution to be provided by the department's partners;
 - (e) the actual financial or in-kind contribution made to date by the department;
 - (f) the actual financial or in-kind contribution made to date by the department's partners; and
 - (g) for those programs that have been completed, a summary of actual outcomes as compared with the stated aim.
- (2) Can a copy of the commercial agreements entered into between the department and its partners in relation to these programs be provided; if not, why not.

2169 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Can a schedule be provided of all partnerships, programs or funding arrangements entered into each of the past 3 financial years between the department and the Australia Oilseeds Federation (AOF), including the following details for each:
 - (a) the stated aim of each partnership or program or for the funding provided by the department;
 - (b) the proposed duration of each partnership or program or for the funding provided by the department;
 - (c) the forecast financial or in-kind contribution to be provided by the department;
 - (d) the forecast financial or in-kind contribution to be provided by AOF;
 - (e) the actual financial or in-kind contribution made to date by the department;
 - (f) the actual financial or in-kind contribution made to date by AOF; and
 - (g) for those programs or funding arrangements that have been completed, a summary of actual outcomes as compared with the stated aim of each program, partnership or funding arrangement.

- (2) Can a copy of the commercial agreements entered into between the department and AOF in relation to these programs or funding arrangements be provided; if not, why not.

Notice given 25 September 2003

2172 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Has Basslink Pty Ltd prepared a code of conduct for commercial and recreational fishing activities, as is required for approval of the Basslink project; if so; (a) has the code been approved; and (b) can a copy of the code be provided.
- (2) With which fishing groups and individuals did the proponents consult when developing the code.
- (3) If consultations did not include Gippsland fisher's such as those from Yarram, McLaughlin's Beach and Lakes Entrance, why were these groups not consulted.

Notice given 29 September 2003

2173 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the changes in seed cleaning arrangements detailed in Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) Public Quarantine Alert PQA0266, Cleaning of contaminated seed consignments in rural areas:

- (1) What steps have been taken to consult with representations of the seed industry, including, but not limited to, importers, growers and peak bodies, in developing these changes.
- (2) What steps have been taken to communicate with representatives of the seed industry, including, but not limited to, importers, growers and peak bodies, to ensure they were aware of these changes.
- (3) What work has been conducted or commissioned by the department or other Commonwealth agencies to determine: (a) potential and actual changes in costs experienced by seed importers, breeders and end users as a result of these changes, and what are the results of this work; (b) potential and actual time delays experienced by seed importers, breeders and end users as a result of these changes, and what are the results of this work; (c) potential and actual extra costs borne by the Commonwealth as a result of these changes, and what are the results of this work; and (d) potential and actual closure of or job losses at AQIS-approved seed cleaning facilities in rural areas as a result of these changes, and what are the results of this work.

2175 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) When was the Plant Breeders' Rights (PBR) Office established.
- (2) For each year since its establishment, or for each of the past 5 financial years, whichever is the lesser period, what has been: (a) the posted staffing contingent in full-time equivalents; (b) the actual staffing contingent in full-time equivalents; (c) the projected Commonwealth expenditure for operating the office; (d) the actual Commonwealth expenditure for operating the office; (e) the projected number of customer transactions to be undertaken; and (f) the actual number of customer transactions undertaken.

Notice given 1 October 2003

1883 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) When did the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) or its predecessor, the National Registration Authority, receive an application for the use of glufosinate ammonium as a broad acre herbicide in Australia.
- (2) Who was the applicant.
- (3) When was the final decision made by APVMA regarding the use of glufosinate ammonium as a broad acre herbicide in Australia and can a copy of the approval notice or permit be provided, including all details of conditions of use; if not, why not.
- (4) To date, how much has the current application for the use of glufosinate ammonium as a broad acre herbicide in Australia cost the APVMA to process.
- (5) What is the expected total cost to the APVMA of processing the application.
- (6) To date, what is the quantum of fees and charges which have been levied upon the applicant in relation to the application.
- (7) What is the expected total of fees and charges that will be levied upon the applicant in relation to the application.

1884 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) When did the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) or its predecessor, the National Registration Authority, receive an application for the use of the herbicide known as Roundup as a broad acre herbicide in Australia.
- (2) Who was the applicant.
- (3) When is a final decision expected from the APVMA for the use of Roundup as a broad acre herbicide in Australia.
- (4) To date, how much has the current application for the use of Roundup as a broad acre herbicide in Australia cost the APVMA to process.
- (5) What is the expected total cost to the APVMA of processing the application.
- (6) To date, what is the quantum of fees and charges which have been levied upon the applicant in relation to the application.
- (7) What is the expected total of fees and charges that will be levied upon the applicant in relation to the application.

Notice given 8 October 2003

2191 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads—

- (1) Is the Minister, in his capacity as Manager of Government Business in the Senate, aware of the following statement made by the Minister for Small Business and Tourism (Mr Hockey) in a *Meet the Press* interview aired on 14 September 2003: 'What I do know is the Labor Party and the Democrats are holding up a vast amount of legislation that the Government has put in place in the Senate'.

- (2) Does the Minister accept the *Australian Concise Oxford Dictionary's* definition of 'vast' as 'immense, huge, very great'.
- (3) Can the Minister: (a) provide a list for the Senate of any bill that could conceivably be regarded as being held up, as described by Mr Hockey; and (b) give his reasons for making that judgment.

Notice given 14 October 2003

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2243-2273)—For each of the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03 can the following details be provided in relation to paper and paper products:

- (1) How much has been spent by the department on these products.
- (2) From which countries of origin has the department sourced these products.
- (3) From which companies has the department sourced these products.
- (4) What was the percentage of the total of paper and paper products in value (in AUD) sourced by the department by country.
- (5) What was the percentage of the total of paper and paper products in value (in AUD) sourced by the department by company.
- (6) What steps has the department taken to ensure that paper and paper products sourced by the department from other countries comply with the ISO 14001 environmental management system standard.

2269 Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer

Notice given 3 November 2003

Senator Ludwig: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2337-2338)—With reference to the implementation of recommendations contained in the report 'The Use of Bankruptcy and Family Law Schemes to Avoid Payment of Tax':

- (1) Given that Recommendation 1 states that 'The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) is currently developing these guidelines together with the Attorney-General's (A-G's) department and expects to have new guidelines in place by 30 June 2003':
 - (a) were these guidelines put in place on 30 June 2003; if not, what was the cause of the delay and when will this happen; if so, can a copy be provided;
 - (b) what training was provided to ATO 'decision makers' in relation to the implementation of these guidelines; and
 - (c) what consultations were held with the Privacy Commissioner to ensure that there were no breaches of the *Privacy Act 1988*.
- (2) Given that Recommendation 2 states that 'The Treasury, in consultation with the A-G's department are currently weighing up the various considerations involved in providing publicly available information to prescribed industry and professional associations, including the rights of individuals concerning access to their taxation information as recommended in the Taskforce Report. While legislative change may provide another avenue for such information to be provided, industry and professional associations can also consider the extent to which they may require the provision of such information directly from their members as a condition of membership':
 - (a) what progress has been made to amend subsection 16(4) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* and section 3(c) of the *Taxation Administration Act 1953*, as recommended by the Taskforce;

- (b) is legislation still being considered; if so, when can a draft be made available;
 - (c) has the Office of the Privacy Commissioner or any other agency been consulted in relation to any proposed legislative changes; if so, can the following details be provided: (i) who was consulted, (ii) what was the cost, and (iii) who participated in the consultation process; if not, does the Privacy Commissioner expect consultations to occur;
 - (d) have discussions or consultations commenced or been conducted with 'industry and professional associations'; if so, can details be provided of: (i) which 'industry and professional associations' attended discussions, and (ii) what to date has been the result of these discussions; and
 - (e) Has any agency been designated as the lead agency for these discussions; if so: (i) which agency, (ii) has this agency initiated discussions or consultations, (iii) is it required to report on progress made; if so, when can an update of the progress made be provided; if not, why not.
- (3) Given that Recommendation 7 states that: 'It is recommended that section 106B of the *Family Law Act 1975* be widened to allow third parties to apply to the court for an order or injunction preventing the disposition of property pending an application to set aside or overturn a section 79 order':
- (a) in respect of the decision in *Deputy Commissioner of Taxation and Kliman (2002)*: has the A-G's department reached a decision on the need for the above mentioned amendment; if not, when does the A-G's department expect this; and
 - (b) can the legal advice concerning this decision be made available.
- (4) Given that Recommendation 10 states that: 'It is recommended that there be a separation declaration for financial agreements generally not only for superannuation agreements, to ensure that financial agreements are not entered into by couples for the purpose of avoiding creditors. An additional requirement might be included in section 90G of the *Family Law Act 1975*, to ensure that legal advice received in relation to an agreement includes notice that a declaration of separation is required':
- (a) has the A-G's department finalised advice it intends to forward to the Attorney-General in relation to implementing this recommendation; if not, why not, and (i) when will this advice been finalised, and (ii) who within the department has responsibility for the advice.
- (5) Given that Recommendation 12 states that: 'It is recommended that penalties for key offences in the *Taxation Administration Act 1953* be reviewed in accordance with advice to be provided by the Criminal Justice Division of the A-G's department with a view to enhancing their deterrent effect upon high income professionals avoiding payment of their income liabilities':
- (a) what progress has been made in examining the efficacy of the existing penalties in deterring high income professionals, from avoiding payment of their income tax liabilities;
 - (b) what enhanced penalties are being considered;
 - (c) what advice has the Criminal Justice Division of the A-G's department given in relation to increased penalties; and

- (d) what 'other alternative approaches' are being considered to deter high income professionals from avoiding payment of their income tax liabilities.

2337 Minister representing the Treasurer

Senator Ludwig: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2340-2357)—

- (1) Does the department use Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in an effort to avoid litigation; if not, why not; if so, are there specific guidelines for the Department to follow when using ADR.
- (2) If the department is not using ADR provisions, what process is used in cases that require resolution.
- (3) Has the department been advised of any development of guidelines for the use of ADR.
- (4) Does any of the legislation for which the department has responsibility contain ADR procedures; if so, (a) can each relevant provision be identified (eg. by statute name and section number); and (b) are guidelines provided for the use of ADR provisions in these instances; if so, can a copy of the guidelines be provided.

2349 Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Notice given 17 November 2003

2380 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Trade—

- (1) For each year since 1998-99, what was the volume and value of Australia's flour exports to Indonesia.
- (2) What Australian companies have been granted accreditation by the Indonesian Government to export flour to Indonesia.
- (3) Were Australian flour imports into Indonesia restricted during 2003 by the Indonesian Government; if so:
 - (a) what restrictions were applied;
 - (b) when were the restrictions applied;
 - (c) what was the impact on Australia's flour exports;
 - (d) when was the department made aware of the restrictions and what was the source of this information;
 - (e) was the department asked to make representations on behalf of Australian flour exporters to overturn the restrictions; if so, who made this request and when was it made;
 - (f) what representations did the department make to the Indonesian Government in relation to these restrictions;
 - (g) did the department, including embassy staff in Jakarta, make direct representations to the Indonesian Trade Minister on behalf of Manildra Flour Mills; and
 - (h) have restrictions been lifted in response to the department's representations; if so, when were restrictions lifted and when was the department informed.

Notice given 25 November 2003

2393 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to an article in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 24 November 2003, entitled 'Company accused over nuts scandal':

- (1) When did the Minister first become aware that macadamia nuts imported from Kenya were repackaged in boxes, relabelled 'product of Australia' and then sold to food wholesalers and retailers in Australia.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that only Coles and Bi-Lo stores have received these repackaged and relabelled nuts; if not, can the name and location of all food wholesalers and retailers in Australia which have received the nuts be provided.
- (3) How and when did the department notify food retailers and wholesalers, consumer groups and the Australian Macadamia Society about the discovery of the repackaged and relabelled nuts.
- (4) What steps is the department taking to: (a) investigate how the repackaged and relabelled nuts entered the Australian food distribution chain under false labelling; and (b) prevent the similar repackaging and relabelling of imported macadamia nuts in the future.
- (5) What steps have been taken to test the nuts to ensure they comply with quarantine standards as set out by the Australian Quarantine Inspection Service.

Notice given 27 November 2003

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2400-2401)—

- (1) For each of the past 5 financial years, from which countries has Australia imported macadamia nuts and in what quantity.
- (2) In relation to each country from which Australia currently imports macadamia nuts: (a) what chemicals are used in the production process; (b) what testing regimes are in place in that country for chemical residues; and (c) which agencies undertake these tests before the nuts are exported.
- (3) (a) What chemical residue testing regimes are in place in Australia for macadamia nut imports; (b) for what chemicals used in the production process is testing conducted; (c) which agency undertakes these tests; and (d) in relation to each chemical, what sampling rates apply.
- (4) Where chemical residue testing on macadamia nuts bound for Australia is conducted by the exporting countries, what action is taken by the Commonwealth to ensure the veracity of the testing.
- (5) Can details be provided of any instances in the past 5 financial years where chemical residue testing of macadamia nuts bound for Australia has been found by the Commonwealth to be inadequate.
- (6) What penalties or sanctions have been applied to the supplying nation, shipping operator, trader or agency in cases where chemical residue testing of macadamia nuts bound for Australia has been found by the Commonwealth to be inadequate.
- (7) In relation to each country from which Australia has imported macadamia nuts, for each of the past 5 financial years: (a) on how many occasions have macadamia nuts bound for Australia been rejected on the basis that chemical residue testing has detected unacceptable levels of chemical residues; and (b) in each case: (i) which chemical was involved, (ii) what was the concentration of the chemical, and (iii) what was Food Standards Australia and New Zealand's approved level for each chemical at the time.

2400 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

2401 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Notice given 28 November 2003

- 2415 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that Telstra's basic access revenue increased by \$211 million to \$3.091 billion during the 2002-03 financial year following large line rental increases, despite the number of Telstra basic access lines decreasing from 10.4 million to 10.1 million; and (b) given that call costs do not appear to have decreased, does this represent a \$200 million increase in Telstra's profits.
 - (2) Can the Minister confirm that local call revenue decreased by \$76 million to \$1.567 billion, or approximately 5 per cent, in the 2002-03 financial year and the number of billable local calls also decreased by around 5 per cent from 10.269 billion to 9.794 billion; and (b) does the similar revenue and volume decrease in local calls indicate that Telstra is not passing on reduced local call costs in 2002-03, as required by the price controls which require local call prices to decrease together with other call costs.
 - (3) Given that Telstra's annual report apparently indicates that Telstra is making a windfall out of line rental increases, and that the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has already raised doubts about whether Telstra is complying with price controls, will the Minister investigate whether Telstra is complying with their already generous price control arrangements.
- 2419 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm newspaper reports of July 2003 that Telstra staff had their individual call centre performance records displayed on white boards for all staff to see.
 - (2) Are Telstra call centre staff electronically monitored for toilet breaks and personal calls, as suggested in these newspaper reports.
 - (3) Are Telstra call centre staff working to targets that require them to end customer calls as quickly as possible; if so, what are those targets; if not, can an explanation be provided of why Telstra employees often disconnect calls without giving customers the opportunity to thank them for providing a number or change a direction when a customer uses the premium 12456 call connect service.
 - (4) (a) What proportion of Telstra customer service call centre staff are in-house Telstra employees; and (b) what proportion of this work is outsourced to private companies.
 - (5) Is any Telstra telephone customer service work outsourced overseas; if so, can details be provided.
- 2421 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) When does the Government plan to reintroduce the Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) into the Senate.
 - (2) Given that Ms Catherine Smith of the Attorney-General's Department stated during the inquiry by the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee into the Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003, that the intention of the bill was not to disconnect individuals' phone services: will

the Government consider the recommendation in the committee's minority report that the provisions of the bill that potentially enable the Government to disconnect individuals' telephone services be redrafted.

Notice given 1 December 2003

2431 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Since March 1996, on how many occasions has the Prime Minister stayed at Claridges Hotel in Mayfair, London.
- (2) On what dates did the Prime Minister stay at this self-described “five star, de luxe, luxury” hotel.
- (3) On his most recent trip to London, did the Prime Minister stay in the Brook Apartment penthouse suite, described by the hotel as ‘220 square metres/2,368 square feet (approximately), 2 King Beds. This stunning apartment has been restored in the Art Deco style with an elegant, gentle mauve décor, light oak floors and original fittings from the 1930s. The bedrooms are large and luxurious, each with their own dressing-rooms. The marble bathrooms are equally splendid with extra deep baths and separate showers. A beautiful sitting-room with full height windows looks out onto a stunning private roof terrace. In addition, there is an elegant dining-room with a cocktail bar and cloakroom. A personal butler service is provided with the penthouse’.
- (4) What was the cost of the Prime Minister's: (a) accommodation; (b) food; (c) beverages; and (c) other items (please specify) at Claridges for this recent trip.
- (5) How many other rooms and suites were used by the Prime Minister's party for this trip, and for what purposes.
- (6) For the Prime Minister's most recent trip, what were the costs for the Prime Minister's party, excluding the Prime Minister, of: (a) accommodation; (b) food; (c) beverages; and (d) other items (please specify).
- (7) Apart from the services provided and paid for outlined under (3) and (4) above, did the hotel provide any other services to the Prime Minister and his party.
- (8) Has the bill for the hotel been presented and paid; if not, why not; if so, who paid the bill.
- (9) On each of the occasions the Prime Minister has used this hotel since 1996, has he always stayed at the Brook Apartment penthouse suite; if not, on which occasion has he used other suites in the hotel, and which suites were used.
- (10) On each occasion that the Prime Minister stayed at the hotel, what was the cost of the Prime Minister's: (a) accommodation; (b) food; (c) beverages; and (c) other items (please specify).
- (11) On each occasion that the Prime Minister stayed at the hotel since March 1996, how much was paid by the department to the hotel for associated costs excluding the amounts at (7) above.

Notice given 3 December 2003

2442 **Senator Santoro:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—(a) During 2003, what documentaries has the Australian Broadcasting Corporation examined with a view

to buying, but not bought; and (b) what were the reasons for not purchasing these documentaries.

Notice given 8 December 2003

- 2448 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—(a) On what grounds, or against which criteria, was the Tasmanian Environment Centre's (TEC) funding cut by 71 per cent in 2003; (b) in what way is the centre failing compared to previous years; and (c) was funding cut because the TEC promotes public education on the environment and so threatens government security.
- 2450 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—(a) What is the Halliburton stake in the consortium which built and operates the Alice Springs to Darwin railway line; (b) was Halliburton the project leader; and (c) what discussions has the Prime Minister or the department had with Halliburton about the projects, including where and when these were held.
- 2453 **Senator Forshaw:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—
- (1) Was a meeting of the board of the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) held at Parliament House in October or November 2002; if so: (a) when was it held; and (b) can a list be provide of all those who attended and the capacity in which they attended, including ANSTO Board members, ANSTO staff, ministers and their staff and other government representatives.
 - (2) Was the issue of geological faulting, which has been discovered at the new reactor construction site, discussed at any time during the meeting.
 - (3) Was the impact of the faulting on the construction schedule for the reactor discussed; if so, what are the possible effects, remedies and potential cost of remediation.
 - (4) (a) How was substantive rather than ancillary construction work affected during the months in which expert geological surveys and reports were prepared and considered; and (b) was work on the reactor construction site effectively shut down; if so, for how long.
 - (5) (a) Is ANSTO required to continue to make progress payments to INVAP during any construction hiatus; (b) are similar payments required to be made to any other organisations involved in reactor construction; and (c) was any contingency funding included in the project's budget for unseen delays.
 - (6) How much were the scheduled payments made monthly by ANSTO to INVAP SE during the 2002 calendar year.
 - (7) Has ANSTO requested any additional funding for the reactor project; if so: (a) when was it requested and by whom; (b) how much was requested; (c) over what period and for what purpose; and (d) what was the government's response.
 - (8) Has additional funding been provided or promised to ANSTO to complete the reactor; if so, by what mechanism and in what timeframe will such funds be provided.
 - (9) Was any discussion of the foregoing matters at the board meeting referred to in (1) minuted; if so, can a copy of the minutes be provided.
 - (10) How are contributions made to discussions by invitees and/or observers at ANSTO meetings minuted.

- (11) (a) Who were the invitees and/or observers that attended the ANSTO board meeting referred to in (1); and (b) were their contributions minuted; if not why not.
- (12) (a) What is the expected total cost of the new reactor; and (b) what would the expected cost of the reactor have been if the delay caused by the geological faulting had not occurred.
- (13) Has ANSTO reduced operational funding of its other areas (non new reactor project) during the current and previous financial years; if the Government has not reduced ANSTO's budget for its usual activities: (a) is the Government satisfied no recurring funding provided by the taxpayer is being diverted to subsidise new reactor construction costs; and (b) what mechanisms are in place to ensure that this does not occur.

Notice given 9 December 2003

2463 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Defence—When will answers to questions on notice 1644, 1697 and 1935 be provided.

Notice given 10 December 2003

2465 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Can the following information about each committee within Defence chaired by a one star rank equivalent or higher be provided: (a) name of the committee; (b) its function and role; and (c) when it met during 2002 and 2003.
- (2) (a) For the years 2001, 2002 and 2003, when did the Defence Industry Advisory Council meet; (b) what is its function and role; and (c) what is its current membership.

Notice given 18 December 2003

2474 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to the AGM-142 weapon:

- (1) What is the latest estimate on the total cost of modifying the F-111 fleet to enable these aircraft to deploy the AGM-142.
- (2) To date, how much has been spent on the project to equip the F-111 fleet with AGM-142s.
- (3) What is the latest estimate of when those modifications will be completed.
- (4) When is it expected that the AGM-142 will enter service.
- (5) What is the latest estimate of the total cost of the project to equip the F-111 fleet with AGM-142.
- (6) (a) Have any AGM-142s been delivered to Australia; if so, how many; and (b) do any AGM-142s remain overseas; if so, how many.

Notice given 22 December 2003

2483 **Senator Cherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—What is the cost of the one day trip by the Prime Minister to the Solomon Islands on 22 December 2003, including any related security costs.

Notice given 13 January 2004

2499 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) (a) What programs have been offered in the past 2 years and are currently on offer by the Vietnam Veterans' Counselling Service (VVCS) in each state; (b) what is or was the budget for each program; and (c) how many registrations were received for each program.
- (2) How many registrations failed to show or were withdrawn from each program for which a registration was received.
- (3) For veterans in both Western Australia and Queensland: (a) what rehabilitative programs, by type and number, have been offered by Hollywood and Greenslopes hospitals respectively in the past 2 years; (b) how many registrations were received for each; (c) how many sessions or courses were cancelled; and (d) what was the total value in each year of the courses conducted.
- (4) What are the terms in the agreement with Ramsay Health Care Limited for the provision of rehabilitation courses to veterans.
- (5) (a) How many rehabilitation and/or counselling programs have been offered by the Heidelberg Centre for veterans in each of the past 2 years; (b) how many veterans participated in each program; and (c) what was the turnover rate in each program.
- (6) What was the value of the Heidelberg Centre courses run in each of the past 2 years.
- (7) (a) How many rehabilitation and/or counselling courses were provided to the department and/or VVCS by other private providers in each of the past 2 years; (b) what was the cost of each course; and (c) what was the number of participants.
- (8) What evaluation is conducted of all courses referred to above.

Notice given 3 February 2004

2525 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the deportation of asylum seekers:

- (1) What, if any, methods and resources are used to assess whether it is safe for asylum seekers to be returned to their country of origin or a third country.
- (2) What, if any, methods and resources are used to monitor the safety and welfare of asylum seekers who have been returned to their country of origin or a third country.
- (3) Will the Minister guarantee that the department will not return any asylum seekers into situations where they face danger of persecution, torture, unjust incarceration or death.
- (4) Will the Minister guarantee that all travel and identification documents issued or arranged by the department will be recognised internationally as genuine and valid.
- (5) Will the Minister suspend and review deportation to countries about which evidence emerges that asylum seekers have been returned to dangerous situations.

Notice given 5 February 2004

Senator Harris: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2532-2533)—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1392 (Senate *Hansard*, 16 June 2003, p. 11578):

- (1) Given that the answer to part 1 of the question states that: ‘This legislation states that the Secretary of the Department of Family and Community Services has general administration of the Registration and Collection Act and the Assessment Act’, and that part 7 of the answer provides that, ‘The Australian Taxation Office has provided the Attorney-General with the following information’:
 - (a) is the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) a legal entity;
 - (b) is the ATO a valid Commonwealth entity or authority;
 - (c) who is the individual responsible for the actions of the ATO;
 - (d) what statute gives effect to the ATO exercising powers or authority of its own accord; and
 - (e) is the ATO an entity that can sue or be sued or be prosecuted.
- (2) If the answers to paragraphs (1)(a) or (b) are no:
 - (a) why was information in part 7 of the answer concerning the powers exercised by the Commissioner of Taxation provided by the ATO and not the Commissioner of Taxation;
 - (b) is the Commissioner of Taxation responsible for the information given by the ATO;
 - (c) who has portfolio responsibility for the Commissioner of Taxation;
 - (d) who had portfolio responsibility for the Commissioner of Taxation on 8 May 2002; and
 - (e) will the responsible minister now instruct the Commissioner of Taxation to take responsibility for any questions answered or information provided in relation to answers given by the ATO.
- (3) Given that prior to the amendments removing the Commissioner of Taxation from section 10(2), section 11 of the *Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act 1988* stated, that ‘The Registrar has general administration’:
 - (a) does the statement to ‘the Commissioner of Taxation delegated powers referred to him’, in part 7 of the answer to the question refer to the Office of Commissioner of Taxation delegating powers or the person who also held the position of Commissioner of Taxation delegating powers;
 - (b) did section 11 have any effect other than nomination and in particular, did it provide that the powers of Commissioner of Taxation were conferred on the Registrar;
 - (c) did the Office of Commissioner of Taxation have general administration powers (please answer yes or no);
 - (d) were the powers of the Commissioner of Taxation available to the Child Support Registrar whilst the Registrar exercised general administration of the Child Support Acts prior to the amendment Act;
 - (e) did any person, other than a person engaged as the Registrar or a Deputy Registrar, act under an Instrument of Authorisation before 24 December 1998; if so, who was the person (or persons) and can evidence of the Instruments of Authorisation be provided; and
 - (f) given that Catherine Argall signed documents in authorising the exercise of powers under the Child Support Acts prior to

24 December 1998, did she have an Instrument of Authorisation before that date.

- (4) Given that the answer to part 6 of the question was yes:
- (a) has the Attorney-General advised or instructed the Federal Privacy Commissioner in accordance with the undertaking given; if so, what action has the Federal Privacy Commissioner taken in relation to the guidelines; and
 - (b) if the Federal Privacy Commissioner has taken no action, what action has the Attorney-General taken in relation to the Federal Privacy Commissioner's refusal or failure to amend the guidelines.

2532 Minister representing the Treasurer

2533 Minister representing the Treasurer

Notice given 12 February 2004

2543 **Senator Cherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Given that the opening paragraph of the Australian Customs Service Anti-dumping Booklet defines dumping as 'when an exporter sells a product to Australia at a lower price than the price charged in its home market', does the department regard the purchase of Japanese used imported vehicles at public auction and/or from legitimate car dealers in competition with the Japanese public as falling within the definition of dumping.
- (2) Does the department have any evidence that vehicles purchased by these means are sold to Australian importers at prices below those in the Japanese market.
- (3) With reference to a speech by Senator Boswell in the Senate on 20 August 2002 in which he stated that used imported vehicles from Japan are dumped on the Australian market: does the department have any evidence to support the dumping allegation.
- (4) Is there any evidence of successful complaints against and/or prosecutions of Australian importers or their Japanese suppliers in relation to dumping of used imported vehicles.
- (5) With reference to Senator Boswell's speech in which he also said that a motor vehicle in Japan is at the end of its life after 4 years: does the department have any evidence to support this claim.
- (6) How many vehicles older than 4 years are registered for road use in Japan.
- (7) What, if any, are the incentives for Japanese motorists to upgrade or update their cars after 3 years.
- (8) Are there any substantial differences in safety standards between Australia and Japan; if so, what are they.
- (9) Is it correct that the numbers of low volume used imported vehicles have plateaued and that the trend is for only a gradual increase at the market rate over time; if not, what evidence is there for an alternative view.
- (10) With reference to the projections of the Federated Chamber of Automotive Industries, from as early as 1996, indicating that 52 000 or more used imported vehicles would enter the country in 2001, which have never eventuated: did the department rely on this data to justify recent changes to the Low Volume Scheme; if not, what data supported the view that imports

would significantly increase and threaten local original equipment manufacturers.

- (11) What is the average age of used imported vehicles and what evidence is used to obtain this age.
- (12) How does this average age affect or threaten sales of new vehicles.
- (13) For each of the years 1999 to 2003, broken down as original manufactured, assembled or fully imported, how many new cars were sold in Australia.
- (14) How many jobs have been lost in the Australian automotive manufacturing industry since 1994 as a direct result of the importation and sale of used imported vehicles.
- (15) With reference to Senator Boswell's speech, in which he further stated that small franchisees had been affected or would be affected by the importation of used motor vehicles: have any franchises closed down as a direct result of the sale of used imported motor vehicles.
- (16) How many automotive franchises had compliance for low volume vehicles and were selling low volume imported Japanese or American vehicles.
- (17) For each of the years: 1999 to 2003, what proportion of sales of used vehicles are made up by low volume imports.
- (18) How does the Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicle Scheme (SEVS) regime operate in relation to the national competition policy.
- (19) (a) What hardships do these new regulations cause for legitimate small businesses which have large mortgages and cannot continue under the new regime; and (b) is there any assistance for those affected; if so, what; if not, why not.
- (20) (a) How many small businesses are affected; and (b) how many business closures: (i) are expected, or (ii) have already occurred.
- (21) How many vehicles are manufactured in Australia annually.
- (22) Is there any information concerning the number of jobs that will be affected by the changes to the used low volume vehicle import regulations; if so, can this information be provided for each state.
- (23) Was it intended that the Registered Automotive Workshop Scheme (RAWS) would apply only to used Japanese vehicles and that American and European vehicles would not be affected.
- (24) Has the department conducted any research on the impact of changes relating to the importation of second-hand motor vehicles into New Zealand; if so, what were the findings and are these findings relevant to Australia.
- (25) (a) What is the current average age of the New Zealand vehicle fleet; and (b) what is the current average age of the Australian fleet.
- (26) With reference to Senator Boswell's speech, in which he stated that there was a choice in legislation between the franchisee and the used car importer, and between 48 000 jobs and 6 000: what evidence does the department have in relation to this claim that there were or would be job losses; if so, what is this evidence; if not, where did these figures come from.
- (27) What effect did the introduction of the goods and services tax have on the sale of new cars.

- (28) Under the present Low Volume Scheme (post 8 May 2002), can mainstream car importers now participate, increasing the range of vehicles available to the new vehicle buyer.
- (29) What are the projections for the next 5 years, in percentage terms and raw numbers, for the importation of new vehicles under the Low Volume Scheme.
- (30) (a) Is it correct that under the former scheme there were fewer than 200 3-year old, or younger, vehicles per year imported under the Low Volume Scheme; (b) how many vehicles under the new SEVS: (i) are expected to be imported that are 3 years old, or younger, per year, and (ii) have been imported since 8 May 2002; and (c) what are the projections for the next 5 years.
- (31) What evidence is there to support the government's position that the importation of low volume used vehicles would significantly affect original vehicle manufacturers.
- (32) (a) What percentages of original manufactured vehicles in Australia were exported in 2002; and (b) what are the projections for the next 5 years, in percentage terms and raw numbers.
- (33) With reference to Senator Boswell's speech, in which he stated that 'Then they registered mum and the kids and had multiple companies, and the cars just flooded in. They went around the system': does the department have any evidence to support the statement that business owners are using their families to get around the system, or that cars are just 'flooding in'.
- (34) How many low volume import businesses are family owned and run.
- (35) Has the department conducted any research on how many vehicles need to be sold to make the importation of these vehicles viable and for legitimate businesses to operate; if so, what were the conclusions of this research.
- (36) Why has the quota of 25 vehicles per category been raised to 100 vehicles per category, allowing 4 times as many vehicles to be imported under the new regulations.
- (37) Why was family association a criteria in RAWS approval when it is discriminatory and when it is clear the criteria should be based on ability, skill and or qualifications.
- (38) What actions were taken by the Federal Office of Road Safety/Vehicle Safety Standards (VSS) to tighten the system in order to prevent or curtail some companies circumventing the rules.
- (39) (a) What representations were made to the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Transport and Regional Services or the department by the used import industry prior to the new regulation regarding practices within the industry that needed attention; (b) were any suggested methods of addressing these actions brought to the Parliamentary Secretary's or the department's attention during any of these representations; and (c) what actions, if any, were taken in regard to any representations or suggestions made.
- (40) (a) Have there been any complaints concerning the handling of import approvals; and (b) have there been any instances where there were discrepancies between the requested import approval and the issued approval; if so, how many and for what reason.
- (41) Are importers required to pay a further \$50 for an Import Approval which is incorrect.

- (42) (a) What quality assurance mechanisms are in place to ensure that import applications are dealt with in a timely and accurate manner; (b) is there an expected time frame for approvals of such applications; and (c) is there a complaints mechanism in place if approvals are not provided in a timely or accurate manner.
- (43) What recourse does a participant have in RAWs when VSS fails to meet its service standards, particularly in relation to time requirements.
- (44) Does the Department have any advice on the impact of sections 46 to 48 of the Trade Practices Act on SEVS and RAWs.

Notice given 18 February 2004

2546 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Leader of the Government in the Senate—When will the Minister respond to Senator Allison’s letter of 7 April 2003 concerning orders for the production of documents.

Notice given 20 February 2004

2551 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Does the Australian Broadcasting Authority (ABA) check whether commercial television stations comply with regulated advertising limits; if so, how does it do this.
- (2) Are all broadcasters checked for compliance 24 hours a day.
- (3) When an advertising pop-up box appears during a program, advertising a forthcoming television series, for example, does the ABA include this as advertising for the purposes of advertising time restrictions; if not, why not.
- (4) Does the ABA include commercial promotions which appear within programs as advertising for the purpose of advertising time limit regulations; if not, why not.

2552 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Can the Australian Broadcasting Authority (ABA) advise why it has not imposed local news and information requirements on non-aggregated regional market commercial television broadcasters, despite placing such requirements on commercial television broadcasters in the aggregated regional markets.
- (2) Why are Townsville viewers entitled to local news and information and not viewers in Mt Isa.
- (3) Has the ABA reviewed the operation of its new regional news and information requirements and, if so, what was the outcome of these reviews.
- (4) How does the ABA respond to criticisms that the local news requirements are easily met by presenting short one minute news grabs over a whole day, rather than a genuine half-hour locally-based news service.

2553 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the Australian Broadcasting Corporation’s (ABC) answer to a question asked during the Supplementary Estimates hearings of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee (Question no. 180, Proof Transcript of Evidence p.133, 3 November 2003) regarding Mr Red Symons

appearing in advertisements and the ABC's response that Mr Symons may appear in advertisements as he had established a profile before appearing on the ABC:

- (1) Does the ABC concede that Mr Symons' public profile would diminish substantially if he were not the breakfast show presenter on Radio Station 3LO.
- (2) Given that Mr Symons' public profile has been enhanced through his role as an ABC Breakfast Show presenter, will the ABC now reconsider the decision to allow Mr Symons to appear in commercial advertisements or will the organisation continue to consider this to be an 'exceptional circumstance'.

2554 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Can an update be provided in relation to the postal outlet franchising plan, PostShops.
- (2) Has Australia Post commenced the conversion of any Licensed Post Offices or Corporate Offices into franchised PostShop operations.
- (3) How many franchised outlets are now in operation and where are these located.
- (4) What is the target for the number of franchised outlets over the next few years.
- (5) Does Australia Post have any plans for the redeployment of staff employed in corporate offices earmarked for conversion to franchised outlets.
- (6) What are the wages and conditions of staff in franchised outlets and are these comparable with those of staff in corporate post offices.
- (7) Have any post offices changed from corporate to franchised post offices and, if so, were the staff involved in the move forced to accept redundancies, transfers or reduced wages and conditions.
- (8) The 2002-03 Australia Post annual report states on page 93 that nine Corporate Post Offices (CPOs) closed down during that period. Can details be provided of where these closures occurred, why they occurred, the level of public consultation undertaken before they occurred, and whether any of these CPOs were replaced by franchised operations and, if so, which ones.
- (9) In establishing the Australia Post franchise system, what provision has been made by Australia Post to ensure adequate superannuation entitlements for franchisees and their employees.
- (10) Will the conversion of licensed post offices to franchised outlets be voluntary or forced.
- (11) How will Australia Post ensure that licensed post office operators do not lose value in their licences as a result of the change to the franchised system.
- (12) What are the benefits to Australia Post of converting hundreds of corporate and large Licensed Post Offices (LPOs) to the proposed franchised PostShop operation.
- (13) What criteria will be used for the siting of franchised PostShops, particularly where there is an existing LPO in the vicinity.
- (14) Why does Australia Post limit ownership of the proposed franchised PostShops to partnerships and companies.

- (15) (a) What is Australia Post's contractual arrangement with a franchisee who incurs a trading loss; (b) will Australia Post be prepared to underwrite employee wages and entitlements in this situation; and (c) will the franchisee forfeit the franchise.
- (16) Has Australia Post taken legal advice about whether the proposed contractual arrangement offends against the 'abuse of monopoly power' provisions of the Trade Practices Act; if so, can a copy of the advice be provided.

2555 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What are the ramifications for Australia Post of the proposed free trade agreement (FTA) with the United States of America.
- (2) Are there any obligations in the FTA for Australia Post to: (a) be privatised; (b) be opened up to foreign ownership; (c) deregulate any of its reserved services; and (d) face any other form of increased competition.

2556 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What weight limit applies to Australia Post depot bags.
- (2) Are contractors who handle depot bags covered by Australia Post's Occupational Health and Safety policy.
- (3) What liability rests with Australia Post if an Australia Post contractor sustains an injury caused by lifting an overweight depot bag not bearing a 'two-person lift' label.
- (4) Is it true that Australia Post often loads depot bags to more than 16kg, therefore requiring two people to handle the bag, when these contractors generally operate on their own.
- (5) Is it true that in some instances, Australia Post requests mail contractors to deviate from their routes or exceed the length of their routes to deliver depot bags; if so, will Australia Post make appropriate compensation to contractors for doing this.
- (6) (a) Is it true that Australia Post drop boxes need to be readily accessible to contractors and corporate staff alike, both from the road and the footpath; (b) what is Australia Post's policy on the positioning of drop boxes; and (c) does Australia Post consult with local councils to ensure that boxes are not sited in 'no standing' or 'no parking' areas or on dangerous intersections.

2557 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What impact will any change in postcodes or postcode boundaries have on existing mail contractors.
- (2) If mail contractors are obliged to collect their mail from another delivery centre as a result of changes to postcode boundaries, is the mail contract reviewed.
- (3) If some mail contracts are becoming so large that it is not possible for existing contractors to perform all of their duties individually, does Australia Post oversight all subcontractors, including performing security checks, drivers licence checks etc.

- 2558 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) How many community mail agents (CMAs) were there as at 1 January 2004.
 - (2) How many community postal agents (CPAs) were there as at 1 January 2004.
 - (3) Are there any community mail and/or postal agencies being run in conjunction with a Rural Transaction Centre.
 - (4) Were any Licenced Post Offices converted to CMA/CPA operations during the 2003 calendar year; if so, can details be provided.
- 2559 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—(a) Does Australia Post intend to continue paying public liability insurance premiums for community postal agents and community mail agents; if so, will Australia Post call for a public tender for this policy; and (b) at present, which insurance broker and/or company provides this insurance.
- 2560 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—What provision is Australia Post making for mail contractors who find it impossible to source reasonably-priced sickness insurance, as required under their mail contracts.
- 2561 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With respect to the relationship between Australia Post and the Government, for each financial year since 1999-2000, including any forward estimates, can the following details be provided:
- (1) Any dividends paid by Australia Post to the Government.
 - (2) For any special dividends paid to the Government, an explanation of the basis for those special dividends, that is, on whose request and/or recommendation were these dividends paid.
 - (3) For any other capital payments to the Government, an explanation of the basis for those payments, that is, on whose request and/or recommendation were these dividends paid.
 - (4) (a) All remaining balance sheet obligations to the Government, including equity and debt if applicable; and (b) details of how it is expected that these obligations will be met, for example, future loan repayments.
- 2562 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) What is the status of the Memorandum of Understanding between Australia Post and the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) with regard to the screening of both domestic and international mail.
 - (2) How is this managed in states that have different quarantine requirements, for example, Western Australia and Tasmania.
 - (3) Is a change required to the communications legislation or AQIS legislation to address this issue.
- 2563 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) (a) What progress has the Government made in relation to its 2001 election policy to provide fast and reliable Internet services; and (b) has that policy been implemented; if so, can evidence and measurement of actual outcomes be provided.
- (2) (a) What progress has the Government made in relation to its 2001 election policy to extend mobile phone coverage; and (b) has that policy been implemented.
- (3) (a) What progress has the Government made in relation to its 2001 election policy to provide \$88.2 million to extend mobile coverage in rural and regional areas; (b) has that policy been implemented; if so, has all the money for the program been spent; and (c) which communities now have improved mobile coverage as a result of this program.
- (4) How much Commonwealth money is to be spent on extending mobile phone coverage funding in the 2003-04 financial year.
- (5) How much Commonwealth money is to be spent on extending mobile phone coverage in each year of the forward estimates.
- (6) (a) What progress has the Government made in relation to its 2001 election policy to support the greater availability of broadband services; and (b) has that policy been implemented; if so, can details be provided.
- (7) (a) What is the current status of the Government's 2001 election policy to refrain from selling Telstra until arrangements are in place to deliver adequate services to all Australians; and (b) given the Government has already unsuccessfully introduced legislation to sell Telstra, what are these new arrangements.
- (8) What progress has the Government made in relation to its 2001 election policy to address concerns about Internet dumping and premium rate services and can details be provided on what has actually occurred.
- (9) What progress has the Government made in relation to its 2001 election policy to extend electronic and banking services through Australia Post's retail network; and (b) has that policy been implemented; if so, can details be provided.
- (10) (a) What progress has the Government made in relation to its 2001 election policy to extend the Australia Post community service obligation to provide concessional fixed rate delivery for health and educational material to and from remote Australia; and (b) has that policy been implemented; if so, can details be provided.
- (11) (a) What progress has the Government made in relation to its 2001 election policy to introduce a postal services industry ombudsman; and (b) has that policy been implemented.

2564 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) How will the Australian-US free trade agreement affect local content regulation of the commercial broadcasting sector.
- (2) For each of the following: future digital television channels, television multi-channels, and the Australian Broadcasting Corporation: (a) will Australia retain the ability to enact local content requirements; and (b) will there be any restrictions on the extent to which local content requirements can be imposed by regulation; if so, in each case, what restrictions will apply.

- (3) For each of the following: advertising on commercial and pay television, pay television channels, Internet or broadband television, radio, digital radio, Internet radio, and future unknown broadcasting services: (a) will Australia retain the ability to enact local content requirements; and (b) will there be any restrictions on the amount of local content; if so, in each case, what restrictions will apply.

2565 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Can a list be provided of all administered programs in the department, including: (a) a description of the program; (b) the number of people directly receiving funds and/or assistance under the program; (c) a breakdown, by electorate, of those receiving funds and/or assistance under the program; (d) the policy objective of the program; (e) whether the program is ongoing; (f) the funding in each financial year of the forward estimates for the program, with a breakdown of administered and departmental expenses, including: (i) how much funding was allocated for the program, (ii) how much is committed to the program, and (iii) how much is unspent; and (g) an indication of whether an evaluation of the program effectiveness has been conducted, showing: (i) when that evaluation occurred, and (ii) any conclusions reached.
- (2) For each of the following financial years: 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, and 2003-04 to date:
- (a) how many Senior Executive officers (or equivalent) were employed in the department;
 - (b) what was the base and top (including performance pay) wages of APS Level 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 (or equivalent), Executive Level 1 and 2 (or equivalent), and Senior Executive Service (SES) band 1, band 2 and band 3 (or equivalent) in the department;
 - (c) what was the average salary for an SES officer (or equivalent) in the department;
 - (d) in relation to mobile phones: (i) how many staff had phones issued by the department, and (ii) what was the total bill for the department;
 - (e) how many SES officers (or equivalent) were issued with cars in the department;
 - (f) in relation to overseas travel: (i) how many overseas trips were taken by employees in the department, (ii) what were the destinations of each of these overseas trips, and (iii) what was the total cost of these overseas trips, including a breakdown on the cost of: (A) accommodation allowances, (B) food allowances, and (C) airfares;
 - (g) what was the total cost of domestic trips by staff of the department, including a breakdown on the cost of: (i) accommodation allowances, (ii) food allowances, and (iii) airfares;
 - (h) in relation to ministerial staff: (i) how many overseas trips by ministerial staff were paid for by the department, and (ii) what was the total cost of these overseas trips;
 - (i) how much was spent on advertising by the department;
 - (j) did the department produce publications that provided electorate breakdowns on spending on government programs;

- (k) how much was spent on advertising which provided electorate breakdowns of spending by the Government on programs within the department;
 - (l) how much was spent on consultancies by the department; and
 - (m) in relation to surveys conducted by the department: (i) did these include any surveys of attitudes towards programs run by the department, (ii) on what programs administered by the department were surveys conducted, and (iii) what were the findings of these surveys.
- (3) For each of the following financial years: 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, and 2003-04 to date, can a list be provided of all 'management retreats and/or training' conducted by the department which were attended by employees, indicating for each meeting held off-site (i.e. away from the department): (a) the location and hotel where the meeting was held; (b) when the meeting was held; (c) how much was spent in total; (d) how much was spent on accommodation; (e) how much was spent on food; (f) how much was spent alcohol and/or drinks; and (g) how much was spent on transport.

2566 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) (a) How does Telstra justify charging some customers an \$11 late payment fee; and (b) given that Telstra is already collecting significantly increased line rental in advance from customers, is this not just a blatant profits grab.
- (2) Can Telstra present any evidence that the average cost of seeking payment of a late account is \$11.
- (3) Does this late payment fee increase cover all of Telstra's billable services, including mobile phone and Internet services.
- (4) Given that Telstra stated in a press release on 20 November 2003 that it costs \$75 million each year to seek payment of unpaid accounts with reminder letters and other follow up steps: (a) how did Telstra arrive at this figure; and (b) how much revenue is Telstra deriving per annum from late fees.
- (5) Given Telstra's statement of 20 November 2003 that raising the late fee threshold from \$55 to \$65 would mean that half of all Telstra bills would not be affected by late fees, on what basis is this claim made.
- (6) Is it correct that a great majority of Telstra's post-paid fixed line bills are for more than \$65, resulting in most of these customers receiving the increased \$11 late payment fee if they pay their bills late.

2567 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) What strategies does Telstra have in place to protect consumers who have been subject to Internet dumping or unauthorised re-connection on their modems, who are then charged for a premium rate service through Telstra's billing systems.
- (2) Is Telstra's Courtesy Call system, announced late in 2003, in operation; if so, at what spending level can consumers be guaranteed to receive courtesy calls stating their bills are higher than normal.
- (3) Will Telstra consider general credit limits on phone and Internet accounts as is the case with credit cards; if not, why not.

- (4) Has Telstra made any effort to cancel premium rate services from areas where IDD Internet dumping is occurring, for example the Cook Islands, Diego Garcia, Tokelau Islands, Sao Tome, Chile, Guyana, Lichtenstein/Germany, Moldova, North Korea and the Cocos Islands; if not, why not.
- (5) What percentage of an international premium rate service charge on a Telstra Bill does Telstra retain as a collection fee.
- (6) Can Telstra guarantee that the international premium rate services for which it charges do not contain illegal pornography.
- (7) What revenue does Telstra derive annually from premium rate services.

2568 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is it correct that customers often need significant support when taking up fast data services such as ISDN and ADSL.
- (2) Is it correct that in late 2003, Telstra made 22 highly skilled activation staff in this area redundant; if so, what was the reason for this decision.
- (3) Is Telstra now recruiting agency staff in the same area from the Service Advantage Newcastle Front of House Activation Centre.
- (4) (a) Could the work that is to be performed by these agency staff have been done by the workers made redundant; and (b) were those workers offered any opportunity for redeployment.
- (5) (a) What were the costs incurred by Telstra in making the 22 full-time workers redundant; and (b) what will be the costs of training the new agency staff.
- (6) What is Telstra's current policy on the use of Australian workplace agreements (AWAs).

2569 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the relationship between Telstra and the Government, for each financial year since 1999-2000, including any forward estimates, can the following details be provided:

- (1) Any dividends paid by Telstra to the Government.
- (2) For any special dividends paid to the Government, an explanation of the basis for those special dividends, that is, on whose request and/or recommendation these dividends were paid.
- (3) For any other capital payments to the Government, an explanation of the basis for those payments, that is, on whose request and/or recommendation these payments were paid.
- (4) (a) All remaining balance sheet obligations to the Government, including equity and debt if applicable; and (b) can details be provided of how it is expected that these obligations will be met, for example, through future loan repayments.

2570 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the answer to question no. 74, taken on notice by the department during the November 2003 Budget estimates supplementary hearings of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee:

- (1) Given that 45 per cent of Telstra staff are from agencies or from outsourced providers, and are working side by side with Telstra employees, what opportunity do agency and/or outsourced staff have to participate in employee consultations, for example, in the Telstra employee opinion surveys.
- (2) In the previous answer, mention is made of an award provision, which award is referred to.
- (3) Can a list be provided of all Telstra employment agreements and other variants which currently cover call centre staff, regardless of whether they are Telstra staff or agency and/or outsourced staff.
- (4) Has Telstra considered changing the disconnection time on 12456 calls.

2571 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the answer to question no. 77 taken on notice by the department during the November 2003 Budget estimates supplementary hearings of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee: given that the successful contractor for Telstra's faxstream service, Xepedite Systems Pty Ltd, is a trading branch of a multi-billion dollar American-based global conglomerate, can a explanation be provided of: (a) the tendering process for this contract; and (b) why an Australian alternative could not be found.

2572 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) How many errors appeared in the 2004 White Pages and Yellow Pages of all phone books around Australia.
- (2) In the case of Mia Papas and Ms Addenbroke as reported on the Seven Network television program *Today Tonight*, what steps has Telstra taken, or will Telstra take, to remedy the reported errors and will these steps take the form of compensation.

Notice given 24 February 2004

2573 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—With reference to the statement on page 24 of the Tourism White Paper, which indicates that the Australian Tourist Commission (ATC) is establishing a working relationship with the marketing body AusFILM:

- (1) Can the Minister advise: (a) what meetings have taken place between the ATC and AusFILM in relation to establishing this relationship; (b) when and where was each meeting held; (c) who attended each meeting; (d) what were the primary outcomes of each meeting; and (e) were records made of each meeting; if so, can a copy of these records be provided; if not, why not.
- (2) How much Commonwealth funding is committed to this relationship.
- (3) For each of the following financial years: 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08, can a projection of expenditure for these funds be provided.
- (4) How will the effectiveness of the Commonwealth investment of these funds be monitored.

2575 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—

- (1) Can a copy be provided of the current National Tourism Incident Response Plan; if not, why not.
- (2) Was the response plan activated on 21 March 2003 in part as a result of the conflict in Iraq.
- (3) How much funding was provided by the Commonwealth for the response plan for the 2003-04 financial year.
- (4) For each of the following the financial years: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, can a projection of Commonwealth funding for the response plan be provided.
- (5) Was the response plan reviewed after it was de-activated on 7 August 2003; if so: (a) who conducted the review; (b) what form did the review take; (c) how much did the review cost the Commonwealth; (d) what were the key findings; (e) when will improvements to the response plan recommended by the review be implemented; and (f) can a copy of the review be provided; if not, why not.

2576 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) In relation to the proposed changes to duty free arrangements announced on 18 September, 2003 (media release reference 130/03): (a) what modelling or analysis has been performed or commissioned by the Commonwealth to determine the cost to the Commonwealth of these proposed changes; (b) who performed the modelling or analysis; (c) can a copy of the modelling or analysis be provided; if not, why not; and (d) for each of the following financial years: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08, what is the projected cost to the Commonwealth of the proposed changes.
- (2) In relation to the proposed changes to duty free arrangements, can details be provided of consultations held by the Commonwealth with state and territory governments since 1 July 2002, and specifically: (a) the date and location of meetings held on this issue; (b) the names and positions of those who attended each meeting; (c) whether a record was made of each meeting; (d) key outcomes of each meeting; and (e) can a copy of the meeting records can be provided; if not, why not.
- (3) (a) What research, analysis or modelling has been performed or commissioned by the Commonwealth to determine the impact on visitor numbers of the proposed changes to duty free arrangements; (b) who performed the modelling or analysis; (c) can a copy of the research modelling or analysis can be provided; if not, why not; and (d) for each of the following financial years: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08, what projected change in visitor numbers would result from the implementation of these changes.

2579 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) When was the Tourist Refund Scheme established.
- (2) For each of the past 5 financial years, how much has the Commonwealth spent on the scheme for: (a) providing refunds; and (b) marketing the scheme.
- (3) For each of the following financial years: 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08, what is the projected Commonwealth expenditure on the scheme for: (a) providing refunds; and (b) marketing the scheme.
- (4) Has the Commonwealth received proposals from sections of the tourism industry proposing that sections of that industry take over the promotion of

the scheme; if so: (a) from whom specifically have such proposals been received; and (b) can a copy of these proposals be provided; if not, why not.

- (5) (a) What assessment has the Commonwealth commissioned or made of these proposals; and (b) can a copy of that assessment be provided; if not, why not.
- (6) What are the key findings of the assessment.
- (7) When will recommendations derived from the assessment be implemented.
- (8) Who will make the final decision about which recommendations to implement and when.

2580 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the Federal Government has withdrawn its financial support for the proposal by the Australian Mining Industries (AMI) and the Tasmanian State Government to treat acid drainage into the King and Queen Rivers and Macquarie Harbour from the Mount Lyell copper mine.
- (2) Can details be provided of the due diligence investigation into this proposal undertaken by GHD Pty Ltd, and specifically: (a) what was the cost to the Commonwealth of this report; (b) how was GHD Pty Ltd selected to undertake this work; (c) when did work on the report commence and when was it completed; (d) when did the Minister receive the report; (e) who was consulted by GHD Pty Ltd during the preparation of the report and when were they consulted; and (f) what records exist of any meetings undertaken by GHD Pty Ltd as part of the consultation process for this report and can a copy of these records be provided; if not, why not.
- (3) Can a copy be provided of the report produced by GHD Pty Ltd; if not, why not.

2581 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the proposal to treat acid drainage into the King and Queen Rivers and Macquarie Harbour from the Mount Lyell copper mine:

- (1) What are the specific conditions required of the Tasmanian Government and Australian Mining Industries (AMI) by the Federal Government in order for Commonwealth funding to be released for the proposal.
- (2) Since 1 July 2002: (a) what meetings have occurred or correspondence has there been between the Tasmanian Government and the Federal Government in relation to the proposal and, in respect of the meetings, when were they held and who attended; (b) what were the outcomes of the meetings or the correspondence; and (c) can copies be provided of the records of the meetings or the correspondence between the governments; if not, why not.
- (3) (a) What meetings have occurred or correspondence has there been between the Federal Government and AMI in relation to the proposal and, in respect of the meetings, when were they held and who attended; (b) what were the outcomes of the meetings or the correspondence; and (c) can copies be provided of the records of the meetings or the correspondence between the Government and AMI; if not, why not.
- (4) Since 1 July 2002: (a) what meetings have occurred or correspondence has there been between the Minister, Tasmanian senators and/or the Tasmanian

State Opposition in relation to the proposal and, in respect of the meetings, when were they held and who attended; (b) what were the outcomes of the meetings or the correspondence; (c) can copies be provided of the records of the meetings or correspondence between the Minister, Tasmanian senators and/or the Tasmanian State Opposition; if not, why not.

- (5) (a) What financial commitments has the Minister obtained from the Tasmanian State Government in relation to this project; (b) when were these financial commitments sought; and (c) when were they given.
- (6) What date has been set by the Minister by which the Tasmanian State Government is to provide alternative proposals for this project

2582 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Since 1 July 2002, has the Minister commissioned or is the Minister aware of studies to determine the extent of environmental damage caused by acid pollution from the Mount Lyell copper mine entering Macquarie Harbour via the King and Queen Rivers; if so: (a) who conducted these studies; (b) if these studies were conducted by Commonwealth appointees, how were these selected; (c) what was the cost to the Commonwealth of these studies; (d) when did work on these studies commence and when was it completed; (e) when did the Minister receive these studies; (f) who was consulted during the preparation of these studies and when were they consulted; and (g) what records exist of any meetings undertaken as part of the consultation process for these studies and can a copy of these records be provided; if not, why not.
- (2) Can a copy be provided of the executive summary and recommendations of any such study funded in whole or part by the Commonwealth; if not, why not.
- (3) Since 1 July 2002, has the Minister commissioned or is the Minister aware of studies of the impacts on public health caused by acid pollution from the Mount Lyell copper mine entering Macquarie Harbour via the King and Queen Rivers, if so: (a) who conducted these studies; (b) if these studies were conducted by Commonwealth appointees, how were these selected; (c) what was the cost to the Commonwealth of these studies; (d) when did work on these studies commence and when was it completed; (e) when did the Minister receive these studies; (f) who was consulted during the preparation of these studies and when were they consulted; and (g) what records exist of any meetings undertaken as part of the consultation process for these studies and a copy of these records be provided; if not, why not.
- (4) Can a copy be provided of the executive summary and recommendations of any such study funded in whole or part by the Commonwealth; if not, why not.
- (5) Since 1 July 2002, has the Minister commissioned or is the Minister aware of studies to determine the potential economic impacts of acid pollution from the Mount Lyell copper mine entering Macquarie Harbour via the King and Queen Rivers; if so: (a) who conducted these studies; (b) if these studies were conducted by Commonwealth appointees, how were these selected; (c) what was the cost to the Commonwealth of these studies; (d) when did work on these studies commence and when was it completed; (e) when did the Minister receive these studies; (f) who was consulted during the preparation of these studies and when were they consulted; and (g) what records exist of any meetings undertaken as part of the

consultation process for these studies and can a copy of these records be provided; if not, why not.

- (6) Can a copy be provided of the executive summary and recommendations of any such study funded in whole or part by the Commonwealth; if not, why not.

2586 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—With reference to the survey that the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) is conducting in the Sutherland Shire concerning the sources of information that residents regard as credible in relation to the nuclear reactor:

- (1) What is the cost of the survey to tax payers.
- (2) Will ANSTO, as Sutherland Council does when it conducts surveys, make available the questions asked, the results of the survey and any reports prepared by the company in relation to the survey; if not, why not.

Notice given 26 February 2004

2590 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) (a) How much did the Commonwealth spend on benthic exploration (seismic and otherwise) for each of the following financial years: 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03; and (b) how much has the Commonwealth spent since 30 June 2003.
- (2) (a) How much did Geoscience Australia spend on benthic exploration (seismic and otherwise) for each of the following financial years: 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03; and (b) how much has Geoscience Australia spent since 30 June 2003.
- (3) (a) How much did the Commonwealth spend on offshore acreage release for each of the following financial years: 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03; and (b) how much has the Commonwealth spent since 30 June 2003.
- (4) (a) How much did the Commonwealth receive in royalties from oil and gas operations in Australian waters for each of the following financial years: 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03; and (b) how much has the Commonwealth received since 30 June 2003.
- (5) (a) What subsidies including grants, low interest loans and tax relief did the Commonwealth give the oil and gas industry, with respect to their offshore operations, during each of the following financial years: 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03; and (b) can a list of recipients and amounts be provided.
- (6) (a) What subsidies has the Commonwealth given the oil and gas industry, with respect to their offshore operations, since 30 June 2003; and (b) can a list of recipients and amounts be provided.
- (7) What area of seabed was released for oil and gas exploration during each of the following financial years: 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03; and (b) what area of seabed has been released since 30 June 2003.
- (8) What was the available area in 1993.
- (9) How many functional oil and/or gas rigs: (a) are currently in Australian waters; and (b) were in Australian waters in 1993.
- (10) Is an environmental impact assessment carried out prior to the release of acreage for oil and gas exploration; if not, why not.

- (11) Does the department undertake a public consultation program prior to the release of acreage for oil and gas exploration; if not, why not.
- (12) Does the Minister for the Environment and Heritage have a right of veto over the release of acreage for oil and gas exploration, as opposed to simply a right to be consulted; if not, why not.
- (13) If a person is granted an offshore exploration lease, and approval for the next stage of development (be it the next stage of exploration, or production operations) is not granted, is the person entitled to receive compensation.
- (14) (a) How many offshore exploration applications were received for each of the following financial years: 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03; and (b) how many of these were: (i) refused, and (ii) refused on environmental grounds.
- (15) (a) How many offshore production applications were received for each of the following financial years, 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03; and (b) how many of these were: (i) refused, and (ii) refused on environmental grounds.
- (16) In considering offshore acreage release: (a) does the department have and use comprehensive benthic and pelagic ecosystem and species information for the areas being considered; if not, what is the nature of the information used; (b) does the department rely on the Department of the Environment and Heritage for this information; and (c) what level of certainty does that information provide in considering the environmental impact of petroleum activities.
- (17) In the absence of comprehensive benthic and pelagic ecosystem and species information for Australian waters, does the department take a precautionary approach to acreage release; if not, why not.
- (18) Are there any areas of existing offshore acreage that overlap with the Broad Areas of Interest for Marine Protected Areas in the South East Marine Region; if so, where are they.
- (19) Are there any areas being considered in the current round of acreage release that would overlap with the Broad Areas of Interest for Marine Protected Areas in the South East Marine Region; if so: (a) where have they; and (b) why have they been released at the same time that Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are being considered for those areas.
- (20) Is the department seeking to ensure that oil and gas operations are allowed in MPAs.

Notice given 1 March 2004

2595 **Senator Cherry:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With reference to the discussion paper on the importation of vehicles 15 years or more years old released by the Vehicle Safety Standards in January 2004: (a) what is the breakdown by classification of the vehicles listed in Table A; (b) is it correct that the classifications are LA, LB, LC, NA, NB, NC, MA, MB and MC; and (c) are there any other classifications.
- (2) What specific types of vehicles are in each of the classifications.
- (3) Given that in 1999 the Review of the *Motor Vehicles Standards Act 1989* Review Task Force, which reported in August 1999, listed in Table 6-2 of its report that in 1998, 3474 vehicles 15 years or more old were import approved, but in the 2004 discussion paper released by the Vehicle Safety Standards, 3565 vehicles were listed as being import approved in that year: (a) what is the reason for the discrepancy; and (b) which figure is correct.

- (4) What vehicles were approved in 1998, by specific vehicle type and classification.
- (5) What is the basis for the inclusion of vehicles in the figures that make up Table A in the 2004 discussion paper.
- (6) With reference to the statement in the 'Background' section of the 2004 discussion paper that 'The intent of this arrangement when it was introduced was to provide for the importation of older vehicles on the basis that they were generally imported for restoration and club use'; and a very similar statement made on page 98 of the report of the Review of the Motor Vehicles Standards Act 1989 Review Task Force: from where is this statement derived.
- (7) Was this statement restated and included in legislation as part of the Registered Automotive Workshop Scheme/Specialist and Enthusiast Vehicle Scheme changes made in 2001.
- (8) By year and classification, for the past 10 years of the low volume scheme, how many vehicles were imported under the low volume scheme that were golf buggies, motorbikes, snow mobiles, trikes, trucks and other non-standard motor cars.
- (9) By year and classification, for the past 10 years of the low volume scheme, how many vehicles were imported under the 15 year or more old scheme that were golf buggies, motorbikes, snow mobiles, trikes, trucks and other non-standard motor cars,.
- (10) In relation to the impact statement listed in the 2004 discussion paper, will there be an audit of the scheme and process by an independent body, that is, one which is not affiliated with either of the parties involved in or the department responsible for involved in the administration of the scheme; if not, how will the integrity of the outcomes and process of investigation reported in the impact statement be assured.

2600 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the answer to part (1) of question no. 79, taken on notice during the November 2003 Budget estimates supplementary hearings of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee, in which it was stated that access revenue subject to price controls increased by \$169 million and call revenue subject to price control decreased by \$52 million: Can the Minister confirm that Telstra's revenue increased by \$117 million in total under the new 2002 price controls (including both access and call price controls), in the 2002-03 financial year.

2606 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Denison during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Denison during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Denison during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Denison during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

- 2608 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—(a) Can the Government confirm that Dr John Loy, Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA), indicated at the public forum on the national nuclear waste repository held in Adelaide on 25 February 2004 that the Minister could not override the findings and decision of ARPANSA in relation to the repository; and (b) is this statement correct.
- 2609 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Dawson during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
 - (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Dawson during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
 - (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Dawson during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
 - (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Dawson during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- 2610 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Herbert during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
 - (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Herbert during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
 - (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Herbert during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
 - (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Herbert during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- 2611 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Kennedy during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
 - (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Kennedy during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
 - (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Kennedy during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
 - (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Kennedy during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- 2612 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unreferred general practitioner (GP) attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Leichhardt during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unreferred GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Leichhardt during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferred GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Leichhardt during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unreferred GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Leichhardt during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

Notice given 2 March 2004

- 2613 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program: Does the Government still plan to spend \$400 million on the program, as agreed with the Australian Democrats in 1999:
- (a) if so: (i) over how many years, including previous financial years, does the Government plan to spend the \$400 million, (ii) what is the actual value in 2004 dollars of the \$400 million if expenditure is spread out over the number of years answered in (a)(i), and (iii) can forward estimates be provided for all future program years; and
 - (b) if not: (i) what is the planned total expenditure in relation to the program, (ii) over how many years, including previous financial years, does the Government plan to spend the amount answered in (b)(i), and (iii) can forward estimates be provided for all future program years.
- 2614 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program: As of the end of June 2003, how much of the expenditure on the program has been spent on: (a) funded projects; (b) administration; and (c) other government programs.
- 2615 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program and given that program funds have been used to support departmental programs which, for a range of reasons, would not have been approved under the program guidelines, for example, domestic greenhouse policy development and greenhouse international policy and reporting and greenhouse sinks:
- (1) Can a list be provided of all other departmental programs and/or activities that have been funded from expenditure originally allocated to the program for the 2000-01 financial year, including existing programs and/or activities that were continued or extended using funding originally allocated to the program in 2000-01.
 - (2) For each program and/or activity listed in paragraph (1): (a) what funds have been made available from the program; and (b) what funds are planned to be made available annually over the life of the program.
- 2616 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program: (a) Has the Government considered using program funds to pay for the Commonwealth's share of the \$150 million joint Commonwealth/state

commitment to reduce land clearing in Queensland; and (b) has the Government considered using program funds for other government initiatives to reduce land clearing.

- 2617 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program: (a) As at 30 June 2003, what was the abatement value of the program, expressed as dollars per tonne of emissions abated; and (b) can details be provided of the activities that have been taken into account in determining the answer to (a).
- 2618 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program: As at 30 June 2003, what tonnage of greenhouse gas emissions was abated as a result of the program.
- 2619 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Greenhouse Gas Abatement Program: Given that Australia's Third National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change states that the program will abate the equivalent of over 26 million tonnes of carbon dioxide in the first Kyoto commitment period, however the summary table at 4.1 states that the program will only lead to a reduction of 10.8 million tonnes by 2010: (a) What is the reason for the discrepancy; and (b) how much greenhouse gas abatement is now estimated for the program in: (i) the first commitment period, and (ii) the second commitment period.
- 2620 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to an attachment to the Prime Minister's letter to Senator Lees, dated 31 May 1999, entitled 'Changes to the goods and services tax (GST)', in which it was stated that 'the Government intends that upon passage of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Bill 1998 it will commence a process of consultation with the states and other stakeholders on the issue of applying a Commonwealth greenhouse trigger under that legislation in relation to new projects that would be major emitters of greenhouse gases': (a) can details be provided for each year from 2000-01 to 2003-04 of the consultation work that has so far been undertaken; and (b) does the Government intend to introduce a greenhouse trigger into the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* during its next term of office.
- 2621 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—(a) How much revenue has the Government collected as a result of the introduction of the extra one cent per litre excise on high sulphur diesel as from 1 July 2003; and (b) how much money had been provided to producers of low sulphur diesel as at 31 December 2003 as a result of the initiative.
- 2622 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to oil recycling:
- (1) (a) What was the expenditure on the product stewardship arrangements for waste oil as at the end of the 2002-03 financial year; (b) what is the planned total expenditure for the program; and (c) can forward estimates be provided for all future program years.
 - (2) (a) As at the end of the 2002-03 financial year, how much waste oil had been recycled as a result of the product stewardship arrangements for waste oil; and (b) what proportion of the total amount of waste oil produced during that period does this represent.

- 2623 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Photovoltaic Rebate Program:
- (1) (a) For how many photovoltaic systems have rebates been provided through the program; and (b) can a breakdown be provided of the number of systems for which rebates have been provided in each year since the programs inception, the number of systems per state, and the number of systems for each use, for example, household, community building, residential property developments.
 - (2) As at the 30 June 2003: (a) what tonnage of greenhouse gas emissions was abated as a result of the program; and (b) what was the abatement value of the program, expressed as dollars per tonne of emissions abated.
- 2624 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Renewable Energy Development and Commercialisation Program: Does the Government still plan to spend \$26 million on the program, as agreed with the Australian Democrats in 1999.
- (a) if so: (i) over how many years, including previous financial years, does the Government plan to spend the \$26 million, (ii) what is the actual value of the \$26 million if expenditure is spread out over the number of years answered in (a)(i), and (iii) can forward estimates be provided for all future program years; and
 - (b) if not: (i) what is the planned total expenditure in relation to the program, (ii) over how many years, including previous financial years, does the Government plan to spend the amount answered in (b)(i), and (iii) can forward estimates be provided for all future program years.
- 2625 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the Renewable Remote Power Generation Program:
- (1) Does the Government still plan to spend \$264 million on the program, as agreed with the Australian Democrats in 1999:
 - (a) if so: (i) over how many years, including previous financial years, does the Government plan to spend the \$264 million, (ii) what is the actual value of the \$264 million if expenditure is spread out over the number of years answered in (a)(i), and (iii) can forward estimates be provided for all future program years; and
 - (b) if not: (i) what is the planned total expenditure in relation to the program, (ii) over how many years, including previous financial years, does the Government plan to spend the amount answered in (b)(i), and (iii) can forward estimates be provided for all future program years.
 - (2) Can details be provided of all grants awarded under the program, including: (a) the company and/or individual awarded; (b) the purpose of the grant; (c) the total amount of grant; (d) the amount of grant to be specifically spent on renewable energy technology as opposed to design, management, installation and other associated costs; (e) the estimated abatement value; and (f) which objectives of the program the project meets, for example, helping provide an effective electricity supply to remote users, assisting the development of the Australian renewable energy industry, helping meet the energy infrastructure needs of indigenous communities, and leading to long-term greenhouse gas reductions.

- (3) As at the end of the 2002-03 financial year, what was the abatement value of the entire program, expressed in dollars per tonne of emissions abated.
- (4) As at 30 June 2003, what was the greenhouse gas abatement value of the program.
- (5) With reference to a submission to the Economics Legislation Committee inquiry into the Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme Amendment Bill 2002 in which the Australian Greenhouse Office (AGO) stated that 'the extension of the Diesel Fuel Rebate to small retail/hospitality businesses could reduce the potential target market for the Commonwealth Renewable Remote Power Generation Program by up to 21 million litres or about 4% of total diesel fuel consumed, although accurate data on the diesel fuel used by these businesses is not available': (a) what does the AGO estimate has been the effect on the program of extending the rebate to small retail and/or hospitality businesses during the 2002-03 financial year; and (b) can an estimate be provided of the reduction of the target market, expressed in litres of diesel fuel.

- 2626 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—
(a) What was the total value of the grants provided under the Diesel and Alternative Fuels Grants Scheme in each year since the scheme's inception, including in the answer details of the total value of the grants for each fuel type; and (b) what was the total value of the grants provided under the scheme in each year for the period July 2003 to December 2003, including in the answer details of the total value of the grants for each fuel type.
- 2627 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—What was the total cost of administering the Diesel and Alternative Fuels Grants Scheme during the 2002-03 financial year.
- 2628 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—
(a) What was the total value of the rebates provided each year under the Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme during the period July 1990 to June 2003, including details of the total value of the rebates for each off-road use; and (b) what was the total value of the rebates provided under the scheme during the period July 2003 to December 2003, including details of the total value of the rebates for each off-road use.
- 2632 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—What was the cost of administering the Diesel Fuel Rebate Scheme in the 2002-03 financial year.
- 2633 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Forde, Maranoa, Moncrieff, McPherson and Groom during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
 - (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Forde, Maranoa, Moncrieff, McPherson and Groom during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
 - (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Forde, Maranoa, Moncrieff, McPherson and Groom during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

- (4) How many unrefereed GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Forde, Maranoa, Moncrieff, McPherson and Groom during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2645 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) What changes have taken place in the Australian Federal Police (AFP) as a result of the Government's 'National e-security agenda'.
- (2) (a) How many full-time staff does the AFP employ to investigate and/or analyse threats to national e-security; and (b) at what Australian Public Service (APS) levels are they employed.
- (3) (a) How many part-time staff does the AFP employ to analyse and/or investigate threats to national e-security; and (b) at what APS levels are they employed.

2654 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unrefereed general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of O'Connor during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unrefereed GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of O'Connor during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unrefereed GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of O'Connor during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unrefereed GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of O'Connor during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2655 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unrefereed general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Moore during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unrefereed GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Moore during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unrefereed GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Moore during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unrefereed GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Moore during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2656 **Senator Marshall:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unrefereed general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Deakin, Menzies, Corangamite and Gippsland during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unrefereed GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Deakin, Menzies, Corangamite and Gippsland during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unREFERRED GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Deakin, Menzies, Corangamite and Gippsland during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unREFERRED GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Deakin, Menzies, Corangamite and Gippsland during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2657 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—In relation to the meeting on 11 October 2001 of the Board of Management which oversaw the Joint Australian Federal Police/Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs People Smuggling Strike Team: (a) who attended this meeting; (b) were minutes or notes taken; if so, can a declassified version of the minutes and/or notes be provided to the Senate.

2659 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) How much will the discontinuation of the Educational Textbook Subsidy Scheme (ETSS) save the Government.
- (2) Given that the ETSS was set up to 'alleviate the impact of the GST on the cost of educational textbooks for students and parents', how can the Government justify closing the scheme at the end of June when the goods and services tax (GST) is still in place.
- (3) Does the Government have any plans to alleviate the impact of GST on the cost of educational textbooks after the closure of the scheme.
- (4) Given that booksellers went to great lengths to ensure their computer programs were able to manage the ETSS, not to mention the costs they incurred in auditing the scheme, does the department intend to compensate booksellers for the expense of again amending or renewing their software to take into account the closure of the scheme.
- (5) Given that many booksellers and students are unaware that the scheme will close at the end of June 2004, how does the department intend to notify booksellers and students about the scheme's closure.
- (6) Given that booksellers are worried they will be blamed if the scheme closes at the end of June and the price of textbooks increases by 8 per cent, does the department have any strategies for avoiding this.
- (7) Given that textbooks are a student's primary learning resource, if the Government regards education as a priority, how does it justify taxing students every time they seek to learn.
- (8) Given that the Australian Medical Student's Association President, Mr Matthew Hutchinson, has slammed the proposed plan to end the ETSS rebate on text books, stating that 'The people of Australia deserve and need well trained, competent doctors. The plan to remove the ETSS rebate puts quality textbooks out of reach of most medical students. This cuts off a vital source of training and education and will only lead to poor outcomes for our patients', how can the Government justify closing the ETSS in light of these concerns.
- (9) Will any money be unspent under the ETSS or any other scheme; if so, does the department intend to redirect those funds to book-related projects.
- (10) Can the Minister confirm whether the Educational Lending Right scheme will be continued past 30 June 2004.

- (11) Can the Minister confirm whether funding will continue to be provided to the Australian Bureau of Statistics to continue collecting statistics on the book industry after 30 June 2004.

Notice given 3 March 2004

2660 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—In relation to asylum seekers who have been placed in detention centres within the past 3 years:

- (1) (a) How many families have claimed to have originally come from Afghanistan; (b) how many of these claims have been accepted by Australian immigration authorities and how many have been rejected; and (c) in how many cases were the asylum seekers deemed to have come from Pakistan.
- (2) (a) How many families have claimed to be of one of the following ethnic backgrounds: (i) Pashtun, (ii) Tajik, and (iii) Hazara; (b) how many of these claims have been accepted by Australian immigration authorities and how many have been rejected; and (c) of those claims accepted, in how many cases have the families been forced to return to their country of origin.
- (3) What criteria, if any, have been applied to ensure that it was safe for these families to return.

2666 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to a letter written by the Minister's Senior Policy Adviser, David Kelly, to Ms Margaret Hale of Bateau Bay, New South Wales, regarding the slow Internet speeds of 12 kbps experienced by Ms Hale because of obsolete telecommunication connections:

- (1) Did Mr Kelly indicate that 19.2 kbps is the 'absolute minimum' standard.
- (2) Did Mr Kelly indicate that a 64kbps service is part of the universal service obligations that Telstra must meet.
- (3) Did Mr Kelly refer the matter to Telstra.
- (4) What percentage of customers must still rely upon the technology that Mr Kelly indicated was unsatisfactory.
- (5) For what percentage of customers is Telstra still unable to meet its universal service obligations.
- (6) What steps is Telstra taking to meet its obligations to all customers.
- (7) Can the Government be satisfied that Telstra services to rural areas meet the minimum requirements for the sale of the Government share of the organisation if the universal service obligations are not being fully met.

2667 **Senator Bolkus:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Hindmarsh during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Hindmarsh during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal

Electoral Division of Hindmarsh during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

- (4) How many unrefereed GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Hindmarsh during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2668 **Senator Bolkus:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unrefereed general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Barker during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unrefereed GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Barker during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unrefereed GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Barker during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unrefereed GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Barker during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2669 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unrefereed general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Adelaide and Boothby during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unrefereed GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Adelaide and Boothby during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unrefereed GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Adelaide and Boothby during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unrefereed GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Adelaide and Boothby during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2670 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) With reference to the Government's package of additional benefits for veterans announced on 2 March 2004, why is rent assistance for war widows postponed until March 2005, as stated in the Minister's press release.
- (2) Of the 45 000 veterans said to benefit from the exemption of disability pensions from the Centrelink means test, can a breakdown be provided showing: (a) Totally and Permanently Incapacitated (TPI), (b) Intermediate Rate, and (c) other veterans.
- (3) For those ex-service people in receipt of a Disability Support Pension from Centrelink who do not have any other income, what will be the net benefit from this measure for a single person.
- (4) Of the 19 000 persons estimated to benefit from the exemption of disability pension payments from the Centrelink means test, can a breakdown be provided showing: (a) age, (b) TPI, (c) Intermediate Rate, and (d) others.

- (5) Why is the new Defence Force Income Support Allowance (DFISA) being introduced in preference to changing the *Social Security Act 1991*.
- (6) Did the Minister and the Department of Family and Community Services refuse to amend the Act, resulting in the adoption of the DFISA alternative.
- (7) What will be the cost of implementing the DFISA.
- (8) What arrangements have been put in place between Centrelink and the department to exchange information on the rate of DFISA to be paid, and will there be a Memorandum of Understanding between Centrelink and the department on this matter.
- (9) (a) Will calculations be based on the same payday; and (b) what delay, if any, will occur between supply of rates and actual payment.
- (10) Given that only the above general rate of the special rate is to be indexed against the Consumer Price Index/Male Total Average Weekly Earnings, why was the whole special rate exempted from the Centrelink means test.
- (11) Does the exemption of the entire special rate from the Centrelink means test effectively remove the traditional distinction between benefits paid to those with qualifying service and those without; if so, what is the justification for this change, and is this a calculated and deliberate removal of the distinction, at least in part.
- (12) What is the average fortnightly increase to be paid to TPI recipients as the result of the indexation of the above general rate.
- (13) (a) Does the Government intend to introduce legislation in relation to the measures in the 2 March 2004 announcement; if so, when; and (b) what are the likely commencement dates of payment for each benefit.
- (14) How many dependant children of TPI veterans are there.

Notice given 5 March 2004

2672 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Solomon during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Solomon during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Solomon during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Solomon during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

Notice given 8 March 2004

2680 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) With reference to visitor visa applications received from Fijian nationals in the past 2 years:
 - (a) how many applications were lodged;

- (b) (i) how many applications were: (A) approved, (B) rejected, and (C) withdrawn, and (ii) what percentage of applicants are still being processed;
 - (c) how many applications were initially rejected but accepted on appeal;
 - (d) what was the average time for processing an application;
 - (e) what was the average charge, expressed in Australian dollars, levied on the applicant for processing the application;
 - (f) what was the average bond, expressed in Australian dollars, that successful applicants were required to lodge as a guarantee that they would leave Australia in the required time; and
 - (g) of those Fijian nationals refused a visa, how many were offered an interview in which they could present their case for a visa.
- (2) What are the corresponding statistics for Fijian nationals applying for a work visa.
 - (3) What are the corresponding statistics in relation to both visitor visa and work visas, for applications from Nepalese nationals.
 - (4) What are the corresponding statistics in relation to both visitor visa and work visas, for applications from British nationals.
 - (5) (a) Are there guidelines used by departmental officers when deciding whether visa applications should be approved or rejected; if so, are these guidelines publicly available; and (b) is the presence of family members in Australia ever used as a reason for rejecting a visa application; if so, under what circumstances.

Senator George Campbell: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2681-2682)—Since the rollout of Employment Services Contract 3 began (in approximately April 2003), how many individuals have been found to be fraudulently claiming the NewStart Allowance, Youth Allowance or any other allowance, for example, by claiming benefits when they were already in paid employment.

2681 Minister for Family and Community Services

2682 Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women

Notice given 9 March 2004

2686 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) When the *Administrative Arrangements Act 1987* was amended by Schedule 1, item 48 of the *Public Employment (Consequential and Transitional) Amendment Act 1999*, what were the words removed after the words 'include, references', which were replaced by the words 'to an SES employee, or acting SES employee, in the Department who is specified in the notice'.
- (2) At any time before sections 10 and 11 of the *Child Support (Registration and Collection) Act 1987* were amended by Schedule 5 of the *Child Support Legislation Amendment Act 2001*, did section 19 of the *Administrative Arrangements Act 1987* provide that, through publication of a written notice published in the *Gazette*, or otherwise:
 - (a) references to the Commissioner of Taxation in a relevant instrument are to be, or are to include, references to the Child Support Registrar; and/or

- (b) references to the Child Support Registrar in a relevant instrument are to be, or are to include, references to the Commissioner of Taxation.

Notice given 11 March 2004

2688 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Status of Women—With reference to the Indigenous Women’s Advisory Group (IWAG):

- (1) (a) What was IWAG’s intended role when the Office of the Status of Women (OSW) established it in 2002; and (b) what is its current role or function.
- (2) Who are the current members of IWAG.
- (3) (a) How often is IWAG supposed to meet each year; (b) how often did it meet in 2003; and (c) how many meetings are scheduled for 2004, and when are these to be held.
- (4) (a) How often did OSW meet with IWAG in 2003; and (b) when is OSW scheduled to meet with IWAG in 2004.
- (5) With reference to the Prime Minister’s announcement on 28 August 2003 that \$20 million is to be spent addressing violence in Indigenous communities: (a) did the Prime Minister consult IWAG on this issue prior to the announcement; (b) did this consultation form part of the Prime Minister’s decision; and (c) what contribution did IWAG make towards the allocation of funding for specific projects or areas.
- (6) Does OSW have responsibility for any of the programs included in the Prime Ministers announcement; if so, can details be provided.
- (7) (a) Is the \$400 000 announced by the Prime Minister to address violence in Indigenous Communities under the National Initiative to Combat Sexual Assault additional funding for the initiative; (b) was that amount included in the women’s policy outcome budget for 2003-04; (c) is this money an additional appropriation; and (d) does OSW have responsibility for administrating this money.
- (8) For the 2002-03 financial year and to date for the 2003-04 financial year, how much has been spent on addressing violence in Indigenous communities and towards Indigenous women: (a) by OSW; (b) on the Partnerships Against Domestic Violence Program; (c) on the National Initiative to Combat Sexual Assault program; and (d) on other programs.

2689 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Has Centrelink been directed to perform searches in relation to incomes earned by recipients in previous years; if so: (a) when were these searches conducted; (b) who directed or ordered the searches; (c) can a copy be provided of the direction or order; (d) how many Centrelink staff have been allocated to perform the assessments; (e) at what Australian Public Service levels are these staff employed; (f) were any staff seconded from other areas of Centrelink to complete these searches; if so, from which areas of Centrelink were staff seconded and were they replaced to maintain staffing levels; if not, were extra staff employed; (g) which Centrelink benefit recipients were targeted; (h) was this specified in the direction or order; and (i) when did the assessments commence.
- (2) Was the time period for which Centrelink was directed to assess payments against income earned specified.

- (3) (a) How many clients of Centrelink, both past and present, are currently being assessed in relation to their incomes in preceding years; and (b) what period does the assessment cover.
- (4) How many debt advices were issued in the 24 months to February 2004 as a result of these checks.
- (5) How much was the average debt.
- (6) How much was the largest debt.
- (7) What percentage of those debts were in the range: (a) \$1-\$100; (b) \$101-\$500; (c) \$501-\$1 000; (d) \$1 001-\$2 000; and (e) \$2 001 and above.
- (8) As a result of these debts being raised in the 24 months to February 2004: (a) how many debt advices have been appealed; and (b) in relation to these assessments: (i) how many have been finalised; (ii) how many are currently under review; (iii) how many were withdrawn by the recipient, what reasons were provided by recipients for withdrawing appeals, and at what stage of the appeals process did the majority of recipients withdraw their requests for appeal, (iv) in how many cases did the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) and/or the Social Security Appeals Tribunal (SSAT) find in favour of the recipient, and (v) how many original debt advices were reduced as a result of the appeals process; if any, can reasons be provided as to why the debts were reduced.
- (9) What is the cost in staff hours for an administrative review officer (ARO) to review an appeal.
- (10) What is the dollar cost per hour of employing an equivalent ARO.
- (11) (a) If an appeal fails and a further appeal is placed by the debtor, how many staff hours does Centrelink allocate to preparation for AAT and SSAT appeals; and (b) can this cost be provided both as a dollar figure and as a percentage of the budget.
- (12) Can an estimate be provided of how much it costs Centrelink and other Commonwealth agencies or tribunals to hear and prepare for these appeals, broken down by agency.
- (13) What is the maximum debt figure that may be waived.
- (14) Do team leaders or Centrelink management have a discretion to waive debts; if so, can details be provided of: (a) the guidelines for these discretionary powers; and (b) how this discretion is determined.
- (15) Of the debt recovery cases, how many produced a debt: (a) in which the recovery payment may be waived; (b) of between \$100 and \$500; (c) of between \$501 and \$1 000; (d) of between \$1 001 and \$3000; and (e) greater than \$3 001.
- (16) Can a list be provided of the debt categories by benefit.
- (17) Have any prosecutions been initiated as a result of checks against income for the financial years preceding 2003-04; if so, can information be provided on any subsequent prosecutions including: (a) the amount of the debt; (b) the period in which the debt was accrued; and (c) the name of the benefit received by the recipient.

2693 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) (a) How many personnel are employed within the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO); and (b) at what Australian Public Services (APS) levels are they employed.
- (2) (a) How many personnel are employed in the Safety and Radiation Science Unit of ANSTO; and (b) at what APS levels are they employed.
- (3) Does this unit have the capability to respond to an accident involving radiological material at an Australian nuclear facility.
- (4) Would this capability be the same if there was a major radiological accident outside an Australian nuclear facility.

2696 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) For each financial year since 1996-97 and for the 2003-04 financial year to date: (a) how many senior executive service (SES) officers were employed in the department; (b) what were the base and top wages (including performance pay) of Australian Public Service officer levels 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 or equivalent employed in the department; (c) how many staff had mobile phones issued by the department; (d) what was the cost to the department of mobile phones issued to departmental officers; and (e)(i) how many SES officers were issued with motor vehicles, (ii) what was the cost of these vehicles, and (iii) what was the cost of fuel and other operating expenses for these vehicles.
- (2) For each financial year since 2000-01 and for the 2003-04 to date, how many management retreats or training programs attended by departmental officers were conducted by the department.
- (3) How many of these management retreats or training programs were held off site.
- (4) In each case of an off-site management retreat or training program: (a) where was the event held; (b) what was the cost of accommodation; (c) what was the cost of food; (d) what was the cost of alcohol; and (e) what was the cost of transport.

2697 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—For each financial year since 1996-97 and for the 2003-04 financial year to date:

- (1) (a) How many overseas trips were taken by departmental officers; and (b) for each trip: (i) what was the cost, (ii) what was the cost of accommodation, allowances and airfares, and (iii) what was the destination.
- (2) How many domestic trips were taken by departmental officers.
- (3) What was the cost of domestic travel undertaken by officers of the department.
- (4) (a) How many overseas trips were taken by ministerial staff; and (b) for each trip: (i) what was the cost, (ii) was the cost of accommodation, allowances and airfares, and (iii) what was the destination.

2698 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) For each financial year since 1996-97 and for the 2003-04 financial year to date, how much did the department spend on advertising.
- (2) Did any of the above advertising programs contain material that provided a breakdown by electorate of spending linked with programs administered by

the department; if so: (a) how many of the above advertising programs contained a breakdown by electorate of spending; and (b) for each financial year since 1996-97, what was the cost of advertising that contained this information.

2699 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) For each financial year since 1996-97 and for the 2003-04 financial year to date: (a) what was the cost of consultants engaged by the department; and (b) how many of these consultancies were engaged to conduct surveys of community attitudes to departmental programs
- (2) For each consultancy: (a) what was the cost; and (b) who was the consultant.
- (3) Were any of the surveys in (1)(b) released publicly; if so, in each case, when was the material released; if not, in each case, what was the basis for not releasing the material publicly.

2701 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) (a) Which countries have been declared under subsection 198A(3) of the *Migration Act 1958*; and (b) when were these declarations made.
- (2) Have any declarations ever been revoked; if so, which declarations and when.
- (3) (a) What are the relevant effective procedures referred to in paragraph 198A(3)(i) of the Act; (b) who makes the decision that these procedures are effective; (c) on what evidence is that decision based; and (d) have any declarations ever been refused because a country did not have effective procedures.
- (4) (a) What is the relevant protection referred to in paragraphs 198A(3)(ii) and 198A(3)(iii) of the Act; (b) who makes the decision that this protection is effective; (c) on what evidence is that decision based; and (d) have any declarations ever been refused because a country did not provide sufficient protection.
- (5) (a) What are the relevant human rights standards referred to in paragraph 198A(3)(iv) of the Act; (b) who makes the decision that these standards have been met; (c) on what evidence is that decision based; and (d) have any declarations ever been refused because a country did not meet the relevant human rights standards.

Notice given 16 March 2004

2702 **Senator Mackay:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) With reference to the advice provided by the Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS) at the 2003-04 additional estimates hearing of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee on 16 February 2004 (*Hansard* transcript, pp 55-56), how many hours of programming did SBS broadcast in languages other than English in 2002 and 2003.
- (2) Excluding the program *World Watch*, how many hours of programming in 2002 and 2003 were broadcast in languages other than English.
- (3) How many of these hours were broadcast in prime time.

- (4) Of the total number of hours of programming in languages other than English, how many hours were subtitled.
- (5) How many hours of subtitled programming were produced by the subtitling department in 2002 and 2003.
- (6) How does SBS define what constitutes a broadcast in languages other than English.

Notice given 18 March 2004

Senator Allison: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2705-2706)—With reference to the study by Dr Sheila Crewther and Dr Patricia Kiely of the Latrobe University's School of Psychological Science, which indicates that one-quarter of Australian children have some form of vision problem and two-thirds of vision problems go undetected, resulting in under-performance in school:

- (1) What action has the Government taken, or what action does it intend to take, to overcome this problem in learning.
- (2) Will the Government promote and/or fund a national program of testing for short-sightedness, long-sightedness and focusing muscle coordination problems.

2706 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

Notice given 19 March 2004

2709 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—With reference to action the Government has taken in relation to the Qantas subsidiary company Jetstar, and its impact on Tasmania:

- (1) Since 1 October 2003:
 - (a) what meetings have occurred and what correspondence has there been between the Minister and representatives of Qantas and Jetstar regarding how the proposed services will affect the Tasmanian business community, including in relation to: (i) connecting flights, (ii) the timing of Jetstar services, and (iii) the cancellation of the early morning Qantas flight to Melbourne from Launceston and the evening return flight to Launceston;
 - (b) (i) who initiated the meetings, (ii) when were these held, and (iii) who attended;
 - (c) (i) who initiated the correspondence, (ii) when was it dated, and (iii) which parties corresponded;
 - (d) what were the outcomes of the meetings and correspondence; and
 - (e) can copies be provided of the records of the meetings and the correspondence between the Minister and Qantas and Jetstar representatives; if not, why not.
- (2) Since 1 October 2003:
 - (a) what meetings have occurred and what correspondence has there been between the Minister and Tasmanian Liberal senators regarding Jetstar;
 - (b) (i) who initiated the meetings, (ii) when were these held, and (iii) who attended;
 - (c) (i) who initiated the correspondence, (ii) when was it dated, and (iii) which parties corresponded;
 - (d) what were the outcomes of the meetings and correspondence; and

- (e) can copies be provided of the records of the meetings and the correspondence between the Minister and Tasmanian Liberal senators; if not, why not.
- (3) Since 1 October 2003:
 - (a) what meetings have occurred and what correspondence has there been between the Minister and Qantas and Jetstar staff regarding potential difficulties faced by disabled or elderly passengers flying between Tasmania and the mainland who have to re-check their luggage for connecting flights;
 - (b) (i) who initiated the meetings, (ii) when were these held, and (iii) who attended;
 - (c) (i) who initiated the correspondence, (ii) when was it dated, and (iii) which parties corresponded;
 - (d) what were the outcomes of the meetings and correspondence; and
 - (e) can copies be provided of the records of the meetings and the correspondence between the Minister and Qantas and Jetstar staff; if not, why not.

Notice given 22 March 2004

Senator Allison: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2716-2717)—

- (1) Is the Government aware that more than 25 000 new off-road diesel engines that emit up to 65 times the level of particulate matter and 10 times the nitrogen oxides permitted under the *Motor Vehicle Standards Act 1989* for on-road vehicles are sold in Australia each year.
- (2) Why is it that, unlike Europe and North America, Australia is yet to regulate emission standards for off-road engines.
- (3) What work, if any, has been done to assess the impact of off-road vehicle emissions, particularly in metropolitan areas.
- (4) When does the Government intend to introduce vehicle emission regulation for off-road vehicles.

2716 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2717 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2718 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) For each of the years 1996 to 2004, and for each state and territory, how many children were or will be enrolled in: (a) public schools; (b) independent schools (i.e. schools other than Catholic systemic schools); and (c) Catholic systemic schools.
- (2) For each of the years 2001 to 2004, what was the Average Government School Recurrent Cost (AGSRC).
- (3) With reference to the table, 'General Recurrent Funding Increases' in the Minister's media release 'Learning together: Achievement through choice and opportunity' (dated 11 March 2004, Min 639/04): (a) what projections were used for each of the years 2005 to 2008 for the numbers of children who will be enrolled in: (i) public schools, (ii) independent schools (i.e. schools other than Catholic systemic schools), and (iii) Catholic systemic schools; and (b) can these figures be provided for each state and territory.

- (4) With reference to the table mentioned in (3), what are the 'related effects' and how much does each effect contribute to the increases in funding for the period 2005 to 2008 over that provided in the period 2001 to 2004 in relation to: (a) public schools; (b) independent schools (i.e. schools other than Catholic systemic schools); and (c) Catholic systemic schools.
- (5) Can a table be provided indicating the following data for each independent school in Australia:
- (a) the school number;
 - (b) the name of the school;
 - (c) the postcode of the school;
 - (d) the state in which the school operates;
 - (e) the school's educational resource index (ERI) category, if available;
 - (f) the actual socio-economic status (SES) score;
 - (g) the funding SES score (i.e. the SES score at which the school is funded, which might be a previous, higher score);
 - (h) the percentage of AGSRC;
 - (i) the funding basis (funding maintained, SES or funding guaranteed, i.e. funded at a previous higher SES score);
 - (j) the number of primary students in 2002 and 2003;
 - (k) the actual or projected number of primary students in 2004;
 - (l) the projected number of primary students 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008;
 - (m) the number of secondary students in 2002 and 2003;
 - (n) the actual or projected number of secondary students in 2004;
 - (o) the projected number of secondary students 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008;
 - (p) the primary per capita funding for 2003;
 - (q) the actual or projected primary per capita funding for 2004;
 - (r) the projected primary per capita funding for 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008;
 - (s) the secondary per capita funding for 2003;
 - (t) the actual or projected secondary per capita funding for 2004; and
 - (u) the projected secondary per capita funding for 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008.
- (6) Can a table also be provided of the same data as in (5) for all Catholic systemic schools in Australia.
- (7) For each independent school in Australia, the funding for which is maintained or which is not to be funded at its new SES level, can a table be provided with the following data:
- (a) the school number;
 - (b) the name of the school;
 - (c) the postcode of the school;
 - (d) the state in which the school operates;
 - (e) the school's ERI category, if available;
 - (f) the school's year 2001 SES score;
 - (g) the school's new SES score;
 - (h) the school's actual per capita funding in 2001; and
 - (i) the school's actual per capita funding in 2002.

Notice given 23 March 2004

2722 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to the Government's New Apprenticeships Scheme:

- (1) For the financial years 2000-01 and 2002-03, can a breakdown be provided, by state and electorate, or if electorate details are not available, by state and postcode, of the number of people participating in the scheme.
- (2) Since 1 July 2001, what action has the Government taken to encourage people from regional communities to participate in the scheme.
- (3) For the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03, what was the cost to the Commonwealth of this action.
- (4) For the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, what is the projected cost to the Commonwealth of proposed Government action to encourage people from regional communities to participate in the scheme.
- (5) For the financial years 2000-01 and 2002-03, can a breakdown be provided, by state and electorate, or if electorate details are not available, by state and postcode, of the number of Indigenous Australians participating in the scheme.
- (6) Since 1 July 2001, what action has the Government taken to encourage Indigenous Australians to participate in the scheme.
- (7) For the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03, what was the cost to the Commonwealth of this action.
- (8) For the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, what is the projected cost to the Commonwealth of proposed Government action to encourage Indigenous Australians to participate in the scheme.

2725 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) For the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03 and for 2003-04 to date: (a) how many visas were issued to international journalists under the Visiting Journalist Program; (b) how many visa applications were refused under the program; and (c) how many visa applications were received under the program.
- (2) For each financial year since 1 July 2001, what was the average processing time for visa applications under the program.
- (3) (a) What service standards apply in relation to the processing time for visa applications under the program; and (b) have these service standards been changed since 1 July 2000; if so, how have they been changed and why.
- (4) For each financial year since 1 July 2001, what has been the standard charge (in Australian dollars) to applicants under the program.
- (5) For the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03 and for 2003-04 to date: (a) how many visas were issued to international journalists for the purpose of attending or reporting on the Melbourne Formula One Grand Prix; (b) what was the average time taken to process visas issued to international journalists for the purpose of attending or reporting on the Grand Prix; (c) how many visa applications were refused to international journalists applying for the purpose of attending or reporting on the Grand Prix; and (d) how many visa applications were received from international journalists applying for the purpose of attending or reporting on the Grand Prix.

- (6) For the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07 and 2007-08, what is the projected number of applications and approvals under the program.

2726 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For each of the financial years 2001-02, 2002-03 and for 2003-04 to date:

- (1) How much did the Commonwealth spend on the Bass Strait Vehicle Equalisation Scheme.
- (2) How much was spent under the scheme for vehicles in the following categories as defined in the Ministerial Directions for the scheme: Passenger vehicle, Motorcycle, Caravan, Bicycle, and Motor home.
- (3) How many vehicles subject to the scheme fell into each of these categories.

2727 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07:

- (1) What is the projected Commonwealth expenditure on the Bass Strait Vehicle Equalisation Scheme.
- (2) What is the projected Commonwealth expenditure on the scheme in relation to the following categories of vehicles, as defined in the Ministerial Directions for the scheme: Passenger vehicle, Motorcycle, Caravan, Bicycle, and Motor home.
- (3) How many vehicles which will be subject to the scheme are projected to fall into each of these categories.

Notice given 24 March 2004

2729 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) For each of the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03 and for 2003-04 to date: what representations has the Minister and/or the Government received from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, native title representative bodies, state governments, the mining industry and other organisations or industries expressing concern about the inadequacy of funding for native title representative bodies' statutory functions.
- (2) How has the Minister and the Government responded to these representations.
- (3) What concerns have been expressed by the Federal Court of Australia about the level of funding available to native title representative bodies to undertake statutory functions.
- (4) How has the Minister and the Government responded to these concerns.
- (5) For each of the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03 and for 2003-04 to date, have any native title representative bodies been forced to withdraw from participation in any native title proceedings due to inadequate funding; if so, can details be provided, including the names of the native title representative bodies, the name and nature of the proceedings, the reasons for withdrawing and the date of withdrawal.

2730 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the recent review of the Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) program facilitated by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services (ATSIS):

- (1) What were the terms of reference.
- (2) When did the review commence.
- (3) Who undertook the review.
- (4) What role did Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) Board members play in the review.
- (5) When was the review completed.
- (6) What did the review cost and can a breakdown of the cost be provided, showing staff, consultancy, production and any other costs.
- (7) When was the report of the review presented to the ATSIC Board.
- (8) When was the report of the review provided to the Minister.
- (9) Was the Minister provided with a copy of a draft review report; if so, when.
- (10) What were the main findings of the review.
- (11) What were the main recommendations of the review.
- (12) Can a copy of the review report be provided; if not, why not.
- (13) Did the review outcome inform the view of the then ATSIC/ATSIS Chief Executive Officer, Mr Wayne Gibbons, that the CDEP model is 'flawed' and deserving of 'fundamental reform', as reported on page 1 of the *Australian* newspaper of 20 December 2003.
- (14) Has the Minister responded to the review; if so, can a copy of the Minister's response be provided; if not, why not.
- (15) If the Minister has not responded to the review, does she propose to do so; if so, when; if not, why not.

2734 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Government aware of the following medical evidence of the effectiveness of complementary healthcare products:
 - (a) vitamin E reduces the risk of heart attacks by up to 75 per cent (*Cambridge University*, 1996);
 - (b) vitamin E reduces cardiovascular disease by 37 per cent (*Harvard Medical School*, 1994);
 - (c) selenium reduces cancer mortality by 50 per cent (*Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1996);
 - (d) vitamin C reduces the risk of cataracts by 77 per cent (*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 1997);
 - (e) vitamins C and E reduce the risk of mortality by 42 per cent (*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 1996);
 - (f) vitamin E delays the onset of Alzheimer's disease (*New England Journal of Medicine*, 1997);
 - (g) St John's Wort is as effective as antidepressants, without the side-effects (*British Medical Journal*, 1996);
 - (h) beta-carotene reduces the risk of prostate cancer by 36 per cent (*Australian Doctor*, 1997);

- (i) multivitamins and vitamin E reduce the risk of cataracts by 33 per cent and 50 per cent respectively (*Ophthalmology*, 1998);
 - (j) vitamin E supplements reduce the incidence of prostate cancer by 32 per cent and the incidence of prostate cancer death in heavy smokers by 41 per cent (*Journal of National Cancer Institute*, 1998);
 - (k) fish oil lowers the heart disease death rate (*Lancet*, 1999);
 - (l) high intake of vitamin C and vitamin E may lower the risk of Alzheimer's disease (*Journal of the American Medical Association*, 2002);
 - (m) high blood levels of antioxidants are associated with better brain function in the elderly (*Journal of the American Geriatric Society*, 1998);
 - (n) a double-blind placebo-controlled study of 1 300 subjects by the Nutritional Prevention of Cancer Study group released in 1996 observed that a selenium supplement (200ug selenium as selenium enriched yeast) caused a 50 per cent reduction in total cancer mortality and a 37 per cent reduction in all cancer incidence and this effect was so pronounced that the trial was stopped 2 years early for ethical reasons (Clark LC, Combs GF, Turnbull BW et al, *Effects of selenium supplements on cancer prevention in patients with carcinoma of the skin*);
 - (o) a double-blind placebo-controlled study of 2 002 people with a history of coronary heart diseases conducted in the United Kingdom showed a 75 per cent reduction in heart attacks in those who took up to 800IUs of vitamin E daily (Stephens NG, Parsons A, Schofield PM, Kelly F, Cheesman K, Mitchinson MJ, *Randomised controlled trial of vitamin E in patients with coronary disease*);
 - (p) a United States of America (US) report has found that folic acid and vitamin B12 supplementation of the diets of men aged 45 plus and women 55 plus would save more than \$US2 billion in treatment costs over 10 years (Tice JA, Ross E, Coxson PG, et al, *Cost-effectiveness of vitamin therapy to lower plasma homocystine levels for the prevention of coronary heart disease: effect of grain fortification and beyond*);
 - (q) the *Lancet* (Johan 1999) reported that massive healthcare cost reductions could be achieved by maintaining strong support for natural health products in managing allergies: a 50 per cent reduction in allergy across Australia would reduce the total health expenditure by between \$2 billion and \$4 billion, and help one million Australian's who are currently chronically unwell return to normal health; and
 - (r) the vitamin folic acid, vitamin B12 and vitamin B6 can halve the risk of recurrence of blocked arteries in patients who have undergone coronary angioplasty (*JAMA* 28 August 2002, 188(8): 973-9).
- (2) (a) What action is the Government taking to encourage the consumption of these products in the light of this evidence; and (b) will this action include providing advice to general practitioners and medical specialists about this subject.

- (3) Has the Government considered the health and economic benefits of subsidising these products or exempting them from the goods and service tax; if not, why not.

2737 **Senator Lees:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the nexus between science innovation and industry as a way of fostering economic growth:

- (1) Since 1 January 2002, how much has the Government spent through cooperative research centres on research for: (a) geo-sequestration fuel technologies; (b) biological–sequestration; (c) renewable energy;
- (2) Since 1 January 2002, how much has the Government spent outside of cooperative research centres on research for: (a) geo-sequestration fuel technologies; (b) biological–sequestration; (c) renewable energy;

Senator O’Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2738-2739)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of any plans by Qantas, after the launch of its subsidiary company Jetstar, to withdraw all Qantas services from Tasmanian routes within the next 3 years; if so, when did he become aware of the plans.
- (2) Was the Minister advised of these plans by correspondence; if so, can a copy of the correspondence be provided; if not, why not.
- (3) If he was advised other than by correspondence, can copies of relevant minutes or other records of conversation be provided; if not, why not.

2739 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism

Notice given 25 March 2004

2741 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Are Australian naval personnel who are enforcing Commonwealth customs, immigration, quarantine or fisheries law permitted to board vessels when the use of either force or lethal force, may be expected.
- (2) Are Australian naval personnel who are enforcing Commonwealth customs, immigration, quarantine or fisheries law permitted to board vessels when the crew of the vessel of interest is acting in an overtly hostile manner.
- (3) Are Australian naval personnel who are enforcing Commonwealth customs, immigration, quarantine or fisheries law permitted to board vessels where there is an expectation that the crew or passengers of that vessel: (a) may be armed with firearms; or (b) will resist the boarding of the vessel with the use of either force or lethal force.
- (4) If Australian naval personnel are permitted to board a vessel in any of the above situations: (a) what training must they undertake before they undertake such operations; (b) who supplies this training; and (c) how many personnel have received this training.
- (5) How many of these naval personnel were stationed on Fremantle Class patrol vessels as at 24 March 2004.
- (6) If naval personnel are not permitted to board vessels in any of the above situations, what is the protocol once such a vessel is identified.
- (7) What other members of the Australian Defence Force are permitted to board vessels where: (a) the use of force or lethal force is expected; or (b) the crew is behaving in overtly hostile manner.

2742 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Riverina during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Riverina during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Riverina during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Riverina during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2743 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Macarthur during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Macarthur during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Macarthur during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Macarthur during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2744 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Hume during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Hume during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Hume during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Hume during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2745 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Gilmore during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Gilmore during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Gilmore during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Gilmore during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2746 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Farrer during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Farrer during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Farrer during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Farrer during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2747 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Eden-Monaro during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Division of Eden-Monaro during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Division of Eden-Monaro during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Division of Eden-Monaro during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2750 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) For each regional television licensee: (a) how has the licensee complied with the amended license conditions for aggregated markets; and (b) when did the licensee begin compliant broadcasting.
- (2) How is the Australian Broadcasting Authority (ABA) ensuring that licensees comply with their licence conditions.
- (3) Have any investigations of compliance with the conditions been undertaken.
- (4) In relation to regional and remote broadcasters outside the four aggregated markets, the ABA has advised that it 'will continue to keep the situation under review and investigate further if and when appropriate. A decision on these investigations will be taken late next year, when the ABA has had an opportunity to review the matter': has a decision on these investigations been made; if not, why not.
- (5) What action does the ABA intend to take to ensure that licensees broadcast matters of local significance.

- (6) (a) Is it a requirement that local news be produced at local stations using local staff; and (b) is the ABA aware of any licensees producing local news which is presented by staff located outside of the local market at which the local news is aimed.

Notice given 26 March 2004

- 2751 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—
- (1) What was the additional cost of re-shooting the superannuation co-contribution advertising campaign when it was decided by the Ministerial Committee on Government Communications that the size of the pig had to be reduced.
 - (2) Who made the decision that a re-shoot was required.
 - (3) Did the print material have to be adjusted; if so, what was the additional cost.
- 2754 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—What powers do Australian Federal Police have to enforce Commonwealth law within: (a) the 3 nautical miles of ocean immediately adjacent to Australian coastline; (b) Australia's territorial sea; (c) the 'contiguous zone' of Australia's exclusive economic zone; and (d) Australia's exclusive economic zone.
- 2757 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—What powers do departmental employees have to enforce Commonwealth law within: (a) the 3 nautical miles of ocean immediately adjacent to Australian coastline; (b) Australia's territorial sea; (c) the 'contiguous zone' of Australia's exclusive economic zone; and (d) Australia's exclusive economic zone.
- 2758 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—What powers do the Australian Fisheries Management Authority have to enforce Commonwealth law within: (a) the 3 nautical miles of ocean immediately adjacent to Australian coastline; (b) Australia's territorial sea; (c) the 'contiguous zone' of Australia's exclusive economic zone; and (d) Australia's exclusive economic zone.
- 2759 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Other than Fremantle class patrol vessels, what other classes of Australian naval vessels are able to undertake boarding operations of other vessels when enforcing Australian Commonwealth law.
 - (2) (a) Can a list be provided showing the class and name of each of the vessels able to undertake these boarding operations; and (b) can these vessels undertake boarding operations where the use of force or lethal force may be expected, or the crew or passengers of the vessel to be boarded are behaving in an overtly hostile manner; if not, which vessels can undertake these boarding operations.
 - (3) (a) Since 1996, how many boarding operations have been undertaken by naval personnel enforcing Australian Commonwealth law where: the use of force was expected, the use of lethal force was expected, or the crew or passengers of the vessel to be boarded are behaving in an overtly hostile manner; and (b) can a breakdown be provided of each boarding operation showing: (i) the name of the naval vessel involved, (ii) when the boarding occurred, and (iii) the location of the boarding.
- 2760 **Senator Forshaw:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances was bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Cowper, Cunningham, Hughes, Mackellar, Page, Parkes and Warringah during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (2) How many unreferral GP attendances were bulk billed in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Cowper, Cunningham, Hughes, Mackellar, Page, Parkes and Warringah during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (3) What was the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) in relation to unreferral GP attendances in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Cowper, Cunningham, Hughes, Mackellar, Page, Parkes and Warringah during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.
- (4) How many unreferral GP attendances were there in the Federal Electoral Divisions of Cowper, Cunningham, Hughes, Mackellar, Page, Parkes and Warringah during the quarter ending 31 December 2003.

2762 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the *Quarantine Proclamation 1998*, which prohibits the importation of a seed from a plant without a permit issued by the Director of Quarantine, unless the seed is of a plant listed in Schedule 5:

- (1) How many genera of plants are listed under Schedule 5 of the proclamation.
- (2) How many species are covered by the genera listed.
- (3) How many known environmental and/or agricultural weeds that have not been recorded in Australia may be imported without a permit through the operation of the exemption for the seeds of plants listed.
- (4) How many and which species on the National Alert List on Weeds may be imported without a permit through the operation of the exemption for the seeds of plants listed.
- (5) How many and which weeds of national significance may be imported without a permit through the operation of the exemption for the seeds of plants listed.
- (6) Since the adoption of the weed risk assessment process in 1997, how many known environmental and/or agricultural weeds that have not previously been recorded in Australia have been imported: (a) without a permit from the Director of Quarantine; and (b) without undergoing a weed risk assessment.

2763 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Has the Commonwealth investigated the fish kills in the Darling River between Menindee Lakes and Pooncarie which took place during January 2004; if so, can the Minister table in the Senate any reports that have been prepared in relation to the incident.
- (2) How many Murray Cod are estimated to have been killed following releases of water from Menindee Lakes during January 2004.
- (3) Under Part 7 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* are state governments required to refer to the Minister any proposals to release water from water storages that were built prior to July 2000 that are likely to have a significant impact on a listed threatened species (other than a conservation dependent species).

- (4) Does the Minister consider that the New South Wales Government was required to refer the proposals to make two 150 megalitre releases from Menindee Lakes in January 2004 under Part 7 of the Act; if not, why not.
- (5) Has the Commonwealth investigated the fish kills in the Goulburn River between Nagambie and Murchison which took place during January 2004; if so, can the Minister table in the Senate any reports that have been prepared in relation to the incident.
- (6) How many Murray cod and Trout cod are estimated to have been killed in the Goulburn River between Nagambie and Murchison during January 2004.
- (7) Does the Minister consider that the Victorian Government was required to refer any proposals to make releases from Lake Eildon in January 2004 under Part 7 of the Act; if not, why not.
- (8) Has the Commonwealth informed the New South Wales and Victorian Governments of their statutory obligations in relation to the management of water storages under the Act.

Notice given 29 March 2004

- 2764 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—With reference to the \$25.6 million of new funding for students with disabilities, announced as part of the funding for Australian schools for the period 2005 to 2008:
- (1) Can a breakdown be provided of that funding, including: (a) details of the programs and/or grants administered by the department; (b) the level of funding provided through these programs and/or grants for the financial years 2000-01 and 2001-02; and (c) if specific projects were funded, for each project, the nature of the project and the level of funding.
 - (2) (a) How much does this funding exceed indexation of previous funding; and (b) to which programs will these funds be directed.
- 2765 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the answer to question no. 133 taken on notice on 27 May 2003 during the 2004-05 Budget estimates hearing of the Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee:
- (1) On what dates did the Australian Federal Police (AFP) approach the Indonesian National Police (INP) seeking permission to release the INP/AFP Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) [dated 5 August 1997] and the Protocol [dated 15 September 2000].
 - (2) Did the AFP request permission from the INP to release the MOU and protocol in writing or verbally; if the request was in writing, can a copy of the request be tabled.
 - (3) Has the protocol under the MOU been reinstated since it was cancelled in September 2001.
- 2767 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—
- (1) Does the Minister agree with the statement on page 48 of the Coal 21 National Action Plan (March 2004) that, 'It is clear that RD&D for both renewables and fossil fuel based technologies may need to be supported by government grant, subsidy or incentive type schemes in partnership with the private sector'.

- (2) For the period 2003-04 to 2009-10: (a) has the Government committed \$45.2 million to the Centre for Greenhouse Gas Technologies for research into reducing greenhouse gas emissions through the use of fossil fuel based technologies; and (b) what funding has the Government committed for research into reducing greenhouse gas emissions through the use of: (i) renewable energy, and (ii) energy efficiency.

2768 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—In relation to civil aviation incidents that caused safety concerns, which were reported to, or investigated by, the Civil Aviation Safety Authority: (a) how many incidents occurred in each of the past 5 years; (b) how many occurred during the period of altered operation of aircraft management; and (c) how long was that period.

2769 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to claims in an article in the *Herald Sun* of 16 March 2004, that only two Victoria Police officers patrol Melbourne airport between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm, seven days a week:

- (1) How many Australian Federal Police (AFP) officers patrol the airport: (a) between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm; and (b) outside of these hours.
- (2) How many Australian Protective Services (APS) officers patrol the airport: (a) between the hours of 9 am and 5 pm; and (b) outside of these hours.
- (3) In the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03, for the provision of AFP patrols of Tullamarine Airport: (a) what was the budget allocation; and (b) what was the actual expenditure.
- (4) In the 2003-04 financial year to date, for the provision of AFP patrols of Tullamarine Airport: (a) what is the budget allocation; and (b) what is the actual expenditure.
- (5) In the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03, for the provision of APS patrols of Tullamarine Airport: (a) what was the budget allocation; and (b) what was the actual expenditure.
- (6) In the 2003-04 financial year to date, for the provision of APS patrols of Tullamarine Airport: (a) what is the budget allocation; and (b) what is the actual expenditure.

2770 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to an article in the *Herald Sun* of 24 March 2004 which reports that security guards at Australian airports have been obstructed in their duties by private airport operators interfering with security operations and, in particular, an incident on 18 December 2004 in which a travel bag abandoned at Sydney Airport was found to contain traces of explosives:

- (1) What investigations has the Government made in relation to these matters.
- (2) (a) What meetings have occurred and what correspondence has there been between the Minister and Australian Protective Service personnel in Sydney and Melbourne in relation to security 'incidents' at Melbourne and Sydney airports;
 - (b) (i) who initiated the meetings, (ii) when were these held, and (iii) who attended;
 - (c) (i) who initiated the correspondence, (ii) when was it dated, and (iii) which parties corresponded;
 - (d) what were the outcomes of the meetings and correspondence; and

- (e) can copies be provided of the records of the meetings and the correspondence between the Minister and the Australian Protective Service personnel; if not, why not.
- (3) (a) What meetings have occurred and what correspondence has there been between the Minister and private airport operators from Melbourne and Sydney in relation to security incidents at Melbourne and Sydney airports;
- (b) (i) who initiated the meetings, (ii) when were these held, and (iii) who attended;
- (c) (i) who initiated the correspondence, (ii) when was it dated, and (iii) which parties corresponded;
- (d) what were the outcomes of the meetings and correspondence; and
- (e) can copies be provided of the records of the meetings and the correspondence between the Minister and private airport operators from Melbourne and Sydney airports.

2771 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What are the breakdowns of the percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances bulk billed, by federal electorate division, for the 12 months ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (2) What are the breakdowns of the number of total unreferral GP attendances bulk billed, by federal electorate division, for the 12 months ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (3) What are the breakdowns for the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for total unreferral GP attendances, by federal electoral division, for the 12 months ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (4) What are the breakdowns for the number of services for total unreferral GP attendances, by federal electoral division, for the 12 months ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.

2772 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What are the breakdowns of the percentage of total unreferral attendances bulk billed, by federal electoral division, for the quarters ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002 and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (2) What are the breakdowns of the number of total unreferral attendances bulk billed, by federal electoral division, for the quarters ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (3) What are the breakdowns for the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for total unreferral attendances, by federal electoral division, for the quarters ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (4) What are the breakdowns for the number of services for total unreferral attendances, by federal electoral division, for the quarters ending:

(a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.

2773 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What are the breakdowns, by state and territory, of the percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances bulk billed for the quarters ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (2) What are the breakdowns, by state and territory, of the number of total unreferral GP attendances bulk billed for the quarters ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (3) What are the breakdowns, by state and territory, for the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for total unreferral GP attendances for the quarters ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (4) What are the breakdowns, by state and territory, for the number of services for total unreferral GP attendances for the quarters ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.

2774 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) What is the Rural and Remote Area (RRMA)-by-Rural and Remote Area (RRMA) breakdown for the percentage of total unreferral general practitioner (GP) attendances bulk billed for the 12 months ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (2) What is the RRMA-by-RRMA breakdown of the number of total unreferral GP attendances bulk billed, by federal electoral division, for the 12 months ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (3) What is the RRMA-by-RRMA breakdown for the average patient contribution per service (patient billed services only) for total unreferral GP attendances, by federal electoral division, for the 12 months ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (4) What is the RRMA-by-RRMA breakdown for the number of services for total unreferral GP attendances, by federal electoral division, for 12 months ending: (a) 31 December 2000; (b) 31 December 2001; (c) 31 December 2002; and (d) 31 December 2003.
- (5) For the 12 months to 30 June 2003, what is breakdown by RRMA of the percentage of GPs who bulk billed for unreferral services in the following bands: (a) less than 5%; (b) 5% to 25%; (c) 25% to 50%; (d) 50% to 70%; (e) 70% to 75%; (f) 75% to 80%; (g) 80% to 95%; and (h) greater than 95%. Include only those GPs who provided 1 000 or more unreferral services in the period.

2775 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is it usual for the department to impose conditions when entering into sponsorship arrangements; if so, what conditions are imposed.
- (2) Do such conditions include: (a) the organisations or individuals who might be invited to functions and forums; and (b) the right of the department to veto who might be invited to attend and/or present.
- (3) Do such conditions mean that members of the Australian Labor Party cannot attend and/or present at functions and forums of those organisations which receive sponsorship support from the department.
- (4) Has the department ever placed such a condition on its sponsorship arrangements, implicitly or explicitly, in writing or orally; if so, when and why.

2776 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) For each year since 1996, how many vessels has the Australian Customs Service (ACS) detected entering the Australian territorial sea without seeking appropriate authorisation from Australian authorities.
- (2) For each year since 1996: (a) how many vessels that landed on Australian territory without seeking appropriate authorisation from Australian authorities has the ACS detected; and (b) in each case: (i) when was the vessel detected, (ii) where was the vessel when detected, and (iii) how did the ACS first become aware of the vessels presence on the mainland.
- (3) Does the ACS maintain a record of all unauthorised foreign flagged vessels that have been detected in Australia's territorial sea; if not, why not; if so, since 1996, have any unauthorised foreign flagged vessels been detected more than once.
- (4) Can details be provided of all unauthorised foreign flagged vessels that have been detected more than once since 1996, showing: (a) the name of the vessel; (b) when and where it was detected; and (c) any action initiated by the ACS in relation to the vessels presence in the Australian territorial sea.

Notice given 30 March 2004

2777 **Senator Colbeck:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Given the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's (ABCs) professed commitment to quality national coverage, why has the ABC in Tasmania not had a full-time journalist working on the *7.30 Report* since a staff retirement in December 2003.
- (2) Why, following the full-time journalist's retirement, did ABC management change the position to a combined television and radio current affairs position, thereby making it difficult to fill, with the consequence that the ABC in Hobart lost a full-time journalist position.

Senator Ludwig: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2779-2795)—

- (1) In the past 12 months has the department or its agencies used, retained or paid for legal or other services from Phillips Fox Lawyers or any of their subsidiaries; if so: (a) can details of each instance be provided; and (b) as a general overview, what was the nature of the work undertaken.
- (2) Has the Minister attended any forums presented by Phillips Fox; if so, can details be provided.

- (3) Has the department sponsored any Phillip Fox forums or presentations in the past 12 months; if so, can details of the forums or presentations be provided.

2779 Minister representing the Prime Minister

2780 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2781 Minister representing the Treasurer

2783 Minister for Defence

2785 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

2787 Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

2788 Minister for Finance and Administration

2789 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

2791 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

2794 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

2795 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

2797 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—Since November 2001, how much has the Government spent on addressing salinity, water quality and biodiversity issues in the 21 priority regions identified under the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality.

2798 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Since November 2001, how much has been spent under the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT) on biodiversity conservation projects in the 15 biodiversity 'hot spots' identified by the Government.
- (2) For each of the financial years 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, and 2002-03, how much was spent on: (a) the Natural Reserve System; and (b) acquisitions under the system.
- (3) Since November 2001: (a) how much has been spent under the NHT on bird conservation projects; and (b) can details of these projects be provided.
- (4) Since November 2001: (a) how much has been spent under the NHT on research into and the control and eradication of invasive species; and (b) can details of these projects be provided.
- (5) Since November 2001: (a) how much money has been spent under the NHT on projects for the conservation of rangelands; and (b) can details of these projects be provided.
- (6) For each of the financial years 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, and 2002-03 and for 2003-04 to date, how much was spent under the Indigenous Protected Areas Program.

2799 **Senator Lees:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the department has engaged Dr MA (Rien) Habermehl of the Bureau of Rural Sciences to review the conflicting hydrological reports for the sand mine proposed by CSR Ltd/Readymix Ltd/Rinker Group at Donnybrook in Queensland adjacent to Pumicestone Passage and the Moreton Bay Ramsar Wetland (EPBC Referral No. 2001/329).

- (2) Can the Minister confirm that Dr Habermehl does not have special expertise in coastal hydrology and that his previous published research is generally limited to isotope studies concerning groundwater in the Great Artesian Basin.
- (3) Is the Minister concerned that the department has engaged a person who lacks special expertise in coastal hydrology to review the complex hydrological impacts of the proposed sand mine.
- (4) Given the potential for the irreversible, long-term and widespread impact of the proposed sand mine on the hydrology and water quality of the Moreton Bay Ramsar Wetland, will the Minister undertake to request that his department engages a national or international expert on coastal hydrology, such as Associate Professor Ian Acworth of the University of New South Wales, to review the potential hydrological impacts of the proposed sand mine, before making his decision under section 133 of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* in relation to the sand mine.
- (5) Is the Minister aware that the bio-availability of iron (Fe^{3+}) in the marine environment has been linked to outbreaks of *Lyngbya majuscula* (Oscillatoracea) blooms.
- (6) Is the Minister aware that recent outbreaks of *Lyngbya majuscula* have caused severe economic, social and environmental damage in the Pumicestone Passage and Moreton Bay Ramsar Wetland.
- (7) Given the potential for the proposed sand mine to increase iron availability in Pumicestone Passage and the Moreton Bay Ramsar Wetland, will the Minister request that the department engage an expert on the role of water chemistry in *Lyngbya majuscula* outbreaks, such as Professor David Waite of the University of New South Wales, to review the potential impacts of the proposed mine, before making his decision under section 133 of the Act.

Notice given 1 April 2004

2803 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1631 (Senate *Hansard*, 15 October 2004, p. 16585) in relation to ‘testing protocols for ADF [Australian Defence Force] personnel who may have been exposed to depleted uranium and other agents’, which states that ‘ADF deployed in the Middle East Area of Operations undergo a post-deployment medical screen in the area of Operation or as soon as practicable on return to Australia’:
 - (a) can copies of the testing protocols be provided;
 - (b) does the testing include both urine and blood tests;
 - (c) what is the rationale for the method of testing adopted;
 - (d) what is the likelihood that depleted uranium may accumulate in sites such as the lymph nodes and not show up in urine or blood;
 - (e) how many personnel have undergone post-deployment medical screening;
 - (f) what criteria are used in determining which personnel have been exposed;
 - (g) has the global position monitoring data been made available and is it ‘useful in future health outcome studies’; and

- (h) what are the results of the post-deployment medical screening and have they been made available to the ADF personnel.
- (2) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 2183 (Senate *Hansard*, 3 December 2003, p.19101), is the database of ADF personnel in risk categories 1, 2 and 3 for exposure to depleted uranium complete; if so, can a report of the database information be provided.
- (3) What decision was made concerning whether or not the Commonwealth can meet a request by former members of the ADF to be screened for exposure to depleted uranium.
- (4) Has the depleted uranium contamination of Iraq been measured by the 'coalition of the willing'; if so, what are the results.
- (5) Have Australian or coalition personnel estimated the extent to which Iraqi civilians have been exposed to depleted uranium.
- (6) Were Iraqi civilians offered testing for depleted uranium.
- (7) (a) What efforts are being made to decontaminate Iraq of depleted uranium; and (b) are Australian personnel involved in the decontamination; if so, how.
- 2805 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—For each of the past 10 financial years, how many private binding rulings did the Australian Taxation Office issue in relation to: (a) income tax; and (b) indirect tax.
- 2806 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—In relation to the Medibank Private building in Canberra, for each month of the following years: 2000, 2001, 2002 and 2003: (a) was the building occupied; if not, which months or part of which months was it not occupied; (b) how much rent was paid by the Commonwealth; and (c) who were the tenants.
- 2807 **Senator George Campbell:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—(a) Can trend data be provided showing, from 1996, the number of persons claiming NewStart and Youth Allowance (other) for more than 1 year; and (b) can this data also be broken down by: (i) state, and (ii) Department of Employment and Relations Workforce labour market region.
- 2808 **Senator George Campbell:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—(a) Can trend data be provided showing, from 1996, the number of persons claiming NewStart and Youth Allowance (other) for more than 2 years; and (b) can this data also be broken down by: (i) state, and (ii) Department of Employment and Relations Workforce labour market region.
- 2809 **Senator George Campbell:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—(a) Can trend data be provided showing, from 1996, the number of persons claiming NewStart and Youth Allowance (other) for more than 5 years; and (b) can this data also be broken down by: (i) state, and (ii) Department of Employment and Relations Workforce labour market region.

Notice given 2 April 2004

- 2812 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—
- (1) Is it the case nationally that half of all housing loans are being taken up by investors.
- (2) (a) What annual subsidy is provided to real estate investors by Australian taxpayers via the negative gearing provisions of the taxation system; and (b) by how much would this amount decrease if investment housing costs

were deductible only against other investment income, as is the case in the United States of America.

- (3) Does the availability of negative gearing increase the amount that investors are able to pay for housing, thus helping to put housing out of reach for owner-occupiers.

- 2813 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to the *Telecommunications Act 1997*, which authorises a carrier to enter a property to install a facility if the facility is ‘low-impact’ with the Telecommunications (Low-impact Facilities) Determination 1997 defining what a low impact facility is in relation to several classes of land use (i.e. areas of environmental significance, residential, commercial, industrial and rural): Does the Determination cover publicly-owned recreational areas and areas of heritage significance; if not, will the Government legislate to define what constitutes a low-impact installation in such areas.
- 2814 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the 2001 report of the Australian Bureau of Agricultural Economics, *Genetically modified grains: Market implications for Australian grain growers*, which concluded that consumer acceptance levels were critical in evaluating the viability of growing genetically-modified crops: Has there been any recent investigation of adverse effects on the marketing of Australian wheat and other grains to Japan and to other markets that would be caused by the inclusion of genetically-modified products.
- 2815 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Is the Government aware that an economic study, ‘Economic Impacts on New Zealand of GM Crops’ by Professor Caroline Saunders and Drs William Kaye-Blake and Selim Cagatay of Lincoln University, New Zealand, concluded that, given the likely consumer resistance to genetically-engineered products, there was no likely benefit to New Zealand from using genetically-modified crops.
- 2816 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Is the Government aware of the claim by Tsutomu Shigeta, Executive Director of Japan’s Flour Millers Association (*Reuters*, 10 September 2003) that, ‘If there is GM [genetically-modified] wheat, there is some potential for the collapse of the US wheat market in Japan’.
- 2817 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Is the Government aware that from October 2003 one of New Zealand’s biggest insurers, Vero Insurance, has refused to cover policy holders for personal injury or damage to property directly or indirectly caused by genetic modification.
- 2818 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—(a) Has the European Union moved to ban the use of antibiotic resistance marker genes in genetically-modified organisms; and (b) will the Australian Government also ban this practice.
- 2820 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) For each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, how many infringement notices were issued to domestic fishers.
 - (2) For the 2003-04 financial year to date, how many infringement notices have been issued to domestic fishers.

- (3) For each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, how many domestic fishers were prosecuted for breaches of fisheries and environmental laws.
- (4) For the 2003-04 financial year to date, how many domestic fishers have been prosecuted for breaches of fisheries and environmental laws.
- (5) For each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03 and for 2003-04 to date, can details be provided of all successful prosecutions of domestic fishers for breaches of fisheries and environmental laws.
- (6) How many Australian fishing boats have been forfeited to the Commonwealth since 1996 for breaches of fisheries or environmental laws.
- (7) For each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, how much did the Commonwealth spend on compliance and enforcement in relation to domestic fishers.
- (8) For the 2003-04 financial year to date, how much has the Commonwealth spent on compliance and enforcement in relation to domestic fishers.
- (9) (a) For each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02, and 2002-03, how many foreign fishers were prosecuted for breaches of fisheries and environmental laws; and (b) can details be provided of these prosecutions including whether the boats involved were forfeited to the Commonwealth.
- (10) (a) For the 2003-04 financial year to date, how many foreign fishers have been prosecuted for breaches of fisheries and environmental laws; and (b) can details be provided of these prosecutions including whether the boats involved were forfeited to the Commonwealth.
- (11) How many foreign fishing boats have been forfeited to the Commonwealth since 1996 for breaches of fisheries or environmental laws.
- (12) For each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02, and 2002-03, how much did the Commonwealth spend on compliance and enforcement including the costs of prosecuting offenders in relation to foreign fishers.
- (13) For the 2003-04 financial year to date, how much has the Commonwealth spent on compliance and enforcement including the costs of prosecuting offenders in relation to foreign fishers.
- (14) (a) How much did the pursuit, detention and disposal of the *Lena* cost, including the costs of the return journey and the sinking of the vessel; (b) how much did the Commonwealth receive from the sale of the catch from the *Lena*; and (c) how much did the master and crew of the *Lena* pay in fines to the Commonwealth in relation to fishing offences.
- (15) (a) How much did the pursuit, detention and disposal of the *South Tomi* cost, including the costs of the return journey and the sinking of the vessel; (b) how much did the Commonwealth receive from the sale of the catch from the *South Tomi*; and (c) how much did the master and crew of the *South Tomi* pay in fines to the Commonwealth in relation to fishing offences.
- (16) (a) How much did the pursuit and detention of the *Volga* cost, including the costs of the return journey and detaining the vessel; (b) what does the Commonwealth intend to do with the *Volga*; (c) what did the Commonwealth receive from the sale of the catch from the *Volga*; (d) have the master and crew of the *Volga* been convicted of any fisheries offences; if so: (i) what penalties were imposed on the master and crew, and (ii) what have they paid in fines to the Commonwealth in relation to the offences;

- and (e) how much did the Commonwealth spend on defending its actions in relation to the *Volga* in the International Tribunal on the Law of the Sea.
- (17) How much did the pursuit and detention of the *Viarsa I* cost, including the costs of the return journey and detaining the vessel; (b) what does the Commonwealth intend to do with the *Viarsa I*; (c) what did the Commonwealth receive from the sale of the catch from the *Viarsa I*; and (d) have the master and crew of the *Viarsa I* been convicted of any fisheries offences; if so: (i) what penalties were imposed on the master and crew, and (ii) how much have they paid in fines to the Commonwealth in relation to the offences.
- (18) (a) How much did the pursuit and detention of the *Maya V* cost, including the costs of the return journey and detaining the vessel; (b) what does the Commonwealth intend to do with the *Maya V*; (c) how much did the Commonwealth receive from the sale of the catch from the *Maya V*; (d) have the master and crew of the *Maya V* been convicted of any fisheries offences; if so: (i) what penalties were imposed on the master and crew, and (ii) how much have they paid in fines to the Commonwealth in relation to the offences.
- (19) Which company or companies hold fishing concessions in relation to: (a) the Heard Island and McDonald Island Fishery; and (b) the Macquarie Island Fishery.
- (20) Which Australian company or companies hold fishing concessions that allow them to fish on the high seas within the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources area.

Notice given 5 April 2004

2821 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) For each of the past 5 financial years and for each location: (a) how many independent contractors or subcontractors (but not employees of the Commonwealth) were appointed as 'authorised officers', or held any authority in whole or in part under the *Export Control Act 1982*, in the role of meat inspector; and (b) how many Commonwealth employees were appointed as authorised officers under the Act in the role of meat inspector; and can this figure be broken down into category of employment i.e. permanent, casual, etc.
- (2) For each of the past 5 financial years and for each location: (a) how many independent contractors or subcontractors (but not employees of the Commonwealth) were appointed as 'authorised officers', or held any authority in whole or in part under the *Export Control Act 1982*, in the role of veterinary officer; and (b) how many Commonwealth employees were appointed as authorised officers under the Act in the role of veterinary officer; and can this figure be broken down into category of employment i.e. permanent, casual, etc.
- (3) For each of the past 5 financial years and for each location: (a) how many independent contractors or subcontractors (but not employees of the Commonwealth) were appointed as 'authorised officers', or held any authority in whole or in part under the *Export Control Act 1982*, in the role of grain inspector; and (b) how many Commonwealth employees were appointed as authorised officers under the Act in the role of grain inspector;

and can this figure be broken down into category of employment i.e. permanent, casual, etc.

- (4) For each of the past 5 financial years and for each location: (a) how many independent contractors or subcontractors (but not employees of the Commonwealth) were appointed as 'authorised officers', or held any authority in whole or in part under the *Export Control Act 1982*, in a role other than meat inspector, veterinary officer or grain inspector; and (b) how many Commonwealth employees were appointed as authorised officers under the Act in a role other than meat inspector, veterinary officer or grain inspector; and can this figure be broken down into category of employment i.e. permanent, casual, etc.
- (5) For each of the past 5 financial years and for each location: (a) how many independent contractors or subcontractors (but not employees of the Commonwealth) were appointed as 'authorised officers', or held any authority in whole or in part under the *Imported Food Control Act 1992*; and (b) how many Commonwealth employees were appointed as authorised officers under the Act; and can this figure be broken down into: (i) category of employment i.e. permanent, casual, etc, and (ii) the role held.
- (6) For each of the past 5 financial years and for each location: (a) how many independent contractors or subcontractors (but not employees of the Commonwealth) were appointed as 'officers', or held any authority in whole or in part under the *Quarantine Act 1908*; and (b) how many Commonwealth employees were appointed as quarantine officers under the Act; and can this figure be broken down into: (i) category of employment i.e. permanent, casual, etc, and (ii) the role held.
- (7) For each of the past 5 financial years and for each location: (a) how many independent contractors or subcontractors (but not employees of the Commonwealth) were appointed as 'officers', or held any authority in whole or in part under the *Fisheries Management Act 1991*; and (b) how many Commonwealth employees were appointed as fisheries inspectors under the Act; and can this figure be broken down into: (i) category of employment i.e. permanent, casual, etc, and (ii) the role held.
- (8) For each of the past 5 financial years and for each location, how many independent contractors or subcontractors (but not employees of the Commonwealth) had any authority in whole or in part under legislation administered by the department not identified above.
- (9) For each of the past 5 financial years and for each location, how many independent contractors, subcontractors or employees of a contracted labour hire firm were used by the department in operational areas such as airports, seaports, quarantine stations and abattoirs.

Notice given 6 April 2004

2822 **Senator Greig:** To ask the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—With reference to a recent application by Open Doors Youth Service Inc. to the Australian Taxation Office for public benevolent institution and deductible gift recipient status, which was rejected on the grounds that the organisation, a support service for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender young people, did not satisfy the requirements of a benevolent institution:

- (1) Does the Minister consider that the conditions or misfortunes Open Doors is seeking to relieve, that is, suffering, distress, destitution, homelessness, suicide risk, disadvantage, discrimination, and isolation, which it claims

occur as a direct result of homophobia, are such as to arouse pity or compassion in the community.

- (2) What criteria does the Australian Taxation Office use to determine that a condition or misfortune arouses pity or compassion in the community.
- (3) Does the Minister consider the experience of discrimination and homophobia experienced by many young lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people to be part of the emotional stress and pain encountered in ordinary human experience.
- (4) What balance between direct benevolent relief and other purposes and activities must an organisation achieve to satisfy the test that it is predominantly for benevolent relief.
- (5) Given that the Australian Taxation Office has advised that 'one may readily accept that an institution with an independent object of fostering the cultural values of a particular group would not be a public benevolent institution': (a) what constitutes an 'independent object'; and (b) in instances where an organisation's main objectives relate to benevolent relief, but contain additional objectives that refer to fostering of cultural values, how does the Australian Taxation Office determine those other objectives to be of such significant weight as to indicate that the dominant purpose of the organisation is not to provide benevolent relief.
- (6) Does the Minister acknowledge that in certain circumstances, an individual's experience of poverty, sickness, suffering, distress, misfortune, disability or helplessness may be directly relieved through the provision of community education or services that foster values and, if so, that such activity would then constitute benevolent relief.

2824 **Senator Greig:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) For each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02, and 2002-03, how much did the Commonwealth spend on tracking catch from foreign vessels that were believed to have been operating illegally in Australian or Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) waters.
- (2) For the 2003-04 financial year to date, how much has the Commonwealth spent on tracking catch from foreign vessels that were believed to have been operating illegally in Australian or CCAMLR waters.

Notice given 7 April 2004

2825 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—As at 5 April 2004: (a) how many children and young people under 18 years of age were being held in each of the mainland and offshore detention centres; (b) how long has each been held in detention; and (c) for each detention centre, how many children are currently proposed or being considered for relocation to alternative places of detention, in accordance with Migration Series Instruction No. 371.

2826 **Senator Collins:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs—For each of the financial years 2001-02 and 2002-03 and for 2003-04 to date:

- (1) For each of the following types of childcare: outside school hours care; family day care; long day care; occasional care; and in-home care, can the following information be provided:
 - (a) average Child Care Benefit payment received per child;

- (b) the number of children for whom there was paid the Child Care Benefit minimum payment; the maximum payment; or a partial payment;
 - (c) the number of families who received the Child Care Benefit minimum payment; the maximum payment; or a partial payment;
 - (d) the total Child Care Benefit expenditure for the minimum payment; the maximum payment; or a partial payment;
 - (e) the share of Child Care Benefit payments fund places in registered care; and
 - (f) the share of Child Care Benefit payments fund places in approved care.
- (2) For each type of care, can a breakdown be provided for each subset type of care (for example, under outside school hours care, provide a breakdown of after school care, before school care and vacation care) showing the following:
- (a) average Child Care Benefit payment received per child;
 - (b) the number of children for whom there was paid the Child Care Benefit minimum payment; the maximum payment; or a partial payment;
 - (c) the number of families who received the Child Care Benefit minimum payment; the maximum payment; or a partial payment;
 - (d) the total Child Care Benefit expenditure for the minimum payment; the maximum payment; or a partial payment;
 - (e) the share of Child Care Benefit payments fund places in registered care; and
 - (f) the share of Child Care Benefit payments fund places in approved care.
- (3) Can the information requested in (2) also be provided, further broken down for private, community-based and corporate care, where applicable.

2827 **Senator Lundy:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—With reference to a report broadcast on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation television program *Four Corners* on 22 March 2004, 'Tarnished Gold', in which the Minister for the Arts and Sport referred to a 'full audit by the Australian Government Solicitor' of the Australian Sports Commission's internal handling of the investigation into the alleged importation of banned substances by hammer thrower Stuart Rendell: Can a copy of the document referred to be provided.

Notice given 8 April 2004

2828 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is it correct that Australians with disabilities pay goods and services tax (GST) on batteries purchased for use in wheelchairs.
- (2) Is it correct that when a technician carries out maintenance or repairs on power wheelchairs, the labour charge attracts a GST component.
- (3) Is the Minister taking any action to exempt people with disabilities from paying GST on necessary services and equipment; if not, why not.

Notice given 13 April 2004

- 2830 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) For each month in 2002, how many foreign fishing vessels (FFVs) were sighted inside Australia's Fishing Zone.
 - (2) How many of those vessels were located in waters to the north of Australia.
 - (3) In relation to the vessels that were located to the north of Australia: (a) on how many occasions was no action taken by Australian authorities; and (b) in each case, on what basis was no action taken.
 - (4) How many of the FFVs were the subject of an administrative seizure.
 - (5) (a) How many of the FFVs were towed or escorted to an Australian port; and (b) of those vessels: (i) how many were destroyed, (ii) how many had a bond posted, and (iii) how many crews were charged with an offence and prosecuted and in each case, what was the outcome of that legal process.
- 2831 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) For each month in 2003, how many foreign fishing vessels (FFVs) were sighted inside Australia's Fishing Zone.
 - (2) How many of those vessels were located in waters to the north of Australia.
 - (3) In relation to the vessels that were located to the north of Australia: (a) on how many occasions was no action taken by Australian authorities; and (b) in each case, on what basis was no action taken.
 - (4) How many of the FFVs were the subject of an administrative seizure.
 - (5) (a) How many of the FFVs were towed or escorted to an Australian port; and (b) of those vessels: (i) how many were destroyed, (ii) how many had a bond posted, and (iii) how many crews were charged with an offence and prosecuted and in each case, what was the outcome of that legal process.
- 2832 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
- (1) For each month to date in 2004, how many foreign fishing vessels (FFVs) were sighted inside Australia's Fishing Zone.
 - (2) How many of those vessels were located in waters to the north of Australia.
 - (3) In relation to the vessels that were located to the north of Australia: (a) on how many occasions was no action taken by Australian authorities; and (b) in each case, on what basis was no action taken.
 - (4) How many of the FFVs were the subject of an administrative seizure.
 - (5) (a) How many of the FFVs were towed or escorted to an Australian port; and (b) of those vessels: (i) how many were destroyed, (ii) how many had a bond posted, and (iii) how many crews were charged with an offence and prosecuted and in each case, what was the outcome of that legal process.
- 2833 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) For each month in 2002, how many foreign fishing vessels (FFVs) were sighted inside Australia's Fishing Zone by Australian naval vessels.
 - (2) How many of those vessels were located in waters to the north of Australia.
 - (3) In relation to the vessels that were located in waters to the north of Australia, on how many occasions was a recommendation received from the naval vessel that: (a) the FFV be apprehended; (b) the FFV be subjected to an administrative seizure; and (c) no action be taken against the FFV.
 - (4) Where only administrative seizure was recommended, in each case what were the reasons for that recommendation.

- (5) Where it was recommended that no action be taken, in each case what were the reasons for that recommendation.

2834 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) For each month in 2003, how many foreign fishing vessels (FFVs) were sighted inside Australia's Fishing Zone by Australian naval vessels.
- (2) How many of those vessels were located in waters to the north of Australia.
- (3) In relation to the vessels that were located in waters to the north of Australia, on how many occasions was a recommendation received from the naval vessel that: (a) the FFV be apprehended; (b) the FFV be subjected to an administrative seizure; and (c) no action be taken against the FFV.
- (4) Where only administrative seizure was recommended, in each case what were the reasons for that recommendation.
- (5) Where it was recommended that no action be taken, in each case what were the reasons for that recommendation.

2835 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) For each month to date in 2004, how many foreign fishing vessels (FFVs) were sighted inside Australia's Fishing Zone by Australian naval vessels.
- (2) How many of those vessels were located in waters to the north of Australia.
- (3) In relation to the vessels that were located in waters to the north of Australia, on how many occasions was a recommendation received from the naval vessel that: (a) the FFV be apprehended; (b) the FFV be subjected to an administrative seizure; and (c) no action be taken against the FFV.
- (4) Where only administrative seizure was recommended, in each case what were the reasons for that recommendation.
- (5) Where it was recommended that no action be taken, in each case what were the reasons for that recommendation.

2836 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) For each month in 2002, how many foreign vessels that were suspected of carrying people who were seeking to enter Australia illegally were sighted inside Australia's territorial waters by Australian Customs Service (ACS) vessels.
- (2) (a) How many of those vessels were located in waters to the north of Australia; and (b) in each case, what action was taken by the crew of the ACS vessel.

2837 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) For each month in 2003, how many foreign vessels that were suspected of carrying people who were seeking to enter Australia illegally were sighted inside Australia's territorial waters by Australian Customs Service (ACS) vessels.
- (2) (a) How many of those vessels were located in waters to the north of Australia; and (b) in each case, what action was taken by the crew of the ACS vessel.

2838 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) For each month to date in 2004, how many foreign vessels that were suspected of carrying people who were seeking to enter Australia illegally were sighted inside Australia's territorial waters by Australian Customs Service (ACS) vessels.

- (2) (a) How many of those vessels were located in waters to the north of Australia; and (b) in each case, what action was taken by the crew of the ACS vessel.

2839 **Senator Marshall:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) (a) How many detainees at the Maribyrnong Immigration Detention Facility (IDF) were relocated to the Baxter IDF during March 2004 and April 2004 to date; and (b) in each case: (i) when and why did this occur, (ii) how much notice of the relocation was the detainee given, and (iii) at what time of day did the detainee leave the premises.
- (2) How many of the detainees relocated to Baxter had instigated legal proceedings against decisions made concerning their cases.
- (3) In relation to detainees who had instigated legal proceedings against decisions related to their cases and who have been relocated from Maribyrnong to Baxter: (a) how many of the detainees' own legal representatives are located at Baxter or in South Australia; and (b) for those whose legal representatives are located in Melbourne: (i) what arrangements are in place to facilitate face-to-face access between detainees and their legal counsel at the Baxter IDF, as would have been the case if they had remained at Maribyrnong, and (ii) will the Commonwealth meet any expenses associated with providing this legal counsel; if not, why not; if so, what expenses will be met and at what cost to the Commonwealth.
- (4) For each detainee, what was the cost to the Commonwealth of relocating detainees from Maribyrnong to Baxter.

2840 **Senator Marshall:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to an article which appeared on page 9 of the *Herald Sun* of 5 December 2003:

- (1) What were the terms of reference for the investigation into the Defend and Extend Medicare Group (DEMG).
- (2) Who was responsible for initiating the investigation into the DEMG.
- (3) When was the investigation launched.
- (4) Has the department completed its investigation; if so, when; if not, when will it do so.
- (5) Why was the investigation launched.
- (6) Who comprised the investigating group.
- (7) Who decided the composition of the investigating group.
- (8) What activities did this group undertake in order to investigate DEMG.
- (9) Can all of the findings of the investigation be provided; if not, why not.
- (10) Can details of the illegal activities of the DEMG be provided; if not, why not.
- (11) Can details of the illegal activities of individual members of the DEMG be provided; if not, why not.
- (12) What charges, if any, have been laid against members of the DEMG.
- (13) (a) What action, if any, is to be taken against members of the DEMG; and (b) if action is to be taken, against whom.
- (14) What was the cost of investigating the DEMG.

- (15) Can details of other departmental resources used in the investigation be provided; if not, why not.
- (16) (a) Who provided the *Herald Sun* with an 'internal report prepared by the ministerial officers responsible for investigating DEMG members'; (b) why was this report provided to the *Herald Sun*; (c) who authorised the release of the report to the *Herald Sun*; (d) is this report available publicly; if not, why not; and (e) can the report be provided; if not, why not.
- (17) Which intelligence agency is referred to in the *Herald Sun* report.
- (18) Who requested that the agency undertake the investigation into the members and operations of the DEMG.
- (19) Under the provisions of what Act did the intelligence agency undertake its investigation into DEMG.
- (20) Why did an intelligence agency undertake an investigation into DEMG instead of state police.
- (21) (a) Which intelligence officers provided the *Herald Sun* with a briefing on the activities of DEMG; (b) who authorised this briefing; (c) why was this briefing authorised; and (d) can details of the briefing be provided; if not, why not.

2841 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) With reference to the announcement on 18 June 2002 by the Chief Medical Officer of a further 2-year extension of the Diagnostic Products Agreement with CSL: (a) what is the value of that contract extension; (b) how much has CSL been paid under the agreement since it was privatised; (c) what process was followed before the decision was made to extend the agreement with CSL; and (d) was the Minister involved in the process.
- (2) With reference to a media release of 18 June 2002 by the then Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator Patterson, which mentions that an expert committee would be formed to assist and advise the Government on testing the market for the supply of diagnostic products: was that committee formed; if so, who were its members.
- (3) Given that the Minister stated that the Government planned to use a market-testing process in relation to the supply of diagnostic products: (a) what market-testing process took place; (b) what has been the result (for instance, will the exclusive arrangement with CSL be opened up to competition); and (c) was CSL involved in or consulted about the market-testing process.
- (4) Is the current, exclusive agreement with CSL subject to the usual competitive tendering guidelines that government agencies must follow.

2842 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) For each year since 1996, by service, how many members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) have been medically discharged primarily or solely because of a sleep disorder (e.g. narcolepsy or sleep apnoea).
- (2) For each year since 1995, by service, how many members of the ADF have been medically discharged for conditions other than a sleep disorder, indicating the range of conditions and approximate numbers medically discharged because of each condition.
- (3) Are the figures given in answer to parts (1) and (2) regarded as broadly accurate in relation to the total numbers of ADF members who were

medically discharged; if not, what margin of error is considered to exist between persons actually medically discharged and recorded as medically discharged.

- (4) Are members who are medically discharged entitled to a lifetime pension that is indexed and not means tested; if not, what entitlements do ex-ADF personnel who are medically discharged receive.
- (5) Can an explanation be provided for: (a) who is eligible for; and (b) the difference between (including in respect of eligibility tests), each of Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme (MSBS) Class A, B and C invalidity pensions.
- (6) (a) For which class of MSBS pension do ex-ADF personnel who are discharged primarily because of a sleep disorder qualify; and (b) if ex-ADF personnel qualify for different classes depending on the circumstances, can an explanation be provided in general terms of these circumstances.
- (7) (a) For which class of MSBS pension do ex-ADF personnel who are medically discharged because of other conditions qualify; and (b) if these ex-ADF personnel qualify for different classes depending on the circumstances, can an explanation in general terms be provided of these circumstances.
- (8) (a) Under what circumstances can a member of the ADF be discharged without a classification but with a stated reason for retiring being an impairment related to sleep disorders; and (b) how many ADF personnel fall within this category.
- (9) Has the Chief of Navy exercised his discretion or considered exercising his discretion under regulation 99 of the Defence (Personnel) Regulations 2003 in relation to former member Warren Le Plastrier, if so, what was his decision.
- (10) Can the Minister confirm that if a former ADF member successfully shows, to the department's satisfaction, that he or she was medically discharged on grounds that appear unsound or incorrect, the department is not obliged to notify ComSuper of this new information.
- (11) Has the department notified ComSuper that a delegate to the Chief of Navy determined that Mr Le Plastrier was medically discharged on apparently erroneous grounds.
- (12) Has the relevant delegate to the Chief of Navy written to ComSuper to advise it of the outcome of Mr Le Plastrier's request for amendment of his discharge type; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (13) Does the Chief of Navy support Mr Le Plastrier's desire to have the termination of his service classified as being for a reason other than medical discharge, under the terms of regulation 99 or any other mechanism; if so, has the reclassification of Mr Le Plastrier's discharge been formally agreed to and/or recorded by the department and by ComSuper.
- (14) Are a former member's MSBS invalidity pension entitlements affected if the department notifies ComSuper of a determination under regulation 99 by any of the service Chiefs in relation to that member; if so, how.
- (15) Has a review of Mr Le Plastrier's eligibility for MSBS invalidity benefits been conducted; if so, when and what was the result.
- (16) (a) Did the Defence Force Ombudsman or his delegate request that the department provide any documents relating to the medical discharge of Mr Le Plastrier on apparently erroneous grounds; and (b) was the request

refused; if so, given that the request was made with Mr Le Plastrier's consent, for what reasons.

- (17) How many determinations (for example, exercises of discretion) have been made under regulation 99; and (b) have any such determinations been notified to ComSuper; if so, how many.

2843 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) What investigations, if any, are being conducted into claims by various individuals and media outlets that military pensions have been awarded to members of the Australian Defence Force (ADF) who were medically discharged, where the condition that led to their discharge was shown later to have been diagnosed erroneously; and (b) for each investigation: (i) what is the scope of the investigation, (ii) who is conducting the investigation and to whom do they report, (iii) when is the investigation expected to be completed, and (iv) will the results of the investigation be made public; if so, when.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that there is no mechanism or system that requires the department to automatically notify Comsuper of any change in status of a person who was discharged from the ADF (for example, under regulation 99 of the Defence (Personnel) Regulations 2003).
- (3) Is the Minister seeking advice as to whether an automatic review of a person's entitlement to receive the invalidity pension under the Military Superannuation Benefits Scheme should occur where it is found that the medical diagnosis that caused their defence service to be terminated was apparently incorrect.

Notice given 15 April 2004

2844 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Since the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services (ATSIS) was established on 1 July 2003, what awareness training and instruction have senior officers of ATSIS received on their obligation not to disclose information, directly or indirectly, to any person about public business or anything of which the employee has official knowledge, except in the performance of their official duties.
- (2) When did the Minister and/or her office and/or ATSIS receive an allegation from the principal of Metar Pty Ltd that sensitive commercial information relating to the financial position of this company was disclosed to a third party by a senior officer of ATSIS and a further allegation that the inappropriate disclosure adversely affected the legal and financial position of the company.
- (3) (a) When did the Minister and/or her office and/or ATSIS commence an investigation into this matter; and (b) what was the outcome of that investigation.

2845 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Has the Prime Minister's office had any involvement in the Government's response to legal claims against the Commonwealth by Mr Mark McMurtrie of New Italy, New South Wales; if so, what involvement has the Prime Minister's office had in relation to this matter.
- (2) Has the Prime Minister's office convened any meetings at the Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices in Sydney, or any other location,

with Mr McMurtrie and/or any other party to discuss a resolution to Mr McMurtrie's claims; if so, for each meeting:

- (a) when and at what time was the meeting held;
 - (b) what was discussed; and
 - (c) who was present.
- (3) Have members of the Prime Minister's office given to Mr McMurtrie, or any other party, orally or in writing, any undertakings in respect to the resolution of Mr McMurtrie's claims; if so:
- (a) which staff member gave these undertakings; and
 - (b) in each case:
 - (i) what was the undertaking,
 - (ii) who received the undertaking,
 - (iii) when was the undertaking given, and
 - (iv) was the undertaking given orally or in writing, if orally:
 - (A) at what time, and
 - (B) how was it provided (i.e. telephone, meeting etc.), and if written, can a copy of the undertaking be provided; if not, why not.
- (4) Has the Prime Minister and/or his office received correspondence from third parties who are concerned about the conduct of the Prime Minister's office in relation to this matter; if so:
- (a) what was the nature of the concerns expressed on each occasion; and
 - (b) can a copy of the correspondence be provided; if not, why not.

Senator Allison: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2846-2847)—

- (1) What is the value, including interest accrued since 5 August 1997, of the tobacco franchise fees (the 'windfall') which was collected by tobacco retailers from consumers during the period 1 July 1997 to 5 August 1997 but not forwarded by tobacco retailers or wholesalers to the states and territories or to the Commonwealth.
- (2) Has the Government yet decided how the windfall is to be distributed following the High Court judgment on 6 December 2001 in *Roxborough v Rothmans* that the 'windfall' should remain with the wholesaler to await the legislative measures, if any, for disbursement for the benefit of users of tobacco products or otherwise, as the Federal Parliament may enact; if not, what options are under consideration.
- (3) Has the Government considered using the windfall for anti-smoking measures; if not, why not.
- (4) Has the Government considered using the windfall for litigation against tobacco companies that have engaged in misleading and deceptive conduct or unconscionable behaviour; if not, why not.
- (5) With whom has the Government consulted on this matter.

2846 Minister representing the Treasurer

2847 Minister representing the Treasurer

2848 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) For each of the financial years 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03 and for 2003-04 to date: (a) how much did Australia spend under the aid

program to help abate greenhouse gas emissions and/or facilitate adaptation to climate change, for the following regions: Pacific, Asia, Africa, other and global environment facility; and (b) what was Australia's total aid program expenditure.

- (2) For each of the financial years 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03 and for 2003-04 to date, can a list be provided of energy or greenhouse-related projects and programs for the Pacific region, including for each project or program its title, aim, amount of expenditure and the country to which it relates.
- (3) Which sectors have priority for Australia's aid in the Pacific region.
- (4) (a) For each of the financial years 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03 and for 2003-04 to date, which Pacific countries have requested Australia's assistance in relation to energy and climate change; and (b) in each case, what kind of assistance has been requested.

- 2849 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—With reference to the Forestry Tasmania reports on 'Alternatives to clearfell silviculture in Tasmania's public old-growth forests', how much direct and indirect Commonwealth funding has been spent: (a) on producing these reports; and (b) on each project and or program that was funded.

Notice given 16 April 2004

- 2850 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—With reference to the statement by the Minister on 24 March 2004 that it would cost \$340 billion to replace 20 per cent of coal-fired electricity generation with electricity from renewable energy sources:

- (1) Can details be provided of the analysis on which this statement is based.
- (2) What assumptions were made about the mix and cost of the renewable technologies involved.
- (3) What role was assumed for energy efficiency measures.
- (4) (a) What would be the cost of avoiding 20 per cent of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions from coal-fired electricity by using so-called 'clean coal' technologies, that is, using coal gasification in new power stations and capturing, transporting and storing the CO₂ underground, and (b) in relation to the cost, what assumptions and calculations were used.

- 2851 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) Was the Government invited to participate at ministerial level in the International Conference for Renewable Energies, which is to be held in Bonn, Germany, from 1 June to 4 June 2004.
- (2) Which ministers will attend the conference and who else will be part of the delegation.
- (3) (a) What steps has the Government taken to publicise the conference and encourage Australian participation; and (b) which organisations are planning to attend.
- (4) If the Government has decided not to participate at ministerial level, why not.

Notice given 19 April 2004

- 2852 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Defence—Given that the Coalition Provisional Authority in Iraq is to be dissolved after 30 June 2004 and sovereignty returned to an Iraq administration:
- (1) What will be the legal status of coalition forces in Iraq when they are no longer an occupying force.
 - (2) Under what authority will foreign troops, including those from Australia, remain in Iraq.
 - (3) Will Australian service personnel in Iraq be subject to Iraqi legal process; if so, under what circumstances.
- 2853 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—
- (1) For each of the financial years 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, how much was spent on advertising and marketing in relation to the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality (NAP).
 - (2) For the 2003-04 financial year to date, how much has been spent on advertising and marketing in relation to the NAP.
 - (3) For each state and territory, how much has been spent on foundation funding, priority actions, regional investment strategies and capacity building under the NAP.
 - (4) Can details be provided of the priority actions that have received funding under the NAP in South Australia, Queensland, Western Australia and New South Wales.
 - (5) Can copies be provided of the strategic investment plans that have been prepared in relation to the NAP for each state and territory,.
- 2854 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) For each of the financial years 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, how much was spent on advertising and marketing under the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT).
 - (2) For the 2003-04 financial year to date, how much has been spent on advertising and marketing under the NHT.
 - (3) (a) For each of the financial years 1996-97, 1997-98, 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02 and 2002-03, how much did the Commonwealth spend on advertising and marketing in relation to the NHT; (b) for the 2003-04 financial year to date, how much has the Commonwealth spent on advertising and marketing in relation to the NHT; and (c) for the 2004-05 financial year, how much has the Commonwealth budgeted for advertising and marketing under the NHT.
 - (4) How much of each state's and territory's matching investments in the NHT in the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04 has been for advertising and marketing purposes (including advertising and marketing components included in in-kind contributions).
- 2855 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) For each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07, how much has the Commonwealth committed to provide for regional investments in New South Wales under the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT).

- (2) For each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07, how much has the Commonwealth committed to provide for state-wide and within-state investments in New South Wales under the NHT.
- (3) Under the NHT, for each of the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04:
 - (a) how much has the Commonwealth spent on regional investments in New South Wales;
 - (b) how much has the Commonwealth spent on state-wide and within-state investments in New South Wales;
 - (c) how much has the New South Wales Government provided in matching regional investments;
 - (d) what is the value of the in-kind contributions provided by the New South Wales Government for regional investments;
 - (e) how much has the New South Wales Government provided in matching state-wide and within-state investments; and
 - (f) what is the value of the in-kind contributions provided by the New South Wales Government for state-wide and within-state investments.
- (4) Can details be provided of all in-kind contributions provided by the New South Wales Government in the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04 that were costed using a salary multiplier (including the nature of the contribution, estimated value of the contribution and the salary multiplier that was used).
- (5) Can details be provided of all matching investments provided by the New South Wales Government under the NHT in the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04 that related to projects that had either commenced prior to the relevant NHT investment period (i.e. the period in which investment is taken to be an investment under the NHT) or in relation to which the New South Wales Government had announced funding prior to the relevant investment period.

2856 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) For each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07, how much has the Commonwealth committed to provide for regional investments in Queensland under the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT).
- (2) For each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07, how much has the Commonwealth committed to provide for state-wide and within-state investments in Queensland under the NHT.
- (3) Under the NHT, for each of the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04:
 - (a) how much has the Commonwealth spent on regional investments in Queensland;
 - (b) how much has the Commonwealth spent on state-wide and within-state investments in Queensland;
 - (c) how much has the Queensland Government provided in matching regional investments;
 - (d) what is the value of the in-kind contributions provided by the Queensland Government for regional investments;
 - (e) how much has the Queensland Government provided in matching state-wide and within-state investments; and

- (f) what is the value of the in-kind contributions provided by the Queensland Government for state-wide and within-state investments.
- (4) Can details be provided of all in-kind contributions provided by the Queensland Government in the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04 that were costed using a salary multiplier (including the nature of the contribution, estimated value of the contribution and the salary multiplier that was used).
- (5) Can details be provided of all matching investments provided by the Queensland Government under the NHT in the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04 that related to projects that had either commenced prior to the relevant NHT investment period (i.e. the period in which investment is taken to be an investment under the NHT) or in relation to which the Queensland Government had announced funding prior to the relevant investment period.

2857 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) For each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07, how much has the Commonwealth committed to provide for regional investments in South Australia under the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT).
- (2) For each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07, how much has the Commonwealth committed to provide for state-wide and within-state investments in South Australia under the NHT.
- (3) Under the NHT, for each of the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04:
 - (a) how much has the Commonwealth spent on regional investments in South Australia;
 - (b) how much has the Commonwealth spent on state-wide and within-state investments in South Australia;
 - (c) how much has the South Australian Government provided in matching regional investments;
 - (d) what is the value of the in-kind contributions provided by the South Australian Government for regional investments;
 - (e) how much has the South Australian Government provided in matching state-wide and within-state investments; and
 - (f) what is the value of the in-kind contributions provided by the South Australian Government for state-wide and within-state investments.
- (4) Can details be provided of all in-kind contributions provided by the South Australian Government in the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04 that were costed using a salary multiplier (including the nature of the contribution, estimated value of the contribution and the salary multiplier that was used).
- (5) Can details be provided of all matching investments provided by the South Australian Government under the NHT in the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04 that related to projects that had either commenced prior to the relevant NHT investment period (i.e. the period in which investment is taken to be an investment under the NHT) or in relation to which the South Australian Government had announced funding prior to the relevant investment period.

2858 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) For each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07, how much has the Commonwealth committed to provide for regional investments in Western Australia under the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT).
- (2) For each of the financial years 2004-05, 2005-06, and 2006-07, how much has the Commonwealth committed to provide for state-wide and within-state investments in Western Australia under the NHT.
- (3) Under the NHT, for each of the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04:
 - (a) how much has the Commonwealth spent on regional investments in Western Australia;
 - (b) how much has the Commonwealth spent on state-wide and within-state investments in Western Australia;
 - (c) how much has the Western Australian Government provided in matching regional investments;
 - (d) what is the value of the in-kind contributions provided by the Western Australian Government for regional investments;
 - (e) how much has the Western Australian Government provided in matching state-wide and within-state investments; and
 - (f) what is the value of the in-kind contributions provided by the Western Australian Government for state-wide and within-state investments.
- (4) Can details be provided of all in-kind contributions provided by the Western Australian Government in the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04 that were costed using a salary multiplier (including the nature of the contribution, estimated value of the contribution and the salary multiplier that was used).
- (5) Can details be provided of all matching investments provided by the Western Australian Government under the NHT in the financial years 2002-03 and 2003-04 that related to projects that had either commenced prior to the relevant NHT investment period (i.e. the period in which investment is taken to be an investment under the NHT) or in relation to which the Western Australian Government had announced funding prior to the relevant investment period.

2859 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the environmental impact statement for the Sunrise gasfield proposal:

- (1) What on-site, including seabed, studies were carried out, when and by whom.
- (2) Over what period were these studies carried out.
- (3) (a) What baseline studies were carried out; and (b) how will potential changes be monitored and by whom.
- (4) What in-site studies were carried out on migratory species and which species; if studies were not carried out, why not.

Notice given 20 April 2004

2861 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister for Defence—With reference to a luncheon function involving senior business people on Sunday, 28 March 2004, which was held at Fort Denison to promote Defence Reserves to employers:

- (1) Did the Minister for Employment Services and General Cosgrove attend the lunch.

- (2) How many other Australian Defence Force (ADF) and departmental personnel attended the lunch.
- (3) Did any other federal government parliamentarians attend; if so, who.
- (4) Were any non-government federal parliamentarians invited to attend; if so, who.
- (5) Which business people attended the lunch.
- (6) Were the travel costs of any of the business people who travelled from around Australia to attend the lunch borne by the taxpayer; and (b) can details be provided of all travel costs that were met, specifying which Defence program was used to fund this travel.
- (7) Can copies be provided of the menu and the drinks menu.
- (8) Were the following dishes served: Peking duck with cucumber, shallots and plum; seared scallops with prawn gow gee; soy and ginger glaze salt rubbed salmon with Asian mushrooms and fried sage; slow roasted, pepper crusted, rib eye fillet; and crisp roasted barramundi.
- (9) What was the cost of the food served at the lunch.
- (10) How many bottles of wine, champagne and beer were served.
- (11) What was the cost of alcohol served at the lunch.
- (12) What was the cost per bottle of the most expensive wine and champagne served.
- (13) Did the department pay for this lunch; if so, which program was the money drawn from; if not, who paid.
- (14) Can a list be provided showing all of the associated costs of this lunch, including table hire, glass hire, waiting staff etc.

Notice given 21 April 2004

2862 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to matters concerning Mr Kirk Pinner, an Australian citizen:

- (1) Was the minister informed at any time in 2001 that Mr Pinner's passport had been taken from his possessions at a jail in Idaho, United States of America (US); if so, by whom and when.
- (2) What action did the minister take.
- (3) Did the minister inform his department about this Australian citizen and his difficulties in the US; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (4) Did the department inform its representatives in the US of Mr Pinner's difficulties; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (5) What advice was Mr Pinner given by Australian departmental representatives in San Francisco in relation to his immigration status in the US, given that he was on bail at the time and that his visa had expired; when was this advice given and by whom.
- (6) Was he advised to apply for a new passport.
- (7) Did Mr Pinner inform the Consulate-General in Los Angeles that he was on bail in the US or that he had consulted the Consulate-General in San Francisco when he applied for a new passport.

Notice given 22 April 2004

2863 **Senator Greig:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many Centrelink customers in receipt of Dutch age pensions have been the subject of the Centrelink payment review that commenced in October 2002.
- (2) Of these, how many were found to have incurred Centrelink debts arising from under reported income from Dutch age pensions.
- (3) (a) Can a breakdown be provided, by size of the debt in intervals of \$1 000, of the number of debts incurred; and (b) what is the average size of the incurred debt.
- (4) (a) Can a breakdown be provided of the period of time (in years) over which the debts were incurred; and (b) what is the average period over which the debts were incurred.
- (5) How many of the debts: (a) have been repaid in full and at what value; (b) have been partially repaid and at what value; and (c) remain outstanding.
- (6) How many customers for whom Centrelink debts were raised appealed the decision in the Social Security Appeals Tribunal (SSAT).
- (7) (a) In relation to those debts that were appealed in the SSAT, can a table be provided showing the number of debts that were: (i) full, and (ii) partially waived, broken down by the amount waived in intervals of \$1 000; and (b) how many appeals to the SSAT are still outstanding.
- (8) How many customers lodged further appeals with the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT).
- (9) (a) In relation to those debts that were appealed in the AAT, can a table be provided showing the number of debts that were: (i) fully, and (ii) partially waived, broken down by the amount waived in intervals of \$1 000; and (b) how many appeals to the AAT are still outstanding.
- (10) Can the minister provide full details of the mechanisms used by Centrelink and the Sociale Verzekeringsbank, pursuant to articles 15, 16 and 17 of the Agreement between Australia and the Kingdom of the Netherlands on Social Security, with respect to exchange of information between the agencies on rates of payment of the Dutch age pension to recipients living in Australia: (a) in the period prior to the Centrelink review, in which the debts were accrued; and (b) subsequent to the commencement of the Centrelink review and discovery of the debts.
- (11) What is the minister's response to the acknowledgement by the former Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Family and Community Services, Mr Cameron, in a letter to Mr David Cox, MP, dated 5 June 2003, that a Centrelink letter sent in February 1998 to customers in receipt of overseas pensions was poorly worded, and was confusing, especially for aged customers who spoke English as a second language.

2864 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) Why was exercise Sea Lion not referred to the Minister for the Environment and Heritage for approval; and (b) how did the department determine that this action was unlikely to have a significant impact on the environment.
- (2) Did the department assess the likely impact on those animals and plants that are known to live in the vicinity of Cowley Beach and are protected in the state of Queensland.

Notice given 28 April 2004

2865 **Senator Greig:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—

- (1) Which companies have licenses that allow them to bottom trawl on the high seas.
- (2) (a) Which vessels are authorised to bottom trawl on the high seas under these licenses; (b) where are these vessels operating; (c) which species are they targeting; (d) how much did they catch in 2001-02 and 2002-03; and (e) what is the duration of the licences.
- (3) Which companies have licenses that allow them to bottom trawl on sea mounts on the high seas.
- (4) (a) Which vessels are authorised to bottom trawl on sea mounts on the high seas under these licenses; (b) where are these vessels operating; (c) which species are they targeting; (d) how much did they catch in 2001-02 and 2002-03; and (e) what is the duration of the licences.
- (5) Which companies have licenses that allow them to bottom trawl on sea mounts in Australian waters.
- (6) (a) Which vessels are authorised to bottom trawl on sea mounts in Australian waters under these licenses; (b) where are these vessels operating; (c) which species are they targeting; (d) how much did they catch in 2001-02 and 2002-03; and (e) what is the duration of the licences.
- (7) What exploratory licences have been issued to bottom trawl on sea mounts on the high seas and in Australian waters.

Notice given 30 April 2004

2866 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—

- (1) Is it the Government's intention that low level radioactive waste material that is produced in oil drilling operations (known as naturally occurring radioactive material) be stored at the proposed low level radioactive waste repository in South Australia; if not, why not.
- (2) What technical requirements are imposed by the Commonwealth on state-government run low level radioactive or other toxic waste repositories such as that at Dutson Downs in Gippsland, Victoria.
- (3) Was the Minister for the Environment and Heritage (Dr Kemp) referring to Dutson Downs in his reported comments on 23 April, that he would invoke Federal legislation if the Victorian Government's toxic dump endangered the environment.

Notice given 3 May 2004

2867 **Senator Harris:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the National Livestock Identification System:

- (1) Which specific country or countries have asked Australia to implement the electronic tagging system.
- (2) Why has Meat and Livestock Australia refused to carry out a cost-benefit analysis of this system.
- (3) Why is this system, which imposes a cost burden on the beef industry, not being implemented for other industries such as pork, seafood and chicken, which have a far worse food contamination track record.

- (4) Has the Minister applied any pressure on or requested any state to implement the system.
- (5) Will the Government meet or subsidise the cost of implementing the system in Queensland.

2868 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) How much has the department budgeted for advertising in relation to the Scoresby Freeway in 2002-03 and in 2003-04.
- (2) How much of this money has been spent to date.
- (3) What was the cost of the press advertising in the period 23 April to 25 April 2004.
- (4) (a) What resources have been allocated from other departments for advertising in relation to the Scoresby Freeway in 2002-03 and in 2003-04; and (b) how much has been spent to date.

2869 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—With reference to the proposed Woolworths supermarket development on the banks of Obi Obi Creek at Maleny in Queensland:

- (1) In the referral form submitted by the proponent of this development was the Minister made aware that the site is a known habitat for a significant number of endangered species, including the Coxen's Fig Parrot (critically endangered), the Grey Goshawk (rare), the Cascade Freefrog (endangered) and the Richmond Birdwing (vulnerable).
- (2) What steps did the Minister take to determine the accuracy of the referral form.
- (3) During the assessment of this development, why were the scientists currently working on the Coxen's Fig Parrot in the area, who are partly funded by the Commonwealth, not consulted by Environment Australia about the significance of the fig tree on the site.
- (4) Why were those involved in the Commonwealth-funded recovery plan for the endangered Mary River cod (which included recently releasing fingerling fish in the Obi Obi Creek), not consulted by Environment Australia in relation to the possible damage to creek banks associated with the development.
- (5) What effect will the development have on these endangered species.
- (6) Is the Minister aware that the number of native plant species on the site, including two bunya pines, three hoop pines, one kauri pine, two silky oaks, a Moreton Bay fig, sandpaper figs, a bangalow palm, tree ferns, native daphne, macadamia nut, native quince, black bean, flame tree and native epiphytic orchids and ferns exceeds the number of exotic plant species.
- (7) Given that the proponent will remove all vegetation on the site and that the loss of habitat is a major threatening process, why was approval given for this project to proceed.
- (8) Was consideration given to requiring the proponent to re-orientate the building and car park, to allow for a buffer between the supermarket and the creek; if not, why not.

Notice given 4 May 2004

2870 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the television crew for the Channel 9 program *A Current Affair* that was on board the *Southern Supporter* during the pursuit of the suspected illegal fishing vessel *Viarsa I*:

- (1) How did the television crew get on board the *Southern Supporter*.
- (2) Was this a pre-planned documentary, or was the crew put on board after the interception started.
- (3) On what date was the request from Channel 9 received.
- (4) What was the cost to Channel 9 and/or the Australian Customs Service (ACS).
- (5) What is the breakdown of the ACS costs, for example, were there air fares or transmission costs.
- (6) For how many days was the television crew on board.
- (7) What was the cost of food and lodging and what cost recovery has there been from Channel 9.
- (8) From which part of the ACS appropriations were these costs met, for instance, was it from the public relations vote or the fisheries vote.
- (9) (a) How did the Channel 9 crew get off the *Southern Supporter*; (b) where did this occur; and (c) when.
- (10) What ACS facilities were used to relay the story back to Australia.

Notice given 5 May 2004

Senator Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2871-2872)—With reference to the appointment of Ms Donna Staunton as Communication Director for the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO):

- (1) When was the Minister advised of the appointment.
- (2) Did the Minister have any role in making or approving the appointment.
- (3) Given Ms Staunton's lack of scientific experience and her previous roles with the tobacco industry, what is the Minister's view concerning the appropriateness of Ms Staunton's appointment.
- (4) Has Ms Staunton retracted her well-known public position for example, as reported in the *Age* on 25 April 2004, that smoking is not addictive.
- (5) Does the Minister consider it appropriate that CSIRO has not declared Ms Staunton's long, well-known, documented and public defence of smoking as not being addictive.
- (6) What conflicts of interest could arise between Ms Staunton's support of the tobacco industry and CSIRO work on preventative health, particularly the Preventative Health Flagship program.

2871 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

2872 Minister representing the Minister for Science

Notice given 6 May 2004

*2873 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) What outcomes were achieved at the meeting held on 4 and 5 March 2004 with the National Alternative Dispute Resolution Advisory Council (NADRAC).

- (2) What advice have the Government, federal courts and tribunals received from NADRAC on alternative dispute resolution (ADR) issues in relation to achieving and maintaining a high quality, accessible, integrated Commonwealth ADR system.
- (3) (a) Since 1995, how many submissions, reports or advice papers has NADRAC sent to the department in relation to cost savings associated with the use of ADR procedures within Commonwealth agencies and departments; and (b) of these, how many suggestions have been implemented.
- (4) Are any other government departments using information provided by NADRAC on ADR procedures as a result of advice from the department.
- (5) Has NADRAC completed and or submitted the database of Commonwealth statutory provisions relating to ADR.
- (6) Has the department received a broader strategy paper containing practical guidelines and recommendations for government agencies to assist them to reduce the financial and other costs of litigation associated with their business dealings; if so, a copy be provided; if not, why not.
- (7) When is the draft strategy paper expected.

*2874 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) For each year from 1991 to the present, how many investigations associated with the unlawful handling of Commonwealth Government information by Australian Public Service (APS) personnel have been undertaken by the Australian Federal Police (AFP).
- (2) How many of these investigations have resulted in briefs of evidence being handed to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.
- (3) For each year from 1991 to the present: (a) how many APS personnel have been charged with offences associated with the unlawful disclosure of Commonwealth Government information; and (b) how many APS personnel have been convicted of these offences.
- (4) For each year from 2000 to the present, how many staff hours has the AFP allocated to investigations into the unlawful handling of Commonwealth Government information by APS personnel.

*2875 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) (a) How many operations against copyright infringement or piracy were initiated in the 2002-03 financial year; and (b)(i) can this figure be provided broken down by state and territory, (ii) how many operations resulted in charges being laid against individuals or corporations, and (iii) how many operations were a result of: (A) liaison with international policing groups, and (B) complaints by members of public against an operator or retailer.
- (2) For the 2002-03 financial year, how many offences against 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.
- (3) Can information be provided on cases where prosecutions in relation to these crimes have led to conviction, financial penalties and or imprisonment.
- (4) In cases where piracy was found to have occurred, what happened to the copying devices used to reproduce movies or sound recordings.
- (5) In each conviction relating to the piracy of movies or sound recordings, did the Director of Public Prosecutions make a submission on behalf of the

Government during the trial or sentencing phase requesting 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.

- *2876 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—Did the department make a submission to the Productivity Commission in relation to the review of the Disability Discrimination Act; if not, why not, given that the Minister cited community concerns regarding the implications of the Marsden decision in his second reading speech on the Disability Discrimination Amendment Bill 2003 on 3 December 2003, stating that

The bill is prompted by community concerns about the implications of the decision of the Federal Court in *Marsden v. Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission and Coffs Harbour and District Ex-Servicemen and Women Memorial Club Limited*. That decision suggested that it may be unlawful under the Disability Discrimination Act to discriminate against a person solely on the ground that the person has an addiction to or dependence on a prohibited drug. The bill addresses the concerns of employers and business operators about this issue.

- *2877 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—Given the Attorney-General's concerns regarding the implications of the Marsden decision, as stated in his second reading speech on the Disability Discrimination Amendment Bill 2003 on 3 December 2003 in which he stated that

The bill is prompted by community concerns about the implications of the decision of the Federal Court in *Marsden v. Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission and Coffs Harbour and District Ex-Servicemen and Women Memorial Club Limited*. That decision suggested that it may be unlawful under the Disability Discrimination Act to discriminate against a person solely on the ground that the person has an addiction to or dependence on a prohibited drug. The bill addresses the concerns of employers and business operators about this issue:

Did the department raise these concerns in its submission to the Productivity Commission in relation to the review of the Disability Discrimination Act; if not, why not; if so, can details be provided.

- *2878 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to reviews conducted on behalf of the department by legal firms, particularly those in relation to legal privilege:

- (1) Do all contracts in the Attorney-General's portfolio for reviews or other consultancy work by private legal firms contain clauses which deal with issues of legal professional privilege; if so, how does the department deal with this issue, and can examples be provided; if not why not.
- (2) Has legal professional privilege been raised by law firms in response to inquiries and/or questions concerning the progress of a consultancy or review asked by the department; if so, can details be provided on where and when the issue was raised and what steps if any were taken by the department to gain the information initially sought.
- (3) How can the department be assured that a conflict has not arisen if privilege is invoked.

- (4) What mechanisms are in place to ensure conflicts and issues of privilege can be resolved.
- (5)
 - (a) How does the department deal with conflicts if legal professional privilege is raised; and
 - (b) does the department have any guidelines in relation to this issue; if so, can a copy be provided; if not, why not.
- (6) In relation to the Copyright Digital Agenda Review undertaken by the law firm Phillips Fox, in respect of which legal privilege was cited in an answer given by the department to a question on notice:
 - (a) were there any provisions in relation to legal professional privilege written into the contract for the consultancy with Phillips Fox for the Copyright Digital Review Agenda; if so, what were these provisions; if not, why not;
 - (b) did the Phillips Fox contract with the department deal with the issue of privilege in relation to its consultancy; if not, why not; and
 - (c) have there been any instances where the department has failed to obtain information about the consultancy process because Phillips Fox has claimed legal professional privilege; if so, can details be provided.
- (7) In relation to an article in *Lawyers Weekly*, in which the Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison, speaking for the Attorney-General said that 'specification of actual or perceived conflicts was a mandatory criterion of the Request for Tender': If legal privilege can be claimed by law firms undertaking consultancy work for Commonwealth departments, how can the Attorney General's department substantiate that there are no actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

*2879 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) Does the Ministerial Council on Drugs Strategy provide assistance to the department; if so, in which areas does the Ministerial Council have a direct impact on the Attorney-General's portfolio.
- (2) When seeking to amend legislation pertaining to the disabled, are all state and territory jurisdictions that provide treatment services involved in the policy formulation process in order to ensure that the implications of the proposed amendments are addressed; if so, can details of their involvement be provided; if not, why not.
- (3) Does the department collect statistics relating to drug dependency for each state and or territory; if so, can these statistics be provided.
- (4) Does the department recognise drug dependency as a disorder.
- (5) Given that the Disability Discrimination Amendment Bill 2003 seeks to amend the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* by removing the prohibition on disability discrimination on the ground of a person's addiction to a prohibited drug, but would not apply to people who are receiving treatment for their drug addiction:
 - (a) does the department collect statistics for each state or territory concerning the number of people receiving treatment for their drug addiction; if so, can these statistics be provided; if not, why not;
 - (b) does the department collect statistics on the number of people currently receiving treatment who continue to use illicit drugs while on treatment programs; if so, can these statistics be provided; if not, why not;

- (c) has the department contacted the Department of Health to obtain statistics in relation to people on the methadone program who may continue to use methamphetamines in conjunction with their prescribed medications; if so: (i) can these statistics be provided, and (ii) how does this information impact on current legislation in relation to disability discrimination;
- (d) what research has the department undertaken in relation to drug dependency and rehabilitation;
- (e) does the department coordinate its disability program with the Department of Health; if so, can details be provided of any previous coordination efforts; and
- (f) does the department collect statistics on the number of persons who have an addiction but fail to be rehabilitated; if so, can these figures be provided; if not, why not.

*2880 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources—

- (1) Is it correct that Australian furniture manufacturers are competing globally on an uneven playing field and that, while Australian manufacturers take responsibility for their employees, the community and the Australian environment seriously, overseas manufacturers and importers do not adhere to these high standards.
- (2) Is it correct that the furniture industry is forced to compete against an opposition which does not label correctly, which uses environmentally-damaging materials and which does not comply with appropriate standards for its employees.
- (3) What is being done to enforce labelling of all products and to ensure products comply with Australian standards.
- (4) Can Australian manufacturers be assured that they will have access to sustainable timber resources.
- (5) What support is the Government giving to this industry group.

*2881 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) How much did Telstra pay to acquire Austar.
- (2) Is Telstra permitted to compete with Optus in cities and metropolitan areas for the provision of pay television.
- (3) Will Telstra have to pay Optus to provide pay television services, or was this included in the purchase price of Austar.
- (4) Has Telstra signed any contracts for the long-term provision of services to private companies and will details of these contracts be provided to Parliament.
- (5) Can Telstra provide a detailed list of its commitments to sponsor sports fields, sports clubs and other events and the costs of each sponsorship arrangement.
- (6) (a) When were Telstra-owned buildings purchased; (b) how were these buildings sold; and (c) for each sale, what was the profit made.

*2882 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Is the Government aware that Kurdish people in Syria, of whom there are 2 million, have been deprived of their basic human rights and denied their identity.
- (2) What representations has the Government made on behalf of these people, who have had their citizenship stripped from them, do not have any legal rights, and cannot purchase any property, own a house or travel internationally.

*2883 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) In relation to the Government's new policy on international volunteering, which takes a whole-of-government value for money approach, is it correct that under the new policy, \$1.6 million will be withheld from Australian Volunteers International.
- (2) Will these funds be spent on any other aspect of overseas aid and/or international volunteers.

Senator Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos *2884-*2885)—With reference to the Members of Parliament Superannuation Scheme:

- (1) What efforts has the Government made to exclude investment in smoking, gambling and environmentally-destructive practices.
- (2) Is it possible for members of Parliament to have their superannuation managed by an ethical fund if they so chose.

*2884 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

*2885 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage

*2886 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Is it correct that a promise was given in writing from the office of the then Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, Senator Alston, that all claims from the group 'Casualties of Telstra' would be settled before the end of 1999.
- (2) Are there any claims still outstanding that date back to 1999 or earlier.

*2887 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Special Minister of State—

- (1) What activities has the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) undertaken to encourage and ensure the maximum participation of young voters in the lead-up to and during the 2004 federal election.
- (2) What advertising or outreach programs will be undertaken to increase the involvement of young people in the 2004 federal election.
- (3) Has the AEC received any government direction or experienced any limitation in funding that may affect its capacity to maximise the involvement of young people in upcoming elections.

Notice given 7 May 2004

*2888 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Since 1996 how much has the Commonwealth provided to each of the following organisations to manage under devolved grants programs: Agforce Queensland, Australian Conservation Foundation, Australian Council of National Trusts, Australian Council of Social Service, Brotherhood of St Laurence, Cairns and Far North Conservation Council, Care Australia, Combined Pensioners and Superannuants Association of

New South Wales, Conservation Council of South Australia, Conservation Council of the South East Region and Canberra, Conservation Council of Western Australia, Environment Centre of the Northern Territory, Environment Victoria, Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia, Humane Society International, Mission Australia, National Council on the Ageing, National Farmers Federation, National Trust of Australia (Australian Capital Territory), National Trust of Australia (New South Wales), National Trust of Australia (Northern Territory), National Trust of Australia (Tasmania), National Trust of Australia (Victoria), National Trust of Australia (Western Australia), National Trust of Queensland, National Trust of South Australia, Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales, North Queensland Conservation Council, New South Wales Farmers Federation, Queensland Conservation Council, Queensland Farmers Federation, South Australia Farmers Federation, Tasmanian Conservation Trust, Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association, Victorian Farmers Federation, Western Australia Farmers Federation and WWF Australia.

- (2) How much have the organisations listed in part (1) returned to the Commonwealth since 1996 because the money was not spent or contractual requirements were not satisfied.
- (3) Since 1996, how much has the Commonwealth paid to officers of the organisations listed in part (1) (as defined in the *Corporations Act 2001*) by way of grants, gifts, contractual payments, or other payments.
- (4) Can a list be provided of the officers or employees of the organisations listed in part (1) that are currently members of Government bodies, committees or agencies, including details of any remuneration paid to these individuals.
- (5) (a) Since 1996, which members of the organisations listed in part (1) have been invited to attend international conferences with the Commonwealth; and (b) can the details of each invitation be provided, including the date and name of the relevant conference.
- (6) Have any of the organisations listed in part (1) been audited by the Commonwealth Auditor-General; if so, which.

*2889 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—For each financial year since 1996-97 and for the 2003-04 financial year to date, how much has the Commonwealth paid to each of the following organisations by way of grants, contractual payments, in-kind contributions or other payments: Agforce Queensland, Australian Conservation Foundation, Australian Council of National Trusts, Australian Council of Social Service, Brotherhood of St Laurence, Cairns and Far North Conservation Council, Care Australia, Combined Pensioners and Superannuants Association of New South Wales, Conservation Council of South Australia, Conservation Council of the South East Region and Canberra, Conservation Council of Western Australia, Environment Centre of the Northern Territory, Environment Victoria, Federation of Ethnic Communities Councils of Australia, Humane Society International, Mission Australia, National Council on the Ageing, National Farmers Federation, National Trust of Australia (Australian Capital Territory), National Trust of Australia (New South Wales), National Trust of Australia (Northern Territory), National Trust of Australia (Tasmania), National Trust of Australia (Victoria), National Trust of Australia (Western Australia), National Trust of Queensland, National Trust of South Australia, Nature Conservation Council of New South Wales, North Queensland Conservation Council, New South Wales Farmers Federation, Queensland Conservation

Council, Queensland Farmers Federation, South Australia Farmers Federation, Tasmanian Conservation Trust, Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association, Victorian Farmers Federation, Western Australia Farmers Federation and WWF Australia.

Notice given 10 May 2004

- *2890 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Is it correct that the Jindalee operational facility in Queensland has had the opportunity to connect to the local electricity grid but has not done so.
 - (2) Is it correct that instead the facility uses in excess of \$1 million of diesel fuel per year to operate.
 - (3) Is there any technical reason why the facility should not be connected to the grid and use its existing generators in case of a blackout.
- *2891 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1815 (Senate *Hansard*, 2 December 2003, p. 18770): For the 2002-03 financial year: (a) how much expenditure incurred in carrying on a business was attributed to advertising; and (b) what was the gross tax deduction resulting from this incurred expense.
- *2892 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 2440 (Senate *Hansard*, 12 December 2003, p. 20251): (a) How are the items mentioned recycled; (b) who recycles the items; and (c) what proportion of the polyethylene used in these items is recycled.
 - (2) What is the estimated number of plastic bags of any description used or sold by Australia Post annually.
- *2893 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—
- (1) What impact on tourism is being caused by logging trucks using the main access road to Cradle Mountain as a result of logging at Middlesex Plains, Tasmania.
 - (2) What impact are the logging operations having on the view field for aerial tourism, including helicopter tourism of this magnificent area.
 - (3) How many logging truck journeys will there be on the Cradle Mountain access road or other local roads before the logging operations of the Wrights are completed.
 - (4) (a) What is the environmental impact of the logging operations on the area; and (b) are any rare or endangered species to be found on the Middlesex Plains; if so, what plan to avoid affecting such species has the Minister requested, seen or approved.
 - (5) What is the estimated cost to tourism and tourist facilities, including roads, of the logging operations.
 - (6) What was the start date for the logging operation and what is the expected completion date.
- Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos *2894-*2895)—
- (1) On what date and at what approximate time did:
 - (a) Operation Bastille cease;

- (b) the Government commit the Australian Defence Force (ADF) elements already deployed to the Middle East under Operation Bastille to Operation Falconer;
 - (c) the Chief of the Defence Force, pursuant to this government decision to commit the ADF to Operation Falconer, issue the necessary orders under Operation Falconer to the Australian military forces deployed in the Gulf that provided the legal authority for the ADF tactical commanders to respond to the coalition tactical commanders who would control operations;
 - (d) Australian operations in Western Iraq under the legal authority of Operation Falconer commence;
 - (e) Australian Special Air Services (SAS) forces enter Western Iraq; and
 - (f) Australian SAS forces first engage in offensive operations against Iraqi military forces in Western Iraq.
- (2) In relation to part 1(b) above, what was the process by which the Government took the decision to commit the ADF elements to Operation Falconer; and (b) can a copy of the text of this decision be provided.
- (3) If the SAS was involved in offensive operations in Iraq prior to midday (AEST), 20 March 2003, what was the legal basis for their operations.

*2894 Minister representing the Prime Minister

*2895 Minister for Defence

*2896 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Science—With reference to the recent decisions by the Cooperative Research Centres Committee on stage 1 of the 2004 selection round:

- (1) (a) Can a list be provided of the meetings, including time, place and duration, at which issues relating to mining and energy applications were discussed; and (b) for each meeting, what was the nature of the discussion.
- (2) (a) Can the Minister confirm that the Chief Scientist, Dr Robin Batterham, absented himself from all meetings when issues relating to mining and energy applications were discussed and that no related documents were provided to him; and (b) can details be provided.
- (3) (a) What was the process by which applications were assessed; and (b) for each application, who carried out the assessment and who reviewed it.

Senator Allison: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos *2897-*2898)—

- (1) (a) In what capacity is Dr Kevin Donnelly employed by the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations; and (b) what are his current responsibilities.
- (2) Does the Minister agree with Dr Donnelly's statement, reported in the *Sunday Herald Sun* of 2 May 2004, that 'An education mafia has been running our system for years'.
- (3) Does the Minister agree that schools should adopt rote learning of multiplication tables, poems and historical dates, as promoted by Dr Donnelly.
- (4) Does the Minister agree with Dr Donnelly's reported statement that 'National literacy and numeracy benchmarks are flawed and, compared to overseas benchmarks, set at a lower level'.

*2897 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

*2898 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

*2899 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the United States (US) Administration proposes spending \$US9 million to investigate new nuclear weapons concepts including low-yield warheads, \$US27 million to continue research on warheads modified to destroy deeply buried targets and nearly \$US30 million for a new nuclear bomb-making facility.
- (2) In the Government's view, what will be the effect of this nuclear weapons development program on global nuclear non-proliferation efforts, particularly in Russia and Korea.

*2900 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—

- (1) When was the Regional Tourism Program first announced.
- (2) For each financial year from 2000-01 to the present, how many applications have been received for assistance through the program, broken down by federal electorate.
- (3) (a) How many of the applications in part (2), broken down by federal electorate, were approved; (b) what was the nature of each successful application; and (c) in each case, what was the value of the grant.
- (4) For each financial year from 2000-01 to the present, what assessment process was followed in relation to each application for assistance.
- (5) Who granted the final approval for each successful application in the above periods.
- (6) For each financial year since the inception of the program, what has been the program's: (a) budget allocation; and (b) actual expenditure.

*2901 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism—

- (1) When was the National Wine Tourism Strategy first announced.
- (2) For each financial year since the inception of the strategy, how many applications have been received for assistance through the strategy, broken down by federal electorate.
- (3) (a) How many of the applications in part (2), broken down by federal electorate, were approved; (b) what was the nature of each successful application; and (c) in each case, what was the value of the grant.
- (4) What assessment process was followed in relation to each application for assistance through the strategy.
- (5) Who granted the final approval for each successful application.
- (6) For each financial year since the inception of the strategy including the 2003-04 financial year to date, what has been the strategy's: (a) budget allocation; and (b) actual expenditure.

Notice given 11 May 2004

*2902 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) What data is available about the number of gambling addicts who commit suicide each year.
- (2) If no data is available, will the Ministerial Council on Gambling allocate funds from its research budget for the collection of data about this subject; if not, why not.

*2903 **Senator Brown:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) In the recent battle for Fallujah, in Iraq, how many armed services personnel and civilians were killed or injured.
- (2) What measures has the Australian Government taken to ascertain how many civilians died or were injured and the immediate circumstances that led to those deaths and injuries.

ORDERS OF THE SENATE

Amendment of standing orders

*1 Consideration of government documents

That standing order 61, relating to the consideration of government documents, be amended to insert a new paragraph (1)(c) as follows:

- (1)(c) Documents presented on Monday may be considered on Tuesday after the documents presented on that day, and documents presented on Monday and Tuesday and not called on on Tuesday may be considered on Wednesday after documents presented on that day.

(Agreed to 11 May 2004 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee's first report of 2004.)

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 Estimates—Reference of annual Tax Expenditures Statement to legislation committees**

That the annual Tax Expenditures Statement stands referred to legislation committees for consideration by the committees during their examination of the estimates of government expenditure under standing order 26.

(Agreed to 11 May 2004 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee's third report of 2003.)

4 Estimates hearings

- (1) That estimates hearings by legislation committees for the year 2004 be scheduled as follows:

2003-04 additional estimates:

Monday, 16 February and Tuesday, 17 February and, if required, Friday, 20 February (*Group A*)

Wednesday, 18 February and Thursday, 19 February and, if required, Friday, 20 February (*Group B*)

2004-05 Budget estimates:

Monday, 24 May to Thursday, 27 May and, if required, Friday, 28 May (*Group A*)

Monday, 31 May to Thursday, 3 June and, if required, Friday, 4 June (*Group B*)

Monday, 1 November and Tuesday, 2 November (*supplementary hearings—Group A*)

Wednesday, 3 November and Thursday, 4 November (*supplementary hearings—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, 24 March 2004 in respect of the 2003-04 additional estimates, and

Thursday, 17 June 2004 in respect of the 2004-05 budget estimates.

(Agreed to 3 December 2003.)

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 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.)

Meeting of Senate

7 Meeting of Senate

That the days of meeting of the Senate for 2004 shall be as follows:

Autumn sittings:

Tuesday, 10 February to Thursday, 12 February

Monday, 1 March to Thursday, 4 March

Monday, 8 March to Thursday, 11 March

Monday, 22 March to Thursday, 25 March

Monday, 29 March to Thursday, 1 April

Budget sittings:

Tuesday, 11 May to Thursday, 13 May

Winter sittings:

Tuesday, 15 June to Thursday, 17 June

Monday, 21 June to Thursday, 24 June

Spring sittings:

Tuesday, 3 August to Thursday, 5 August

Monday, 9 August to Thursday, 12 August

Monday, 30 August to Thursday, 2 September

Monday, 6 September to Thursday, 9 September

Monday, 27 September to Thursday, 30 September

Tuesday, 5 October to Thursday, 7 October

Monday, 25 October to Thursday, 28 October

Summer sittings:

Monday, 22 November to Thursday, 25 November

Monday, 29 November to Thursday, 2 December.

(Agreed to 25 November 2003.)

8 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 have effect till the conclusion of the last sitting day in 2004.

(Agreed to 19 November 2002 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee's second report of 2002; readopted and extended 10 February 2004.)

***9 Hours of meeting and routine of business—Variation**

That the hours of meeting for Tuesday, 11 May 2004 be from 12.30 pm to 6.30 pm and 8 pm to adjournment, and for Thursday, 13 May 2004 be from 9.30 am to 6 pm and 7.30 pm to adjournment, and that:

- (a) the routine of business from 8 pm on Tuesday, 11 May 2004 shall be:
- (i) Budget statement and documents 2004-05, and
 - (ii) adjournment; and
- (b) the routine of business from 7.30 pm on Thursday, 13 May 2004 shall be:
- (i) Budget statement and documents—party leaders and independent senators to make responses to the statement and documents for not more than 30 minutes each, and
 - (ii) adjournment.

(Agreed to 11 May 2004.)

***10 Divisions on Thursday—Temporary order**

That the following order operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2004 June sittings:

If a division is called for on Thursday after 4.30 pm, the matter before the Senate shall be adjourned until the next day of sitting at a time fixed by the Senate.

(Agreed to 11 May 2004 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee's first report of 2004.)

***11 Formal motions—Suspension of standing orders—Temporary order**

That the following order operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2004 June sittings:

If objection is made to a motion being taken as a formal motion, a proposal to suspend standing orders to allow the motion to be moved shall not be received by the President and put to the Senate unless 5 senators, including the mover of the motion, rise in their places to indicate support for the suspension motion.

(Agreed to 11 May 2004 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee's first report of 2004.)

Orders for production of documents

12 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.)

13 **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.)

14 **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.)

15 **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.)

16 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.)

17 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.)

18 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.)

19 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.)

20 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.)

21 Trade—General Agreement on Trade in Services—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.)

22 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.)

23 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.)

24 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.)

25 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.)

26 Science and Technology—Genetically-modified food—Order for production of documents

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 genetically-modified 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.

(Agreed to 12 December 2002.)

27 Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Thursday, 6 February 2003, the submission or submissions made by the Department of Defence to the Environment Impact Assessment for a National Radioactive Waste Repository in South Australia.

(Agreed to 5 February 2003.)

28 Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Monday, 3 March 2003, all documents relating to the records and communications between the Department of Defence and the Department of Education, Science and Training concerning the Government's consideration of a National Radioactive Waste Repository in South Australia.

(Agreed to 5 February 2003.)

29 Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Thursday, 6 March 2003, the written advice provided by the Department of Defence to the Department of Education, Science and Training concerning the defence-related issues in connection with the National Radioactive Waste Repository in South Australia
(Agreed to 5 March 2003.)

30 Immigration—Illegal migration—Order for production of document

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Wednesday, 26 March 2003, the Memorandum of Understanding signed on or around 12 March 2003 between the Australian Government and the Islamic Republic of Iran, which includes measures to combat illegal migration.
(Agreed to 25 March 2003.)

31 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee—Review of Test and Evaluation in Defence—Report by the Director of Trials—Order for production of document—Request to Auditor-General

That the Senate adopt the following recommendations of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee in its report on materiel acquisition and management in Defence:

- (a) that the Senate request the Auditor-General to direct that the proposed 2003-04 audit of the Defence Materiel Organisation (DMO) by the Australian National Audit Office include a cultural audit that will assess:
 - (i) DMO's espoused corporate values and standards and staff compliance with these,
 - (ii) management and staff values, behaviours and competencies measured against the capability requirement,
 - (iii) employee attitudes, morale, beliefs, motivation,
 - (iv) employee understanding of, for example, the DMO's customers, industry partners, strategies, business plans, roles and contributions to the overall mission of Defence,
 - (v) communication processes,
 - (vi) the effectiveness of change management programs, employee commitment to them and the extent of the benefits materialising, and
 - (vii) compliance with health and safety regulations;
- (b) that the Senate request the Auditor-General:
 - (i) to produce, on an annual basis, a report on progress in major defence projects, detailing cost, time and technical performance data for each project,
 - (ii) to model the report on that ordered by the British House of Commons and produced by the United Kingdom Comptroller and Auditor General, and
 - (iii) to include in the report such analysis of performance and emerging trends as will enable the Parliament to have high visibility of all current and pending major projects; and
- (c) that the Senate under standing order 164, order the production, upon its completion, of the report by the Director of Trials of the Review of Test and Evaluation in Defence, and refer the document to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee for examination and report.

(Agreed to 14 May 2003; paragraph (c) report presented, 4 December 2003 and returned to Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee.)

32 Environment—Radioactive waste—National store—Order for production of document

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Science, no later than 1 pm on 15 May 2003, the document containing the list of potential sites for the location of a national store for intermediate level radioactive waste that has been prepared by the National Store Advisory Committee, referred to in the media release prepared by the Minister for Science, 'SA Ruled Out', dated 9 May 2003.

(Agreed to 14 May 2003.)

33 Industry—Basslink—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on Thursday, 15 May 2003, the letters exchanged between the Victorian and Federal Governments since 1 July 2001 concerning the Basslink project, other than those letters relating to the planning process.

(Agreed to 14 May 2003.)

34 Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme—Draft regulations—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, 19 June 2003:

- (a) draft regulations to be made under the Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme Bill 2003;
- (b) draft regulations to be made under the Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003; and
- (c) records of any meetings at which members of industry or other groups with a potential to be affected by the passage of these bills were permitted to examine the draft regulations referred to above.

(Agreed to 19 June 2003.)

35 Animal Welfare—Live sheep export—Order for production of documents

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the *Cormo Express* shipment of 57 000 sheep rejected by Saudi Arabia 3 weeks ago, because of suspected scabby mouth, and subsequently rejected by a second unnamed country is now to be offered free to a third unnamed country in the region,
 - (ii) the *Cormo Express* sailed with a shipment of 57 000 sheep in mid-August 2003 but, by 12 September 2003, after around 5 weeks at sea, the number had been reduced by at least 6 per cent,
 - (iii) Saudi Arabia's rejection of Australian shipments because of disease concerns resulted in the cessation of the live sheep trade for a decade from 1991, and trade only resumed in 2000 after Australian exporters agreed to vaccinate all sheep against scabby mouth before shipment,
 - (iv) throughout the period the *Cormo Express* has been at sea, Livecorp spokespeople have continually assured the Australian Government, media and community that the *Cormo Express*' shipment of live sheep would soon find an alternative port,

- (v) on Wednesday, 10 September 2003, it was reported in the Australian media that *Cormo Express*' shipment of 57 000 were still stranded; a day later Meat and Livestock Australia announced that Australia's live sheep exports were soaring, with reference made to exports to Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain and Jordan all being on the increase,
 - (vi) Tuesday, 9 September 2003, saw the National Livestock Service announcing that the number of sheep slaughtered in Australia's eastern states was in decline due to the huge numbers of sheep euthanased and dead because of the drought,
 - (vii) the Australian Bureau of Statistics export data for the 2002-03 financial year and the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics estimates that the beef, veal, mutton and lamb carcass trade was worth \$4 964 million while the live cattle and sheep trade was worth in the vicinity of \$976 million; and
- (b) demands that the Government:
- (i) provide full details to the Senate by 3 pm on Thursday, 18 September 2003 of the number of mortalities aboard the *Cormo Express*, and identify the second and any subsequent ports approached after the Saudi Arabian rejection of the shipment, and identify the port, if any, prepared to accept the sheep and at what cost, and
 - (ii) enforce minimum welfare standards in the live export trade and increases support for the chilled and frozen meat export trade.

(Agreed to 17 September 2003.)

36 Health—National Drug Research Strategy—Order for production of document

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, no later than the next day of sitting, the most recent draft of the National Drug Research Strategy, as prepared by the National Drug Research Committee.

(Agreed to 8 October 2003.)

37 Health—Immunisation—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing, no later than the next day of sitting, the following documents:

- (a) the advice provided by the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) in August 2002, as outlined in paragraph (3) of question on notice no. 1750 (Senate *Hansard*, 15 September 2003, p. 14473), relating to the options for vaccination programs ahead of other ATAGI recommendations;
- (b) the submissions received by the National Health and Medical Research Council as part of its public consultation on the draft 8th Australian Immunisation Handbook;
- (c) all documents relating to the government funding, its requirements of and the subsequent performance of the National Consortium for Education in Primary Medical Care Alternative Pathway Program since its inception, including any review documents; and
- (d) the latest report submitted by the Medical Benefit Schedule Attendance Item Restructure Working Group.

(Agreed to 8 October 2003.)

38 Immigration—Management of detention centres—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, no later than 3 pm on Thursday, 16 October 2003:

- (a) the default notice issued to Australasian Correctional Management under the Government's general agreement contract to manage detention centres; and
- (b) the report prepared for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs by Knowledge Enterprises in 2001 on management of detention centres.

(Agreed to 13 October 2003.)

39 Finance—Calculation of the IBNR levy—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer, no later than 5 pm on Tuesday, 14 October 2003, all documents held by the Australian Government Actuary relating to its calculations of the Incurred But Not Reported (IBNR) levy following the collapse of the medical defence organisation United Medical Protection, including the formulae used to calculate the estimated unfunded liabilities for IBNR claims.

(Agreed to 13 October 2003.)

40 Animal Welfare—Live sheep export—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than 2 pm on Wednesday, 15 October 2003, the following documents concerning the voyage of the MV *Cormo Express*:

- (a) the import risk analysis report concerning the return of the sheep stranded aboard the vessel to Australia; and
- (b) the latest Master's report revealing mortality aboard the vessel.

(Agreed to 14 October 2003.)

41 Environment—Sepon Mine—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Trade (Senator Hill), no later than 30 October 2003, documents detailing the results of the independent environmental and social audit of the Sepon Mine project in Laos, conducted by Graham A Brown and Associates and provided to the Export Finance Insurance Corporation, the providers of political risk insurance for this project.

(Agreed to 16 October 2003.)

42 Science and Technology—Assisted reproductive technology—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill), no later than immediately after motions to take note of answers on 29 October 2003, the following two expert reports prepared for and subsequently issued to members of the Council of Australian Governments for its meeting on 29 August 2003:

- (a) a report that discussed protocols to prevent the creation of embryos for the purposes of scientific research, prepared by the Committee for the Review of Ethical Guidelines for Assisted Reproductive Technology, a

subcommittee of the Australian Health Ethics Committee of the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC); and

- (b) a report prepared by the NHMRC that considered the adequacy of supply and distribution for research of excess assisted reproductive technology embryos, which would otherwise have been allowed to succumb.

(Agreed to 28 October 2003.)

43 Education—Higher education—Regional impact statement—Order for production of document

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training, no later than Wednesday, 29 October 2003, the regional impact statement prepared by the Department of Education Science and Training, in support, explanation and justification of the higher education policy package, referred to at the hearing of the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee on 17 October 2003 (*Hansard*, p. 119).

(Agreed to 28 October 2003.)

44 Finance—Deposit bonds—Order for production of documents

- (1) That the Senate—

- (a) notes:

- (i) the opinion of the Reserve Bank of Australia that deposit bonds are likely to have encouraged the over-development of inner city rental units,
 - (ii) that deposit bonds have been a factor contributing to the current housing boom, and
 - (iii) that deposit bonds are issued by a range of organisations, some of which are not regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority; and

- (b) calls on the Government:

- (i) to review the regulation of deposit bonds and related instruments and to include both the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority and Australian Securities and Investment Commission in the review, and
 - (ii) to develop a regulatory scheme that will protect consumers and take some pressure from the housing boom and that will ensure:
 - (A) issuers of deposit bonds must conduct appropriate checks on the credit worthiness and ability to repay of applicants, and
 - (B) all deposit bond providers are regulated.

- (2) That there be laid on the table, no later than 3.30 pm on 1 December 2003, any documents prepared by the Australian Securities and Investment Commission, the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority and the Department of the Treasury in relation to deposit bonds.

(Agreed to 25 November 2003.)

45 Taxation—First home owners, ‘bracket creep’ and Intergenerational Report—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Treasurer, no later than 3 pm, Thursday, 4 December 2003, any documents prepared by the Department of the Treasury in relation to:

- (a) the operation of the First Home Owner Grant scheme;
- (b) information on the impact of 'bracket creep'; and
- (c) baseline information used in the preparation of the Intergenerational Report 2002-03 (Budget Paper No. 5).

(Agreed to 1 December 2003.)

46 Health—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, by 3 pm on 4 December 2003, the following:

- (a) all correspondence and documents, including e-mails, between the Department of Health and Ageing (the department) and the National Prescribing Service (NPS) and/or the Minister for Health and Ageing and/or the pharmaceutical drug companies Lilly and GlaxoSmithKline concerning the recent Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme listing of Thiazolidinediones (Actos – Pioglitazone, and Avandia – Rosiglitazone) and the role of the NPS in conducting an education campaign about the drugs;
- (b) all correspondence and documents, including e-mails, between the department, the NPS and their new drug working group concerning a departmental request that the NPS should not conduct an education campaign about the Thiazolidinedione group of drugs; and
- (c) reports and/or correspondence from the Australian Adverse Drug Reaction Committee and/or the Therapeutic Goods Administration concerning adverse effects of Pioglitazone and Rosiglitazone directed at health practitioners, the department, the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee, and the Minister.

(Agreed to 3 December 2003.)

47 Environment—Sepon mine—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, by 3 pm on 4 December 2003, those parts of the audit report on the Sepon mine project in Laos referred to by the Minister for Finance and Administration in his statement to the Senate on 25 November 2003 which relate to the environmental and social impacts of the project.

(Agreed to 3 December 2003.)

48 Science and Technology—Assisted reproductive technology—Order for production of documents

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that the Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill) has failed to provide documents relating to embryo research and the Council of Australian Governments for more than 3 months; and
- (b) insists that Senator Hill provide the documents before the adjournment of the Senate on Thursday, 12 February 2004.

(Agreed to 10 February 2004.)

49 Superannuation—Departing temporary residents—Order for production of document

That there be laid on the table, by the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer, no later than 5 pm on Wednesday, 24 March 2004, the document detailing the actual revenue collected during the 2002-03 financial year from the measure, 'allowing departing temporary residents access to their superannuation'

referred to on page 1-25 of the document *Budget strategy and outlook 2002-03* (Budget Paper No. 1).

(Agreed to 24 March 2004.)

50 Australian Federal Police Commissioner—Statement—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, by the Leader of the Government in the Senate, no later than 4 pm on Tuesday, 30 March 2004, copies of all drafts of the clarifying statement which was negotiated between the Australian Federal Police Commissioner, Mr Keelty, and the Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, Dr Shergold, and any other members or representatives of the Government and which was issued by the Commissioner on Tuesday, 16 March 2004.

(Agreed to 24 March 2004.)

51 Human rights—Sexuality discrimination—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Attorney-General (Senator Ellison), no later than 5 pm on Tuesday, 15 June 2004, the following documents:

- (a) the Government's formal response to the United Nations Human Rights Committee finding on 6 August 2003 in the case of *Young v Australia*, that:
 - (i) the Australian Government's refusal to grant Mr Young a pension on the ground that he does not meet with the definition of 'dependent', for having been in a same-sex relationship, violates his rights under article 26 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on the basis of his sexual orientation,
 - (ii) the Australian Government provided no argument on how the distinction between same-sex partners and unmarried heterosexual partners is reasonable and objective, and no evidence which would point to the existence of factors justifying such a distinction was advanced,
 - (iii) as a victim of a violation of article 26, Mr Young is entitled to an effective remedy, including the reconsideration of his pension application without discrimination based on his sex or sexual orientation, if necessary through an amendment of the law, and
 - (iv) the Australian Government is under an obligation, as a signatory to the First Optional Protocol of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, to ensure that similar violations of the Covenant do not occur in the future; and
- (b) an explanation as to why a response requested by the United Nations Human Rights Committee within 90 days of its finding will, by that time, have taken almost 10 months to produce.

(Agreed to 1 April 2004.)

52 Immigration—Ministerial discretion—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs, no later than 5 pm on 12 May 2004, the following documents relating to the exercise of ministerial discretion under sections 351 and 417 of the *Migration Act 1958*:

- (a) the documentary evidence from the case histories relating to the applications for the Minister to exercise his discretionary powers

concerning which Mr Karim KISRwani made representations on behalf of the applicant to the former Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (Mr Ruddock) which resulted in the Minister intervening on behalf of the applicant, indicating the following:

- (i) the Refugee Review Tribunal (RRT) or Migration Review Tribunal (MRT) outcome in relation to each case,
 - (ii) the outcome of the Minister's consideration pursuant to sections 351 or 417, and the date of the Minister's decision,
 - (iii) an indication of whether the case at any stage was assessed by officers of the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) as falling outside the Minister's guidelines,
 - (iv) the date of any such assessment,
 - (v) the date on which each case was first referred to the Minister's office, and an indication of whether at that stage the case was a scheduled case (assessed as outside the guidelines) or a full submission,
 - (vi) the date on which the file was the subject of a submission (other than on the schedule) to the Minister's office,
 - (vii) details of any requests by the Minister's office for a submission in relation to any of the files, as referred to in the letter, including the date, and any documentary record, of such requests,
 - (viii) details of the date or dates and nature of the contact with Mr KISRwani referred to in the letter, and
 - (ix) copies of any correspondence or other documentation evidencing such contact;
- (b) copies of all case files for all cases involving representations by Mr Cameron MP and Gateway Pharmaceuticals to Mr Ruddock to intervene on behalf of applicants and where the Minister exercised his powers under sections 351 and 417;
- (c) the documentary evidence for each of the 105 case histories referred to in evidence given by DIMIA officers on 31 October 2003 to the Select Committee on Ministerial Discretion in Migration Matters, indicating in each case the following:
- (i) the nationality of the applicant,
 - (ii) a timeline of the application process including processing of the ministerial intervention request subsequent to the decisions of either the RRT or MRT,
 - (iii) details of decisions made by departmental officers and review tribunals in relation to each applicant,
 - (iv) whether the case was assessed by the department as meeting the guidelines for ministerial intervention or placed on a schedule as being outside the guidelines and the date of such decisions,
 - (v) details including the date of any communication from the Minister or the Minister's office regarding the case, including any request for a full submission, and
 - (vi) names of any persons who made representations on behalf of the applicant;
- (d) all documents on case files relating to the exercise of the ministerial discretionary powers under sections 351 and 417 in the cases of Ibrahim Sammaki and Bedweny Hbeiche; and

- (e) all documents on case files relating to the exercise of the ministerial discretionary powers under sections 351 and 417 in cases involving representations by Mr Fahmi Hussain.

(Agreed to 1 April 2004.)

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
20.09.2001	Transport—Ansett Australia	Minister representing the Prime Minister

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 Nationals 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 Nationals 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

- 5 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.
- 6 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.
- 7 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

- 8 **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.
- 9 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**
Leader of The Nationals 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

- 10 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**
Leader of The Nationals 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

- 11 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**
Leader of The Nationals 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

- 12 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**
Leader of The Nationals 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

- 13 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Faulkner)**
Leader of The Nationals 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, Ferguson, Hutchins, Kirk, Knowles, Lightfoot, Sandy Macdonald, Marshall, 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
 Free Trade Agreement—Australia and the United States of America
 Lindeberg Grievance—Select Committee
 Medicare
 Ministerial Discretion in Migration Matters
 Superannuation
 Superannuation and Financial Services

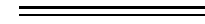
Joint Statutory Committees

ASIO, ASIS and DSD
 Australian Crime Commission (*replaced 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*)

38th report—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2003-04 (*tabled 23 June 2003*)

39th report—Review of aspects of parliamentary administration (*tabled 23 June 2003*)

Annual report for 2002-03 (*tabled 18 September 2003*)

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*)

Private review of agency security arrangements (*tabled 13 October 2003*)

Intelligence on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction (*tabled 1 March 2004*)

Review of the Intelligence Services Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 11 March 2004*)

Australian Crime Commission—Joint Statutory Committee

(*replaced the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the National Crime Authority 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

Current inquiry

The Australian Crime Commission's response to the emerging trend of trafficking in women for sexual servitude (*adopted 26 June 2003*)

Reports presented

Examination of the annual report for 2001-02 of the National Crime Authority (*tabled 30 October 2003*)

Cybercrime (*tabled 24 March 2004*)

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*), Senator Greig (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, Denman, Humphries and McLucas

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Boswell, Brown, Buckland, Carr, Chapman, Collins, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Hogg, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, McGauran, Mackay, Moore, Murphy, Nettle, O'Brien, 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*)

Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)

Health Legislation Amendment (Private Health Insurance Reform) Bill 2003 (*tabled 16 June 2003*)

Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2004), March 2004 (*tabled 24 March 2004*)

Truth in Food Labelling Bill 2003 (*tabled 24 March 2004*)

Additional estimates 2003-04, March 2004 (*tabled 24 March 2004*)

Community Affairs References Committee*Members*

Senator McLucas (*Chair*), Senator Knowles (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Humphries, Hutchins, Lees, and Moore

Substitute member

Senator Murray to replace Senator Lees for the committee's inquiry into children in institutional care

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Crossin, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, O'Brien, 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*)

Children in institutional care (*referred 4 March 2003; reporting date: 21 June 2004*)

Hepatitis C in Australia (*referred 19 August 2003; reporting date: 17 June 2004*)

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*)

A hand up not a hand out: Renewing the fight against poverty—Report on poverty and financial hardship (*tabled 11 March 2004*) and corrigendum [Balancing the picture on poverty, p. 448] (*tabled 11 March 2004*)

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

Australia's insolvency laws (*adopted 14 November 2002*)

Corporate Law Economic Reform Program (Audit Reform and Corporate Disclosure) Bill 2003—exposure draft and relevant related matters (*adopted 8 October 2003*)

Corporations Amendment Regulations—Batch 7 (7.1.29A) and Batch 6 (7.1.35A and 7.1.40(h)) (*adopted 5 February 2004*)

Reports presented

Regulations and ASIC policy statements made under the *Financial Services Reform Act 2001* (*tabled 23 October 2003*)

Review of the *Managed Investments Act 1998* (*tabled 12 December 2002*)

Review of the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (*tabled 26 March 2003*)

Corporations Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 1), Statutory Rules 2003 No. 31 (*tabled 24 June 2003*)

Regulation 7.1.29 in Corporations Amendment Regulations 2003 (No. 3), Statutory Rules 2003 No. 85 (*tabled 26 June 2003*)

Inquiry into the disclosure of commissions on risk products (*tabled 12 August 2003*)

Money matters in the bush: Inquiry into the level of banking and financial services in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia (*presented to the Temporary Chair of*

Committees, Senator Cherry, on 15 January 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 10 February 2004)

ATM fee structure (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Cherry, on 15 January 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 10 February 2004*)

Corporations Amendment Regulations 2003 (Batch 6); Draft regulations—Corporations Amendment Regulations 2003/04 (Batch 7); and Draft regulations—Corporations Amendment Regulations 2004 (Batch 8) (*tabled 24 March 2004*)

Economics Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Treasury; Industry, Tourism and Resources

Members

Senator Brandis (*Chair*), Senator Stephens (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Chapman, Murray, Watson and Webber

Substitute members

Senator Allison to replace Senator Murray for matters relating to the Resources portfolio

Senator O'Brien to replace Senator Webber for matters relating to tourism

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Murray for the committee's consideration of the provisions of the Treasury Legislation Amendment (Professional Standards) Bill 2003

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Murray for the committee's consideration of the provisions of the Tourism Australia Bill 2004

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Brown, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Cherry, Conroy, Cook, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Kirk, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Mackay, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, O'Brien, Payne, Ridgeway, Sherry, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Wong

Current inquiries

Provisions of the Treasury Legislation Amendment (Professional Standards) Bill 2003 (*referred 11 February 2004; reporting date: 12 May 2004*)

New International Tax Arrangements Bill 2003 (*referred 10 March 2004; reporting date: 12 May 2004*)

Tax Laws Amendment (2004 Measures No. 1) Bill 2004 (*referred 10 March 2004; reporting date: 12 May 2004*)

Provisions of the Tourism Australia Bill 2004 (*referred 1 April 2004; reporting date: 13 May 2004*)

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*)
Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)
Corporations Amendment (Repayment of Directors' Bonuses) Bill 2002 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)
Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)
Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)
Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme Bill 2003 and Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003 (*tabled 24 March 2003*)
Corporations (Fees) Amendment Bill 2002, Corporations Legislation Amendment Bill 2002 and Corporations (Review Fees) Bill 2002 (*tabled 26 March 2003*)
Terrorism Insurance Bill 2003 (*tabled 14 May 2003*)
Designs Bill 2002 and Designs (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2002 (*presented to the President on 28 May 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2003*)
Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 4) 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)
Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 8) 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)
Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 23 June 2003*)
New Business Tax System (Taxation of Financial Arrangements) Bill (No. 1) 2003 (*tabled 13 August 2003*)
Provisions of the Trade Practices Amendment (Personal Injuries and Death) Bill 2003 (*tabled 20 August 2003*)
Provisions of the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 5) 2003 (*tabled 21 August 2003*)
Provisions of the Financial Services Reform Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 21 August 2003*)
Provisions of the ACIS Administration Amendment Bill 2003 and the Customs Tariff Amendment (ACIS) Bill 2003 (*tabled 10 September 2003*)
Provisions of the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill (No. 7) 2003 (*tabled 10 September 2003*)
Annual reports (No. 2 of 2003), September 2003 (*tabled 10 September 2003*)
Provisions of the Energy Grants (Cleaner Fuels) Scheme Bill 2003 and the Energy Grants (Cleaner Fuels) Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003 (*tabled 16 October 2003*) and errata (*tabled 24 October 2003*)
Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Bill 2003 (*tabled 29 October 2003*)

Provisions of the International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill 2003 (*presented to the President on 3 November 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 24 November 2003*)

Financial Services Reform Amendment Bill 2003 and certain associated regulations (*tabled 3 December 2003*)

Provisions of the Taxation Laws Amendment (Superannuation Contributions Splitting) Bill 2003 and associated regulations (*tabled 5 December 2003*)

Superannuation Safety Amendment Bill 2003 (*presented to the Deputy President on 19 February 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 1 March 2004*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2004), March 2004 (*tabled 10 March 2004*)

Provisions of the Greater Sunrise Unitisation Agreement Implementation Bill 2004 and the Customs Tariff Amendment (Greater Sunrise) Bill 2004 (*tabled 23 March 2004*)

Additional estimates 2003-04, March 2004 (*tabled 24 March 2004*)

Taxation Laws (Clearing and Settlement Facility Support) Bill 2003 (*tabled 29 March 2004*)

Economics References Committee

Members

Senator Stephens (*Chair*), Senator Brandis (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Chapman, Ridgeway, Webber and Wong

Substitute members

Senator Allison to replace Senator Ridgeway for matters relating to the Resources portfolio

Senator Murray to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into the structure and distributive effects of the Australian taxation system

Senator O'Brien to replace Senator Webber for matters relating to tourism

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Barnett, Boswell, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Cherry, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Kirk, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Murray, Payne, Sherry, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Current inquiry

The structure and distributive effects of the Australian taxation system (*referred 12 December 2002; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2004*)

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*)

The effectiveness of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* in protecting small business (*tabled 1 March 2004*)

Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee*(appointed 14 February 2002; terms of appointment varied 8 March 2004)**Members*Mr Georgiou (*Chair*), Mr Danby (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Brandis, Faulkner, Mason, Murray and Ray and Mr Forrest, Mr Melham and Ms Panopoulos*Current inquiry*Electoral funding and disclosure and any amendments to the Commonwealth Electoral Act necessary in relation to political donations (*referred 4 March 2004; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2004*)*Reports presented*The integrity of the electoral roll: Review of ANAO report no. 42 of 2001-02 (*tabled 11 November 2002*)The 2001 Federal Election: Report of the inquiry into the conduct of the 2001 Federal Election, and matters related thereto (*tabled 23 June 2003*)Territory representation: Report of the inquiry into increasing the minimum representation for the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory in the House of Representatives (*tabled 1 December 2003*)**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

Senator Marshall to replace Senator Carr on 15 April and 16 April 2004

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Boswell, Brown, Buckland, Chapman, Cherry, Collins, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Humphries, Hutchins, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Marshall, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Santoro, Sherry, Stephens, Watson and Webber

Senator Carr on 15 April and 16 April 2004

*Current inquiry*Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Award Simplification) Bill 2002 and on the Workplace Relations Amendment (Better Bargaining) Bill 2003, the Workplace Relations Amendment (Choice in Award Coverage) Bill 2004 and the Workplace Relations Amendment (Simplifying Agreement-making) Bill 2004 (*referred 3 March 2004; reporting date: 17 June 2004*)*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*)
 Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)
 Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)
 Workplace Relations Amendment (Termination of Employment) Bill 2002 (*tabled 26 March 2003*)
 Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting the Low Paid) Bill 2003—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2003*)
 Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)
 Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting the Low Paid) Bill 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)
 Annual reports (No. 2 of 2003), September 2003 (*tabled 9 September 2003*)
 Workplace Relations Amendment (Compliance with Court and Tribunal Orders) Bill 2003; provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Codifying Contempt Offences) Bill 2003; Workplace Relations Amendment (Improved Remedies for Unprotected Action) Bill 2002 (*tabled 30 October 2003*)
 Annual reports (No. 1 of 2004), March 2004 (*tabled 10 March 2004*)
 Additional estimates 2003-04, March 2004 (*tabled 24 March 2004*)

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

Senators Collins and Cook to replace Senators Carr and Crossin, respectively, for the committee's inquiry into the exposure draft of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2003 and the provisions of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2003 and the Building and Construction Industry Improvement (Consequential and Transitional) Bill 2003

Senator Johnston to replace Senator Barnett for the committee's inquiry into the exposure draft of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2003 and the provisions of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2003 and the Building and Construction Industry Improvement (Consequential and Transitional) Bill 2003

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bartlett, Boswell, Brown, Buckland, Chapman, Cherry, Collins, Coonan, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Humphries, Hutchins, Johnston, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mackay, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Moore, Murphy, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Santoro, Sherry, Stephens, Watson and Webber

Current inquiry

Exposure draft of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2003 (*referred 16 October 2003*) and the provisions of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2003 and the Building and Construction Industry Improvement (Consequential and Transitional) Bill 2003 (*referred 3 December 2003; reporting date: 15 June 2004*)

The progress and future direction of life-long learning (*referred 11 March 2004; reporting date: 25 November 2004*)

Indigenous training and employment outcomes (*referred 11 March 2004; reporting date: 25 November 2004*)

Student income support (*referred 11 March 2004; reporting date: 25 November 2004*)

* Office of the Chief Scientist (*referred 11 May 2004; reporting date: 24 June 2004*)

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*)

Small business employment (*tabled 6 February 2003*)

Education of students with disabilities—Corrigendum (*tabled 5 March 2003*)

Order for production of documents on university finances (*tabled 15 October 2003*)

Bridging the skills divide (*presented to the Deputy President on 6 November 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 24 November 2003*)

Hacking Australia's future: Threats to institutional autonomy, academic freedom and student choice in Australian higher education (*presented to the President on 7 November 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 24 November 2003*) and corrigenda (*presented to the President on 12 November 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 24 November 2003*)

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 Allison, Lundy, Santoro and Tchen

Substitute members

Senator Greig to replace Senator Allison for matters relating to the Information Technology portfolio

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Allison for matters relating to the Arts portfolio

Senator Cherry to replace Senator Allison for matters relating to the Communications portfolio

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bolkus, Boswell, Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Heffernan, Humphries, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, McLucas, Mason, McGauran, Moore, Murphy, Nettle, O'Brien, Ray, Watson and Wong

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*)

Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)

Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

Provisions of the Postal Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 19 August 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2003), September 2003 (*tabled 9 September 2003*)

Communications Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2003 (*tabled 15 September 2003*)

Provisions of the Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2003 (*tabled 27 October 2003*)

Provisions of the Fuel Quality Standards Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 28 October 2003*)

Provisions of the Spam Bill 2003 and the Spam (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003 (*tabled 29 October 2003*)

Plastic Bag Levy (Assessment and Collection) Bill 2002 [No. 2] and the Plastic Bag (Minimisation of Usage) Education Fund Bill 2002 [No. 2] (*tabled 26 November 2003*) and corrigendum (*tabled 1 March 2004*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2004), March 2004 (*tabled 10 March 2004*)

Kyoto Protocol Ratification Bill 2003 [No. 2] (*tabled 25 March 2004*)

Additional estimates 2003-04, March 2004 (*tabled 25 March 2004*)

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

Members

Senator Cherry (*Chair*), Senator Tierney (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Lundy, Mackay, Tchen and Wong

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Allison, Bolkus, Boswell, Brown, Buckland, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Humphries, Knowles, Lees, Mason, McGauran, Moore, Murphy, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne and Watson

Senator Greig for matters relating to the Information Technology portfolio

Senator Ridgeway for matters relating to the Arts portfolio

Senator Wong for the committee's inquiry into the Australian telecommunications network

Current inquiries

Australian telecommunications network (*referred 25 June 2002; reporting date: 16 June 2004*)

Competition in broadband services (*referred 26 June 2003; reporting date: 24 June 2004*)

Regulation, control and management of invasive species (*referred 26 June 2003; reporting date: 25 November 2004*)

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002 (*referred 26 March 2003; order varied 26 June 2003; reporting date: 25 November 2004*)

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*)

Regulating the Ranger, Jabiluka, Beverley and Honeymoon uranium mines (*tabled 14 October 2003*)

Libraries in the online environment (*tabled 16 October 2003*)

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, Fifield, Harradine, Harris, Knowles, Lees, McGauran, Mackay, Marshall, Murphy, O'Brien, Payne, Ray, Ridgeway, Sherry, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Current inquiries

Portfolio Budget Statements (*referred 21 November 1996; readopted 2 December 1998 and 21 March 2002*)

Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Employee Involvement and Compliance) Bill 2002 (*referred 31 March 2004; reporting date: 17 June 2004*)

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*)

Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)

Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2003), September 2003 (*tabled 9 September 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2004), March 2004 (*tabled 10 March 2004*)

Additional estimates 2003-04, March 2004 (*tabled 24 March 2004*)

Finance and Public Administration References Committee*Members*

Senator Forshaw (*Chair*), Senator Watson (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Heffernan, Ludwig, Moore and Ridgeway

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Brandis, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fifield, Harradine, Harris, Knowles, Lees, Lundy, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Murray, O'Brien, Payne, Sherry, Tchen, Tierney and Wong

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*)

Second year of operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (*ordered 18 June 2003*)

Reports presented

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 39th Parliament (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

Departmental and agency contracts: Report on the first year of operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (*tabled 12 December 2002*)

A funding matter under the Dairy Regional Assistance Program (*tabled 26 June 2003*)

Recruitment and training in the Australian Public Service (*tabled 18 September 2003*)

Staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (tabled 16 October 2003)

Administrative review of veteran and military compensation and income support (tabled 4 December 2003)

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, Marshall, 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 Snowdon, 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*)

Relations with Indonesia (*adopted 22 August 2002*)

Australia's maritime strategy (*adopted 27 August 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 Australia-Indonesia Institute annual report for 2001-02 (*adopted 2 December 2002*)

Australia's defence relations with the United States (*adopted 26 November 2003*)

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*)

Report of the 2003 New Zealand Parliamentary Committee Exchange, 6-11 April 2003 (*tabled 23 June 2003*)

Expanding Australia's trade and investment relationship with the countries of Central Europe (*tabled 15 September 2003*)

Review of the Defence annual report 2001-02 (*tabled 13 October 2003*)

Review of Foreign Affairs and Trade portfolio annual reports 2001-2002 (*tabled 13 October 2003*)

Immigration detention centres and the treatment of detainees (*statement made, by way of a report, 13 October 2003*)

Defence Sub-Committee visit to RAAF Williamtown, Darwin establishments, East Timor and RAAF Tindal, 14-17 July 2003 (*tabled 24 November 2003*)

Parliamentary delegation to the Solomon Islands, 17-18 December 2003 (*presented to the Deputy President on 6 May 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 May 2004*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Portfolios

Foreign Affairs and Trade; Defence (including Veterans' Affairs)

Members

Senator Sandy Macdonald (*Chair*), Senator Hutchins (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Evans, Ferguson, Payne and Ridgeway

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Boswell, Brandis, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Coonan, Eggleston, Faulkner, Ferris, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Hogg, Johnston, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Mackay, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Santoro, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Defence and Veterans' Affairs portfolio

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*)

Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)

Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

Export Market Development Grants Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 24 June 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2003), September 2003 (*tabled 9 September 2003*)

Provisions of the Non-Proliferation Legislation Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 11 September 2003*)

Aspects of the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* and the Military Compensation Scheme (*tabled 18 September 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2004), March 2004 (*tabled 10 March 2004*)

Provisions of the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Bill 2003 and the Military Rehabilitation and Compensation (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2003 (*tabled 22 March 2004*)

Additional estimates 2003-04, April 2004 (*tabled 1 April 2004*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Members

Senator Hutchins (*Chair*), Senator Sandy Macdonald (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Hogg, Johnston, Marshall and Ridgeway

Substitute members

Senator Stott Despoja to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into the performance of government agencies in the assessment and dissemination of security threats in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002

Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into current health preparation arrangements for the deployment of Australian Defence Forces overseas

Senator Bishop to replace Senator Marshall for the committee's inquiry into current health preparation arrangements for the deployment of Australian Defence Forces overseas

Senator Bartlett to replace Senator Ridgeway for the committee's inquiry into the effectiveness of the Australian military justice system

Senator Evans to replace Senator Marshall for the committee's inquiry into the effectiveness of the Australian military justice system

Senator Payne to replace Senator Sandy Macdonald for the committee's inquiry into the effectiveness of the Australian military justice system on 28 and 29 April 2004

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Boswell, Brandis, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Collins, Conroy, Coonan, Denman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fifield, Forshaw, Harradine, Harris, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Payne, Santoro, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Kirk for the committee's inquiry into the performance of government agencies in the assessment and dissemination of security threats in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002

Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Defence and Veterans' Affairs portfolio

Senator Allison for the committee's inquiry into current health preparation arrangements for the deployment of Australian Defence Forces overseas

Current inquiries

The performance of government agencies in the assessment and dissemination of security threats in South East Asia in the period 11 September 2001 to 12 October 2002 (*referred 24 March 2003; reporting date: 24 June 2004*)

Report by the Director of Trials of the Review of Test and Evaluation in Defence (*referred 14 May 2003 contingent upon the presentation of the document in the Senate; document tabled 4 December 2003*)

Current health preparation arrangements for the deployment of Australian Defence Forces overseas (*referred 19 June 2003; reporting date: 17 June 2004*)

Effectiveness of the Australian military justice system (*referred 30 October 2003; reporting date: 5 August 2004; terms of reference varied 12 February 2004*)

Reports 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*)

Materiel acquisition and management in Defence (*tabled 27 March 2003*)

A Pacific engaged: Australia's relations with Papua New Guinea and the island states of the south-west Pacific (*tabled 12 August 2003*)

Voting on trade: The General Agreement on Trade in Services and an Australia-US free trade agreement (*tabled 27 November 2003*)

The (not quite) White Paper: Australia's foreign affairs and trade policy, *Advancing the National Interest* (*tabled 4 December 2003*)

Free Trade Agreement—Australia and the United States of America—Select Committee

(appointed 11 February 2004; reporting date: 4 June 2004, or on such later date as is determined by the committee)

Members

Senator Cook (*Chair*), Senator Brandis (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Boswell, Conroy, Ferris, Harris, O'Brien and Ridgeway

House—Standing Committee

Members

The President (*Chair*), the Deputy President, Senators Carr, Colbeck, Crossin, 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 members

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Greig for matters relating to the Indigenous Affairs portfolio

Senator O'Brien to replace Senator Ludwig for matters relating to Indigenous affairs

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Brandis, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Humphries, Kirk, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Mackay, 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 inquiries

Provisions of the Civil Aviation Amendment (Relationship with Anti-discrimination Legislation) Bill 2004 (*referred 24 March 2004; reporting date: 30 June 2004*)

Provisions of the Migration Amendment (Judicial Review) Bill 2004 (*referred 31 March 2004; reporting date: 15 June 2004*)

Provisions of the Surveillance Devices Bill 2004 (*referred 31 March 2004; reporting date: 27 May 2004*)

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*)

Statutory powers and functions of the Australian Law Reform Commission—Interim report (*tabled 12 December 2002*)

Statutory powers and functions of the Australian Law Reform Commission—Final report (*tabled 20 March 2003*)

Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)

Customs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002—Interim report (*tabled 25 March 2003*)

Customs Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2002 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 4 April 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003) (*tabled 15 May 2003*)

Human Rights Commission Legislation Bill 2003 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 29 May 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2003*)

Human Rights Commission Legislation Bill 2003—Erratum (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Collins, on 2 June 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2003*)

Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

Provisions of the Migration Legislation Amendment (Sponsorship Measures) Bill 2003 (*tabled 12 August 2003*)

Provisions of the Family Law Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 13 August 2003*)

Australian Protective Service Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 18 August 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2003), September 2003 (*tabled 9 September 2003*)

Provisions of the Age Discrimination Bill 2003 (*tabled 18 September 2003*)

Provisions of the Migration Legislation Amendment (Identification and Authentication) Bill 2003 (*tabled 18 September 2003*)

Proposed government amendments to the Australian Protective Service Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 7 October 2003*)

Provisions of the Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Agents Integrity Measures) Bill 2003 and the Migration Agents Registration Application Charge Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 25 November 2003*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2004), March 2004 (*tabled 10 March 2004*)

Australian Federal Police and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2003 [2004] (*tabled 23 March 2004*)

Additional estimates 2003-04, March 2004 (*tabled 24 March 2004*)

Provisions of the Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment Bill 2004 (*tabled 30 March 2004*)

Provisions of the Disability Discrimination Amendment Bill 2003—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 7 April 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 May 2004*)

Provisions of the Disability Discrimination Amendment Bill 2003 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator McLucas, on 15 April 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 May 2004*)

* Provisions of the Sex Discrimination Amendment (Teaching Profession) Bill 2004 (*tabled 11 May 2004*)

* Provisions of the Anti-terrorism Bill 2004 (*tabled 11 May 2004*)

Document presented

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—Additional information (*tabled 27 March 2003*)

Legal and Constitutional References Committee

Members

Senator Bolkus (*Chair*), Senator Payne (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Buckland, Greig, Kirk and Scullion

Substitute members

Senator Ridgeway to replace Senator Greig for matters relating to the Indigenous Affairs portfolio

Senator Stott Despoja to replace Senator Greig for the committee's inquiry into the establishment of an Australian republic with an Australian Head of State

Senator O'Brien to replace Senator Ludwig for matters relating to Indigenous affairs

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Brandis, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Harradine, Harris, Humphries, Knowles, Lees, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Mackay, Mason, McGauran, Murphy, Nettle, Sherry, Stott Despoja, Tchen, Tierney and Watson

Senator Bartlett for matters relating to the Immigration and Multicultural Affairs portfolio

Current inquiries

The capacity of current legal aid and access to justice arrangements to meet the community need for legal assistance (*referred 17 June 2003; reporting date: 26 May 2004*)

Establishment of an Australian republic with an Australian Head of State (*referred 26 June 2003*)

The needs of expatriate Australians (*referred 16 October 2003; reporting date: 1 September 2004*)

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*)

Reconciliation: Off track (*tabled 9 October 2003*)

State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2002]—Interim report (*tabled 1 March 2004*)

State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2002] (*tabled 3 March 2004*)

Documents presented

Sexuality discrimination—Additional information (*tabled 27 March 2003*)

Library—Standing Committee*Members*

The President (*Chair*), Senators Kirk, Ludwig, Scullion, Tchen, Tierney and Wong

Lindeberg Grievance—Select Committee

(*appointed 1 April 2004; reporting date: 5 October 2004*)

Members

Senator Watson (*Chair*), Senator Kirk (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Eggleston, Harris, Moore and Santoro

Medicare—Select Committee

(*appointed 15 May 2003; terms of appointment varied: 26 June and 21 August 2003; report tabled 30 October 2003; reappointed 25 November 2003*)

Members

Senator McLucas (*Chair*), Senator Knowles (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Allison, Barnett, Forshaw, Humphries, Lees, and Stephens

Reports presented

Medicare – healthcare or welfare? (*tabled 30 October 2003*)

Medicare Plus: the future for Medicare?—Second report (*tabled 11 February 2004*)

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

Reports presented

2003 Review of Migration Regulation 4.31B (*presented to the Deputy President on 29 April 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2003*)

To make a contribution: Review of skilled labour migration programs 2004 (*tabled 29 March 2004*)

Ministerial Discretion in Migration Matters—Select Committee

(*appointed 19 June 2003; terms of appointment varied 29 October 2003 and 12 February 2004; final report tabled 31 March 2004*)

Members

Senator Ludwig (*Chair*), Senator Santoro (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Humphries, Johnston, Sherry and Wong

Report presented

Report (*tabled 31 March 2004*)

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 Neville, Mr Snowdon, Mr CP Thompson and Dr Washer

Reports presented

Norfolk Island electoral matters (*tabled 26 August 2002*)

Striking the right balance: Draft amendment 39, National Capital Plan (*tabled 21 October 2002*)

Not a town centre: The proposal for pay parking in the Parliamentary Zone (*tabled 13 October 2003*)

Quis custodiet ipsos custodes? Inquiry into governance on Norfolk Island (*tabled 3 December 2003*)

Draft Amendment 39 to the National Capital Plan (*statement made, by way of a report, 25 March 2004*)

National Crime Authority—Joint Statutory Committee

(replaced by the *Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission* with effect from 1 January 2003)

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

(term extended until 23 March 2006 in accordance with the *Extension of Sunset of Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title Act 2004*)

Members

Senator Johnston (*Chair*), Senator McLucas (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Crossin, Lees and Scullion and Mrs Hull, Mrs Ley, Mr McMullan, Mr Secker and Mr Snowdon

Current inquiry

Native title representative bodies (*adopted 15 September 2003*)

Reports presented

Examination of annual reports in fulfilment of the committee's duties pursuant to s.206(c) of the *Native Title Act 1993*—

2000-01 (*tabled 12 December 2002*)

2001-02 (*tabled 25 June 2003*)

Effectiveness of the National Native Title Tribunal, in fulfilment of the committee's duties pursuant to subparagraph 206(d)(i) of the *Native Title Act 1993* (*tabled 4 December 2003*)

Privileges—Standing Committee

Members

Senator Ray (*Chair*), Senators Evans, Humphries, Johnston, Knowles, Payne and Sherry

Current inquiry

Whether any false or misleading evidence was given by witnesses representing Telstra in relation to the matter of the network fault rate and deterioration of the network, and whether any contempt was committed in that regard (*referred 24 March 2004*)

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*)

111th report—Persons referred to in the Senate (Mr Bob Moses, on behalf of board and management of National Stem Cell Centre) (*tabled 5 February 2003*)

112th report—Possible unauthorised disclosure of report of Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee (*tabled 6 February 2003*)

113th report—Australian Press Council and Committee of Privileges: Exchange of correspondence (*tabled 25 June 2003*)

114th report—Execution of search warrants in senators' offices – Senator Harris: Matters arising from the 105th report of the Committee of Privileges (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

115th report—Persons referred to in the Senate (Board members of Electronic Frontiers Australia Inc.) (*tabled 18 September 2003*)

116th report—Possible improper interference with a witness before the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee (*tabled 2 March 2004*)

117th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Dr ICF Spry QC) (*tabled 30 March 2004*)

188th report—Joint meetings of the Senate and the House of Representatives on 23 and 24 October 2003 (*tabled 1 April 2004*)

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, Ian Campbell, Eggleston, Ferguson, Ludwig and Ray

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*)

First report of 2003—Times of meeting on Tuesday; Senators breastfeeding infants; Deadline for receipt of bills; Presentation of the budget; Committee meetings during adjournment debate; Formal motions (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Sandy Macdonald, on 17 April 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2003*)

Second report of 2003—Publication of questions on notice and answers: protection by parliamentary privilege (*tabled 21 August 2003*)

Third report of 2003—Joint meetings to receive addresses by foreign heads of state; Reference of tax expenditures statement to estimates hearings (*tabled 4 December 2003*)

First report of 2004—Divisions on Thursdays; Consideration of government documents; Formal motions (*tabled 29 March 2004*)

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Statutory Committee

Members

Mr Charles (*Chairman*), Ms Plibersek (*Vice Chairman*), Senators Hogg, Humphries, Moore, 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

Indigenous law and justice (*adopted 24 March 2004*)

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*)

Report 393—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2001-02: Fourth quarter (*tabled 3 March 2003*)

Report 394—Review of Australia's quarantine function (*tabled 5 March 2003*)

Report 395—Inquiry into the draft Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Bill (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

Report 396—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2002-03: First, second and third quarters (*tabled 8 October 2003*)

Report 397—Annual report 2002-03 (*tabled 26 November 2003*)

Report 398—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2002-03: Fourth quarter (*tabled 30 March 2004*)

Report 399—Inquiry into the management and integrity of electronic information in the Commonwealth (*tabled 1 April 2004*)

Documents presented

Executive minute responses to reports nos 373, 382, 383 and 385 (*tabled 14 November 2002*)

Executive minute responses to reports nos 374, 385, 388 and 389 (*tabled 24 June 2003*)

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*)

Sixty-sixth annual report, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Proposed fit-out of new leased premises for the Bureau of Meteorology, 700 Collins Street, Docklands, Victoria (*tabled 26 March 2003*)

Development of off-base housing for Defence at Adamstown, Newcastle, NSW (*tabled 14 May 2003*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Australian Customs Service at Sydney International Terminal, Sydney, NSW (*tabled 19 June 2003*)

Provision of facilities for the Australian Capital Territory Multi User Depot, HMAS Harman, ACT (*tabled 25 June 2003*)

Redevelopment of the Australian Institute of Sport, Bruce, Australian Capital Territory (Fifth report of 2003) (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

Provision of facilities for the collocation and re-equipping of the 1st Aviation Regiment at Robertson Barracks, Darwin, NT (Sixth report of 2003) (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

RAAF Base Tindal perimeter security fence, Katherine, Northern Territory (Seventh report of 2003) (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

Construction of a new chancery building for the Australian High Commission, Colombo, Sri Lanka (Eighth report of 2003) (*tabled 10 September 2003*)

Construction of a new chancery, New Delhi, India (Ninth report of 2003) (*tabled 17 September 2003*)

Refurbishment of staff apartments, Australian Embassy complex, Paris, France (Tenth report of 2003) (*tabled 17 September 2003*)

RAAF Base Richmond reinvestment project, Richmond, NSW (Eleventh report of 2003) (*tabled 15 October 2003*)

New main entrance at the Lucas Heights Science and Technology Centre, Lucas Heights, NSW (Twelfth report of 2003) (*tabled 26 November 2003*)

Proposed redevelopment of Radiopharmaceutical Building No. 23 at Lucas Heights, Sydney, NSW (Thirteenth report of 2003) (*tabled 26 November 2003*)

Proposed development of off-base housing for Defence at Queanbeyan, NSW (Fourteenth report of 2003) (*tabled 2 December 2003*)

Proposed respecified Christmas Island immigration centre and processing centre (Fifteenth report of 2003) (*tabled 2 December 2003*)

Proposed community recreation centre on Christmas Island (Sixteenth report of 2003) (*tabled 2 December 2003*)

Sixty-seventh annual report, March 2004 (*tabled 10 March 2004*)

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*)

6th report (*tabled 12 December 2002*)

7th report (*tabled 27 March 2003*)

8th report (*tabled 15 May 2003*)

9th report (*tabled 26 June 2003*)

10th report (*tabled 21 August 2003*)

11th report (*tabled 18 September 2003*)

12th report (*tabled 16 October 2003*)

13th report (*tabled 30 October 2003*)

14th report (*tabled 4 December 2003*)

15th report (*tabled 11 March 2004*)

16th report (*tabled 1 April 2004*)

Regulations and Ordinances—Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committee

Members

Senator Tchen (*Chairman*), Senators Bartlett, Marshall, Mason, Moore and Santoro

Reports presented

110th report—Annual report 2000-01 (*tabled 21 March 2002*)

111th report—Legislative Instruments Bill 2003 and Legislative Instruments (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2003 (*tabled 16 October 2003*)

Documents presented

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, March – June 2002 (*tabled 26 June 2002*)

Delegated legislation monitor—Regulations and disallowable instruments tabled in the Senate in 2002, dated February 2003 (*tabled 6 March 2003*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, June 2002 to February 2003 (*tabled 6 March 2003*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, March to June 2003 (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

Delegated legislation monitor—Regulations and disallowable instruments tabled in the Senate in 2003, dated March 2004 (*tabled 4 March 2004*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, June 2003 to February 2004 (*tabled 25 March 2004*)

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

Substitute members

Senator McLucas to replace Senator Buckland for the committee's inquiry into the administration of Biosecurity Australia—Revised draft import risk analysis for bananas

Senator Allison to replace Senator Cherry for the committee's consideration of the provisions of the Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment (Mutual Recognition with New Zealand and Other Matters) Bill 2003

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Bishop, Boswell, Brown, Carr, Chapman, Coonan, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Harradine, Harris, Hutchins, Knowles, Lightfoot, Mason, Sandy Macdonald, Mackay, McGauran, 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 under standing order 25(2)(b), 22 October 1999; readopted 13 March 2002; reporting date: 5 August 2004*)

Administration of AusSAR in relation to the search for the *Margaret J* (*referred 25 June 2001; readopted 13 March 2002; reporting date: 27 May 2004*)

The administration of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau in relation to the crash of Whyalla Airlines aircraft VH-MZK on 31 May 2000 (*adopted under standing order 25(2)(b), 25 November 2003*)

The administration of Biosecurity Australia—Draft and final import risk analysis for pig meat (*adopted under standing order 25(2)(b), 16 December 2003; amended 2 March 2004*)

The administration of Biosecurity Australia—Revised draft import risk analysis for bananas (*adopted under standing order 25(2)(b), 2 March 2004*)

The administration of Biosecurity Australia—Revised draft import risk analysis for apples (*adopted under standing order 25(2)(b), 2 March 2004*)

Provisions of the Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment (Mutual Recognition with New Zealand and Other Matters) Bill 2003 (*referred 10 March 2004; reporting date: 17 June 2004*)

Customs Tariff Amendment (Paraquat Dichloride) Bill 2004 (*referred 10 March 2004; reporting date: 13 May 2004*)

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*)
- The Australian meat industry consultative structure and quota allocation—Second report: Existing government advisory structures in the Australian meat industry (*tabled 12 December 2002*)
- Transport Safety Investigation Bill 2002 (*tabled 5 February 2003*)
- Additional estimates 2002-03, March 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)
- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2003), March 2003 (*tabled 20 March 2003*)
- Dairy Industry Service Reform Bill 2003 and Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Amendment (Dairy) Bill 2003 (*tabled 27 March 2003*)
- Wheat Marketing Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 18 June 2003*)
- Budget estimates 2003-04, June 2003 (*tabled 19 June 2003*)
- Civil Aviation Amendment Bill 2003 (*tabled 24 June 2003*)
- Annual reports (No. 2 of 2003), September 2003 (*tabled 16 September 2003*)
- Provisions of the Aviation Transport Security Bill 2003 and the Aviation Transport Security (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2003 (*tabled 9 October 2003*)
- Management of the quarantine risks associated with the possible return to Australia of sheep aboard the MV *Cormo Express* (*tabled 29 October 2003*)
- Provisions of the Maritime Transport Security Bill 2003 (*tabled 27 November 2003*)
- Draft Aviation Transport Security Regulations 2003 (*tabled 2 December 2003*)
- Australian Wool Innovation Limited: Application and expenditure of funds advanced under Statutory Funding Agreement dated 31 December 2000 (*tabled 12 February 2004*)
- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2004), March 2004 (*tabled 10 March 2004*)

The proposed importation of fresh apple fruit from New Zealand—Final report (*tabled 11 March 2004*)

Additional estimates 2003-04, March 2004 (*tabled 24 March 2004*)

Statement presented

Statement on the progress of the committee's inquiry into the application and expenditure of funds by Australian Wool Innovation Ltd (*presented 4 December 2003*)

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, Mackay, 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: 13 May 2004*)

Rural water resource usage (*referred 21 October 2002; reporting date: 24 June 2004*)

Scrutiny of Bills—Legislative Scrutiny Standing Committee

Members

Senator Crossin (*Chairman*), Senator Mason (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, Johnston, McLucas and Murray

Current inquiry

Entry, search and seizure provisions in Commonwealth legislation (*referred 25 March 2004; reporting date: first sitting day in March 2005*)

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 (*tabled 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*)
- No. 1 of 2003 (*tabled 5 February 2003*)
- No. 2 of 2003 (*tabled 5 March 2003*)
- No. 3 of 2003 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)
- No. 4 of 2003 (*tabled 26 March 2003*)
- No. 5 of 2003 (*tabled 14 June 2003*)
- No. 6 of 2003 (*tabled 18 June 2003*)
- No. 7 of 2003 (*tabled 25 June 2003*)
- No. 8 of 2003 (*tabled 13 August 2003*)
- No. 9 of 2003 (*tabled 20 August 2003*)
- No. 10 of 2003 (*tabled 10 September 2003*)
- No. 11 of 2003 (*tabled 17 September 2003*)
- No. 12 of 2003 (*tabled 8 October 2003*)
- No. 13 of 2003 (*tabled 29 October 2003*)
- No. 14 of 2003 (*presented to the President on 7 November 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 24 November 2003*)
- No. 15 of 2003 (*tabled 26 November 2003*)
- No. 16 of 2003 (*tabled 3 December 2003*)
- No. 1 of 2004 (*tabled 11 February 2004*)
- No. 2 of 2004 (*tabled 3 March 2004*)
- No. 3 of 2004 (*tabled 10 March 2004*)
- No. 4 of 2004 (*tabled 24 March 2004*)
- No. 5 of 2004 (*tabled 31 March 2004*)

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*)
- No. 1 of 2003 (*tabled 5 February 2003*)
- No. 2 of 2003 (*tabled 5 March 2003*)

- No. 3 of 2003 (*tabled 26 March 2003*)
 No. 4 of 2003 (*tabled 14 May 2003*)
 No. 5 of 2003 (*tabled 18 June 2003*)
 No. 6 of 2003 (*tabled 25 June 2003*)
 No. 7 of 2003 (*tabled 13 August 2003*)
 No. 8 of 2003 (*tabled 20 August 2003*)
 No. 9 of 2003 (*tabled 10 September 2003*)
 No. 10 of 2003 (*tabled 17 September 2003*)
 No. 11 of 2003 (*tabled 8 October 2003*)
 No. 12 of 2003 (*tabled 15 October 2003*)
 No. 13 of 2003 (*presented to the President on 7 November 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 24 November 2003*)
 No. 14 of 2003 (*tabled 26 November 2003*)
 No. 15 of 2003 (*tabled 3 December 2003*)
 No. 1 of 2004 (*tabled 11 February 2004*)
 No. 2 of 2004 (*tabled 3 March 2004*)
 No. 3 of 2004: The quality of explanatory memoranda accompanying bills (*tabled 24 March 2004*)
 No. 4 of 2004 (*tabled 24 March 2004*)
 No. 5 of 2004 (*tabled 31 March 2004*)

Selection of Bills—Standing Committee

Members

The Government Whip (*Chair*), the Opposition Whip, the Australian Democrats Whip, the Nationals 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*)
 Report no. 1 of 2003 (*presented 5 February 2003*)
 Report no. 2 of 2003 (*presented 5 March 2003*)
 Report no. 3 of 2003 (*presented 19 March 2003*)
 Report no. 4 of 2003 (*presented 26 March 2003*)
 Report no. 5 of 2003 (*presented 14 May 2003*)

Report no. 6 of 2003 (*presented 18 June 2003*)
 Report no. 7 of 2003 (*presented 25 June 2003*)
 Report no. 8 of 2003 (*presented 13 August 2003*)
 Report no. 9 of 2003 (*presented 20 August 2003*)
 Report no. 10 of 2003 (*presented 10 September 2003*)
 Report no. 11 of 2003 (*presented 17 September 2003*)
 Report no. 12 of 2003 (*presented 8 October 2003*)
 Report no. 13 of 2003 (*presented 15 October 2003*)
 Report no. 14 of 2003 (*presented 29 October 2003*)
 Report no. 15 of 2003 (*presented 26 November 2003*)
 Report no. 16 of 2003 (*presented 3 December 2003*)
 Report no. 1 of 2004 (*presented 11 February 2004*)
 Report no. 2 of 2004 (*presented 3 March 2004*)
 Report no. 3 of 2004 (*presented 10 March 2004*)
 Report no. 4 of 2004 (*presented 10 March 2004*)
 Report no. 5 of 2004 (*presented 24 March 2004*)
 Report no. 6 of 2004 (*presented 31 March 2004*)

Senators' Interests—Standing Committee

Members

Senator Denman (*Chair*), Senator Lightfoot (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Allison, Forshaw, Humphries, McGauran, 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*)

Register of senators' interests incorporating statements of interests and notifications of alterations of interests lodged between 6 December 2002 and 19 June 2003 (*tabled 24 June 2003*)

Register of senators' interests incorporating notifications of alterations of interests lodged between 20 June and 27 November 2003 (*tabled 2 December 2003*)

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*)

Report 1/2003: Annual report 2002 (*tabled 27 March 2003*)

Report 1/2004: Annual report 2003 (*tabled 12 February 2004*)

Document presented

Declarations of senators' interests and gifts to the Senate and the Parliament: Resolutions, explanatory notes and related information (*tabled 16 October 2003*)

Superannuation—Select Committee

(*appointed 14 March 2002; final report tabled 10 September 2003*)

Members

Senator Watson (*Chair*), Senator Sherry (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Buckland, Chapman, Cherry, Lightfoot and Wong

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 standards of living in retirement: The adequacy of the tax arrangements for superannuation and related policy (*tabled 12 December 2002*)

Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Bill 2002 and Superannuation (Financial Assistance Funding) Levy Amendment Bill 2002 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Planning for retirement (*presented to the President on 29 July 2003, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 August 2003*)

Draft Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Amendment Regulations 2003 and draft Retirement Savings Accounts Amendment Regulations 2003 (*tabled 10 September 2003*)

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

Dr Southcott (*Chair*), Mr Wilkie (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, 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*)

Report 51—Treaties tabled on 12 November and 3 December 2002 (*tabled 19 March 2003*)

Report 52—Treaties tabled in March 2003 (*tabled 26 June 2003*)

Report 53—Treaties tabled in May and June 2003 (*tabled 20 August 2003*)

Report 54—Treaties tabled in June and August 2003 (*tabled 17 September 2003*)

Report 55—Treaties tabled on 9 September 2002 (*tabled 16 October 2003*)

Report 56—Treaties tabled on 8 October 2003 (*tabled 1 December 2003*)

Report 57—Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code (*tabled 4 December 2003*)

Report 58—Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (*tabled 23 March 2004*)

Report 59—Treaties tabled in December 2003 (*tabled 31 March 2004*)

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
Senator the Honourable Nicholas Minchin (<u>Nick</u>) <i>Minister for Finance and Administration</i> <i>Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate</i>	Treasurer Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
Senator the Honourable Amanda Vanstone <i>Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs</i> <i>Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Reconciliation</i>	Minister for Education, Science and Training Minister for Science Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs
Senator the Honourable Kay Patterson <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 Christopher Ellison (<u>Chris</u>) <i>Minister for Justice and Customs</i>	Attorney-General
Senator the Honourable Ian Macdonald <i>Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation</i>	Minister for the Environment and Heritage Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Senator the Honourable Charles Kemp (<u>Rod</u>) <i>Minister for the Arts and Sport</i>	Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
Senator the Honourable Eric Abetz <i>Special Minister of State</i>	Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations Minister for Small Business and Tourism Minister for Employment Services
Senator the Honourable Helen Coonan <i>Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer</i>	Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Senator the Honourable Ian Campbell <i>Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads</i> <i>Manager of Government Business in the Senate</i>	Minister for Transport and Regional Services Minister for Health and Ageing Minister for Ageing
Parliamentary Secretary	
Senator the Honourable Judith Troeth <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</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 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 lists all 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.

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 online version of the *Notice Paper*, available on ParlInfo and on the Senate’s Internet site at aph.gov.au/senate.

Inquiries concerning the *Notice Paper* or business listed in it may be directed to the Senate Table Office on (02) 6277 3018.