

2004-07

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

NOTICE PAPER

No. 131

WEDNESDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2007

The Senate meets at 9.30 am

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

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Notices of Motion

Notice given 29 March 2006

1 Senator Carr: To move—That—

- (a) the Senate recognises that secure and affordable housing provides a platform for social inclusion, good mental and physical health and participation in employment, education and training; and
- (b) the following matter be referred to the Community Affairs References Committee for inquiry and report by 29 November 2006:

An examination of the housing needs of low and middle income households across Australia, whether those needs are being met and options for improving outcomes, including:

- (i) the capacity of the Commonwealth Government to influence the price and availability of housing,
- (ii) the effectiveness and efficiency of existing forms of direct government rental housing assistance in alleviating housing stress and ensuring that Australians have access to affordable, secure and appropriately located housing, with particular reference to:
 - (A) the effectiveness of Commonwealth rent assistance in improving affordable access to the private rental market,
 - (B) the intent and effect of the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement, and
 - (C) the evidence from Australia and overseas on the relative cost-effectiveness of different forms of direct housing assistance,
- (iii) the potential for attracting private investment into affordable rental housing,
- (iv) recent changes in the shape of the private housing market and their impact on home ownership, rental affordability and housing security, with particular reference to:
 - (A) trends in the proportion of Australian households that own their home outright, those that own their home with a mortgage and those that rent,
 - (B) the potential for intergenerational inequity as a result of sustained low levels of home ownership affordability,
 - (C) the availability and effects of government subsidies and loan financing schemes and possible alternative approaches to government support for home ownership, and
 - (D) the benefits and risks associated with new financial instruments, including shared equity and reverse mortgage products, and
- (v) the specific issues faced by Indigenous households and communities.

Notice given 7 December 2006

2 Senators Siewert and Milne: To move—

- (1) That the Senate notes:
 - (a) the recommendation of the Australian Business Roundtable on Climate Change to ‘Build national resilience to the impacts of climate change’;
 - (b) the announcement of support for the Roundtable’s recommendation by the National Farmers Federation (NFF) on 6 December 2006, stating that the ‘NFF believes that climate change may be the greatest threat confronting Australian farmers and their productive capacity’; and
 - (c) the call by representatives of 16 faiths on 5 December 2006 for the Australian Government to take urgent action on climate change.
- (2) That the following matters be referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 30 June 2007:
 - (a) the need for a national strategy to help Australian agricultural industries to mitigate and adapt to climate change;
 - (b) consideration of the risks and opportunities presented by reduced rainfall, increased temperatures, higher evaporation and increased climactic variability for Australian agriculture;
 - (c) assessment of the state of existing knowledge, the relevance of current strategies, and the adequacy of existing research and development programs to the need to address impacts of climate change on the security of Australian food production and the viability of rural communities; and
 - (d) the effectiveness of the National Plan for Water Security in meeting the challenges of protecting the health of our rivers, floodplains, wetlands and other dependent environments, ensuring secure water supplies for our towns and cities, and maintaining the viability of our agricultural sector.

Notice of motion altered on 6 February 2007 pursuant to standing order 77.

Orders of the Day

1 Community Affairs—Standing Committee

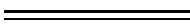
Report to be presented on the provisions of the Private Health Insurance Bill 2006 and 6 related bills. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

2 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Airspace Bill 2006 and the Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Bill 2006. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

3 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Airports Amendment Bill 2006. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)



GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Orders of the Day

1 Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2006

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Community Services (Senator Scullion)—That this bill be now read a second time.

And on the amendment moved by Senator Carr—At the end of the motion, add “but the Senate considers that the present government has been complacent and neglectful about the Australian economy by:

- (a) presiding over a skills crisis through its continued failure over more than 10 long years in office to ensure Australians get the training they need to get a skilled job and meet the skills needs of the economy;
- (b) failing to:
 - (i) make the necessary investments in our schools and technical and further education systems to create opportunities for young Australians to access high quality vocational education and training, including at schools, and
 - (ii) increase the number of school-based traditional apprentices and provide funding support for schools in taking up the places;
- (c) creating expensive, inefficient, stand-alone colleges, without cooperation with the states within the existing vocational education and training framework;
- (d) riding roughshod over the states and territories in establishing these colleges, despite the role the states and territories play in vocational education and training;
- (e) making Australian industry wait until 2010 for the Australian technical colleges to produce their first qualified tradesperson; and
- (f) failing to provide support to other regions that have skill shortages, but are not listed for a technical college” (*Senator Fifield, in continuation, 26 February 2007*).

2 Energy Efficiency Opportunities Amendment Bill 2006—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Colbeck*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 6 February 2007*).

***3 Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work and Vocational Rehabilitation Services) Bill 2006**—(*Minister for the Arts and Sport, Senator Brandis*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Brandis, 27 February 2007*).

4 Archives Amendment Bill 2006 [2007]—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Ageing, Senator Santoro*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*6 September 2006*).

- 5 **Customs Legislation Amendment (Modernising Import Controls and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [2007]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (21 June 2006).
- 6 **Airspace Bill 2006**
Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Bill 2006—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Colbeck*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 6 February 2007*).
- 7 **Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Superannuation Contributions) Bill 2006 [2007]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (6 December 2006).
- 8 **Native Title Amendment Bill 2006**—(*Minister for Community Services, Senator Scullion*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Scullion, 26 February 2007*).
- 9 **Private Health Insurance Bill 2006**
Private Health Insurance (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2006
Private Health Insurance (Prostheses Application and Listing Fees) Bill 2006
Private Health Insurance (Collapsed Organization Levy) Amendment Bill 2006
Private Health Insurance Complaints Levy Amendment Bill 2006
Private Health Insurance (Council Administration Levy) Amendment Bill 2006
Private Health Insurance (Reinsurance Trust Fund Levy) Amendment Bill 2006—(*Minister for Community Services, Senator Scullion*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Scullion, 26 February 2007*).
- 10 **Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2006**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Colbeck*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Colbeck, 6 February 2007*).
- 11 **Migration Amendment (Review Provisions) Bill 2006 [2007]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (7 December 2006).
- 12 **Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 7) Bill 2006**—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Abetz, 7 February 2007*).
- 13 **Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Amendment Bill 2006**—(*Minister for Human Services, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ian Campbell, 8 February 2007*).

- 14 **Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (Statements of Principles and Other Measures) Bill 2006**—(*Minister for Human Services, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ian Campbell, 8 February 2007*).
- 15 **Maritime Legislation Amendment (Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) Bill 2006**—(*Minister for Community Services, Senator Scullion*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Scullion, 26 February 2007*).
- 16 **Non-Proliferation Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 [2007]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Human Services, Senator Ian Campbell*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*6 December 2006*).
- 17 **ACIS Administration Amendment (Unearned Credit Liability) Bill 2007**—(*Minister for Community Services, Senator Scullion*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*26 February 2007*).
(*Bill exempted on 27 February 2007 from the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (8) of standing order 111—see Orders of the Senate—Legislation*)
- 18 **Family Law (Divorce Fees Validation) Bill 2007**—(*Minister for Community Services, Senator Scullion*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*26 February 2007*).
(*Bill exempted on 27 February 2007 from the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (8) of standing order 111—see Orders of the Senate—Legislation*)
- 19 **Crimes Legislation Amendment (National Investigative Powers and Witness Protection) Bill 2006 [2007]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Justice and Customs, Senator Ellison*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*29 November 2006*).
- 20 **Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Promoting Safer Workplaces) Bill 2005**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator Colbeck*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*8 December 2005*).
- 21 **Migration Amendment (Visa Integrity) Bill 2006 [2007]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*21 June 2006*).
- 22 **Sex Discrimination Amendment (Teaching Profession) Bill 2004**—(*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation, Senator Abetz*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Abetz, 14 June 2005*).
- 23 **Budget statement and documents 2006-07**
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, Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz), 11 May 2006*).

24 Budget statement and documents 2005-06

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, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Colbeck), 12 May 2005*).

**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 Intelligence and Security—Joint Statutory Committee—Report—Review of the re-listing of ASG, JuA, GIA and GSPC

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Patterson—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Patterson, in continuation, 26 February 2007*).

***2 Community Affairs—Standing Committee—Report: Breaking the silence: A national voice for gynaecological cancers—Government response**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ferris—That the Senate take note of the document (*Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison), in continuation, 27 February 2007*).

***3 Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Report—Departmental and agency contracts: Second report on the operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (2003-06)**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Mason)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Murray, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).

4 Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Standing Committee—Report—Unfinished business: Indigenous stolen wages

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Payne)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Siewert, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).

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

1 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 18 of 2006-07—Performance audit—ASIC's processes for receiving and referring for investigation statutory reports of suspected breaches of the Corporations Act 2001: Australian Securities and Investments Commission

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Wong—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Sherry, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).

- 2 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 19 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Administration of state and territory compliance with the Australian health care agreements: Department of Health and Ageing**
Consideration (6 February 2007).
 - 3 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 20 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Purchase, chartering and modification of the new fleet oiler: Department of Defence; Defence Materiel Organisation**
Consideration (6 February 2007).
 - 4 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 21 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Implementation of the revised Commonwealth procurement guidelines**
Consideration (6 February 2007).
 - 5 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 21 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Implementation of the revised Commonwealth procurement guidelines—Corrigendum**
Consideration (6 February 2007).
 - 6 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 22 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Management of intellectual property in the Australian Government sector**
Consideration (6 February 2007).
 - 7 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 23 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Application of the outcomes and outputs framework**
Consideration (6 February 2007).
 - 8 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 24 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Customs' Cargo Management Re-engineering project: Australian Customs Service**
Consideration (7 February 2007).
 - 9 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 25 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Management of airport leases follow-up: Department of Transport and Regional Services**
Consideration (8 February 2007).
 - 10 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 26 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Administration of complex age pension assessments: Centrelink**
Consideration (26 February 2007).
 - 11 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 27 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Management of air combat fleet in-service support: Department of Defence; Defence Materiel Organisation**
Consideration (26 February 2007).
 - 12 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 28 of 2006-07—Performance audit—Project management in Centrelink: Centrelink**
Consideration (26 February 2007).
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GENERAL BUSINESS

Notices of Motion

Notice given 9 December 2004

- 56 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate calls on the Government to investigate the potential for a World Heritage nomination for Tasmania's Tarkine wilderness.

Notice given 7 March 2005

- 80 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) congratulates the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues on reaffirming at the United Nations, during the week beginning 27 February 2005, the Government's ongoing commitment to the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and its refusal to agree to proposals from the United States of America that would have explicitly omitted women's right to safe and legal abortion;
 - (b) affirms reproductive health rights as fundamental human rights; and
 - (c) calls on the governments of other states and the Northern Territory to follow the Australian Capital Territory's lead in removing pregnancy termination from the criminal code.

Notice given 10 May 2005

- 123 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) affirms:
 - (i) its support for the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and, in particular, Article 12 that refers to the need to ensure 'access to health care services, including those related to family planning',
 - (ii) the principle that health decisions should be made by those most closely involved with them, and
 - (iii) its respect for the right of women to make decisions regarding their fertility, including unplanned pregnancies, based on their life situations, personal values and beliefs;
 - (b) notes that in the Australian Survey of Social Attitudes (2003), 81.2 per cent of Australians agreed that women should have the right to choose an abortion, 9 per cent disagreed and 10 per cent were undecided;
 - (c) encourages:
 - (i) the provision of unbiased, relevant and accurate information for women experiencing unwanted pregnancy, without coercion,
 - (ii) accurate advice and support for women to act on their own values in making reproductive decisions, whether they be adoption, motherhood or termination of pregnancy, including non-directive, all-options counselling,
 - (iii) improvements in the evaluation of, and access to, advice and support on contraceptive choices,

- (iv) measures to ensure a wide variety of contraceptive measures are accessible and affordable, and that the privacy of women and men accessing such measures is protected,
- (v) the more ready availability of emergency contraception from a variety of settings, and
- (vi) lifelong sexuality and health education;
- (d) calls on the Government to work with state and territory governments to develop:
 - (i) a thorough and inclusive national framework of evidence-based and age-appropriate sex education in all schools, and
 - (ii) national standards for pregnancy counselling services; and
- (e) supports the privacy of medical records for reproductive health, including abortion and access to Medicare rebates for termination services.

Notice given 11 May 2005

- 137 **Senator Conroy:** To move—That the order of the Senate providing for estimates hearings be amended by adding at the end of paragraph (2) the following:
 “and (b) that officers of the ACCC responsible for communications matters, including telecommunications matters, are required to appear before the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee considering Budget estimates during May 2005”.

Notice given 16 June 2005

- 176 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate calls on the Government to bring Australia’s troops home from Iraq.

Notice given 17 August 2005

- 225 **Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes that:
 - (i) Friday, 26 August 2005 is the 4th anniversary of the rescue of 433 asylum seekers by the MV *Tampa*, and
 - (ii) 4 years later, 32 asylum seekers remain on Nauru as part of the Government’s cruel Pacific Solution; and
 - (b) calls on the Government to bring the remaining asylum seekers still on Nauru to the Australian mainland.

Notice given 6 September 2005

- 240 **Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison) and Senator McLucas:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) recognises that the United Nations (UN) Secretary General’s report on achieving the Millennium Development Goals, *In larger freedom*, calls on governments to ensure universal access to reproductive health services;
 - (b) acknowledges that in January 2005 the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) reaffirmed the vision of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) for human development, social justice, economic progress and environmental preservation and called on the international community, national governments and private philanthropic organisations to prioritise the ICPD Program of Action; and

- (c) recognises that access to sexual and reproductive health is also a critical strategy towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment, the third of the Millennium Development Goals.

(As amended on 8 September 2005.)

Notice given 8 September 2005

252 **Senator Milne:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) based on longstanding bipartisan policy as announced by the then Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, in May 1997 (Uranium—Australia's Decision, Fraser Government, 24 May 1977), export of uranium from Australia is permitted, in the case of non-nuclear weapon states, only to those which are party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and with which Australia has a bilateral safeguards agreement, and
 - (ii) India is not a signatory to the treaty; and therefore
- (b) calls on the Government to immediately rule out the export of uranium from Australia to India in order to uphold our international obligations as a signatory to the treaty.

Notice of motion altered on 12 September 2005 pursuant to standing order 77.

Notice given 4 October 2005

268 **Senator Carr:** To move—That the Senate supports the maintenance of compulsory voting for federal elections.

Notice given 30 November 2005

339 **Senator Lundy:** To move—That the Senate condemns the Howard Government's targeted attack on women in Australian society through its extreme industrial relations changes and the changes contained in the so-called welfare to work proposals.

340 **Senator Sherry:** To move—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Treasurer, no later than 2.30 pm on Friday, 2 December 2005, all correspondence in relation to the nomination and appointment of Mr Robert Gerard to the Board of the Reserve Bank of Australia, from 1 January 2003 until 1 December 2005, between:

- (a) the Department of the Treasury and the Treasurer (Mr Costello);
- (b) the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Prime Minister (Mr Howard); and
- (c) the Attorney-General (Mr Ruddock) and the Treasurer.

Notice given 2 December 2005

343 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) abhors the hanging of Australian citizen Mr Nguyen Tuong Van in Singapore on Friday, 2 December 2005; and
- (b) reiterates its opposition to the death penalty wherever in the world it is invoked.

Notice given 7 February 2006

- 364 **Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding):** To move—That the time for the presentation of the report of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee on the Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Repeal of Ministerial responsibility for approval of RU486) Bill 2005 be extended to 16 February 2006.

Notice given 29 March 2006

- 410 **Senator Ludwig:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) condemns the Howard Government's extreme workplace relations changes which took effect in the week beginning 26 March 2006, and the immediate adverse impact that they have had in undermining the employment security and conditions of all ten million working Australians; and
 - (b) calls on the Government to scrap its extreme workplace relations changes and turn its attention to those areas that will realise genuine productivity improvements, in particular, fixing the nation's skills shortage.

Notice given 16 August 2006

- 501 **Senator Stephens:** To move—That the Senate condemns the Howard Government for its failure to keep inflationary pressures in the Australian economy under control, including:
- (a) appropriately addressing the skilled labour shortage;
 - (b) recognising that capacity constraints are choking the economy;
 - (c) adequately addressing the rising price of petrol; and
 - (d) the growing disparity between executive salaries and wages of working Australians.

Notice given 17 August 2006

- 507 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To move—That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator Santoro), no later than the end of question time on 5 September 2006, the report on developments in assisted reproductive technology prepared for the Government by Matthews Pegg Consulting Pty Ltd.

Notice of motion altered on 17 August 2006 pursuant to standing order 77.

Notice given 12 September 2006

- 546 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate supports the right of Australians to die with dignity.
- 547 **Senator Bartlett:** To move—That the Senate—
- (a) notes, with deep concern, the rise of Islamophobia in Australia and the growing threat which this poses to the cohesion of Australian society;
 - (b) condemns all manifestations of Islamophobia wherever they occur; and
 - (c) expresses its unequivocal condemnation of all forms of racial and ethnic hatred, persecution and discrimination.

Notice given 13 September 2006

552 **Senators Hogg, Ludwig, McLucas and Moore:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) congratulates the Beattie Government on its re-election on Saturday, 9 September 2006;
- (b) notes that the Liberal Party campaign was dominated by self-flogging and that the National Party campaign was clearly spring-bogged; and
- (c) recognises government senators for their contribution through ‘Dorothy Dixers’ and speeches in the Senate in maintaining Labor in government in Queensland.

Notice given 28 November 2006

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

- (a) notes:
 - (i) the further statement by the Minister for Justice and Customs (Senator Ellison) on 27 November 2006 in response to Senator Ray’s question without notice on 7 November 2006, asking the Minister when he first became aware of a potential breach of 4QA of the Customs regulations in regard to the importation of goods from Iraq without the written permission of the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr Downer) or his delegate,
 - (ii) that the Minister is hiding behind a current investigation into the matter by the Australian Federal Police (AFP) to avoid answering a process question that goes to how long he has known that goods imported into Australia from Iraq in 2000 may not have complied with the Australian Customs Service approval procedures established to meet Australia’s obligations to enforce United Nations (UN) sanctions against Iraq,
 - (iii) that the Minister’s position is bogus because, as AFP Commissioner Keely informed the estimates hearing of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee on 31 October 2006 that no government minister is under investigation in regard to the matter, and
 - (iv) that this is yet another attempt by the Government to conceal its inaction and incompetence in failing to ensure that Australian companies trading with Iraq fully complied with the requirements of the UN’s Oil-for-Food Programme; and
- (b) calls on the Minister for Justice and Customs to state clearly the date he first became aware that Customs regulations may have been breached in regard to the import of goods from Iraq in 2000, between when he was appointed as the Minister for Justice and Customs on 30 January 2001 and the referral of the matter to the AFP from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade through him on 23 February 2006.

Notice given 7 February 2007

696 **Senator Stephens:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) child care costs are continuing to rise, with the average cost doubling under the Howard Government, and

- (ii) a recent report from the Department of the Treasury denies there is a crisis in accessible and affordable child care, instead saying that parents are too choosy; and
- (b) calls on the Government to improve the accessibility and affordability of child care for Australian families.

Notice given 27 February 2007

***721 Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison):** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the recent polling conducted by the Australian Research Group on community attitudes to climate change solutions which found that:
 - (i) Australians want to embrace new, clean renewable energy technologies to deal with the challenge of climate change,
 - (ii) Australians support a future based on new renewable energy industries rather than a continuing reliance on coal or a move to nuclear power, and
 - (iii) the renewable options of more solar panels (91 per cent support) and more wind turbines (82 per cent support) were favoured alongside the proposal of reducing overall energy consumption (78 per cent support); and
- (b) calls on the Government to introduce effective policies that will result in significant clean energy investment and greenhouse abatement through support for:
 - (i) the renewable energy market, by extending and expanding the existing Mandatory Renewable Energy Target, a renewable energy trading ‘green’ certificate scheme,
 - (ii) the increased deployment of solar power through dual market of continuing the photovoltaic rebate scheme and introducing a feed-in-tariff,
 - (iii) energy efficiency markets, by introducing a national energy efficiency target and an energy efficiency trading ‘white’ certificate scheme, and
 - (iv) a transition to clean energy, by introducing a carbon emissions target and carbon emissions trading ‘black’ certificate scheme.

***722 Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) 8 March is International Women’s Day,
 - (ii) International Women’s Day is now an official holiday in Armenia, Russian Federation, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Vietnam, and
 - (iii) recent average weekly earnings data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics show that female earnings are 66 per cent of male earnings; and
- (b) calls on the Government to:
 - (i) take immediate action to address wage discrepancies between Australian men and women,
 - (ii) reinstate the Office for the Status of Women in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and

- (iii) repeal the WorkChoices legislation, which is disadvantaging female workers.

*723 **Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the term ‘comfort women’ refers to an estimated 200 000 women who were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese Government during World War II,
 - (ii) the enslavement of comfort women was officially commissioned and orchestrated by the Government of Japan to include gang rape, forced abortions, sexual violence, human trafficking and numerous other crimes against humanity,
 - (iii) for the past 16 years, since 1992, survivors in Korea have been holding weekly ‘Wednesday demonstrations’, and
 - (iv) on 7 March 2007 the ‘Friends of Comfort Women’ in Australia will hold a similar Wednesday demonstration at midday outside the Japanese Consulate in Sydney; and
- (b) calls on the Government to:
 - (i) demand an official and unequivocal apology from the Japanese Government for its sexual enslavement of comfort women during the duration of World War II,
 - (ii) urge the Japanese Government to establish a system of payment and reparations to the comfort women, and
 - (iii) urge the Japanese Government to accurately teach the history of comfort women in Japanese schools.

*724 **Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
 - (i) that on 28 February 2007 people around the world will participate in an international day of action against the proposed Salween dams in Burma and along the Thai-Burma border, and
 - (ii) the Salween dams will permanently degrade Southeast Asia’s longest free flowing rivers, fisheries, floodplains, teak forests and wildlife habitats, and flood villages and fertile agricultural land; and
- (b) calls on the Government to oppose the dams and to place pressure on the Thai and Burmese Governments to halt plans to dam the Salween River.

*725 **Senator Nettle:** To move—That the Senate calls on the Government to return Mr David Hicks to Australia.

*726 **Senator Stephens:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the sudden death of Mr Murray Chapman in Canberra on 23 February 2007;
- (b) acknowledges:
 - (i) the contribution of Mr Chapman’s energy, commitment and dedication to the land rights movement during his long and distinguished career in Aboriginal affairs at both the national and the state level, with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission, the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission and the Indigenous Land Corporation, and

- (ii) his appointment, in November 2003, as New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council Administrator, a position he served with distinction until his sudden and premature passing; and
- (c) expresses its condolences to Mr Chapman's family, the Land Council network and the broader Indigenous community.

Orders for Thursday relating to Government Documents

- 1 **Tourism Australia—Report for 2005-06**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).
- 2 **Murray-Darling Basin Commission—Report for 2005-06**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).
- 3 **Australian Landcare Council—Report for 2005-06**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).
- 4 **Fisheries Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2005-06**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).
- 5 **Sugar Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2005-06**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).
- 6 **Forest and Wood Products Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2005-06**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).
- 7 **Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)—Report for 2005-06**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).
- 8 **Australian Fisheries Management Authority—Report for 2005-06**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Webber—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Ian Macdonald, 8 November 2006*).
- 9 **Australian Crime Commission—Report for 2005-06**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 8 February 2007*).
- *10 **Commonwealth Grants Commission—Report on state revenue sharing relativities—2007 update**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).

- *11 **Australian Meat and Live-stock Industry Act 1997—Live-stock mortalities for exports by sea—Report for the period 1 July to 31 December 2006**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).
- *12 **Wheat Export Authority—Report for 1 October 2005 to 30 September 2006**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Moore—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Moore, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).
- *13 **Migration Act 1958—Section 440A—Conduct of Refugee Review Tribunal reviews not completed within 90 days—Report for the period 1 July to 31 October 2006**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Moore—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Moore, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).
- *14 **Migration Act 1958—Section 91Y—Protection visa processing taking more than 90 days—Report for the period 1 July to 31 October 2006**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Moore, 27 February 2007*).
- *15 **Surveillance Devices Act 2004—Report for 2005-06 on the operation of the Act**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Moore—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Moore, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).
- *16 **Bilateral treaty—Text, together with the national interest analysis and annexures—Agreement between the Government of Australia and the Government of the Republic of Korea on the Protection of Migratory Birds, and Exchange of Notes, done at Canberra on 6 December 2006**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ian Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 27 February 2007*).

Orders of the Day

- 1 **Anti-Genocide Bill 1999 [2004]—(Senate bill)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 2 **Charter of Political Honesty Bill 2000 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 3 **Constitution Alteration (Appropriations for the Ordinary Annual Services of the Government) 2001 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senators Murray and Stott Despoja)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 4 **Constitution Alteration (Electors' Initiative, Fixed Term Parliaments and Qualification of Members) 2000 [2004]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Murray)**
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
(*This bill may be considered together with the Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2003 [2004] during the second reading debate, order of 13 October 2005.*)

- 5 **Defence Amendment (Parliamentary approval for Australian involvement in overseas conflicts) Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senators Bartlett and Stott Despoja*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bishop, in continuation, 10 February 2005*) (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 6 **Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
(*This bill may be considered together with the Constitution Alteration (Electors' Initiative, Fixed Term Parliaments and Qualification of Members) 2000 [2004] during the second reading debate, order of 13 October 2005.*)
- 7 **Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 8 **Euthanasia Laws (Repeal) Bill 2004**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 9 **Financial Management and Accountability (Anti-Restrictive Software Practices) Amendment Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 10 **Freedom of Information Amendment (Open Government) Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 11 **Genetic Privacy and Non-discrimination Bill 1998 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 12 **Ministers of State (Post-Retirement Employment Restrictions) Bill 2002 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senators Stott Despoja and Murray*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 13 **National Animal Welfare Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 14 **Patents Amendment Bill 1996 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 15 **Parliamentary Approval of Treaties Bill 1995 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 16 **Public Interest Disclosure (Protection of Whistleblowers) Bill 2002 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 17 **Reconciliation Bill 2001 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).

- 18 **Republic (Consultation of the People) Bill 2001 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Senator Stott Despoja)*
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 19 **Sexuality Anti-Vilification Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 20 **Sexuality and Gender Identity Discrimination Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bernardi, in continuation, 12 October 2006*) (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 21 **State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Senator Murray)*
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 22 **Textbook Subsidy Bill 2003 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Senator Stott Despoja)*
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 23 **Uranium Mining in or near Australian World Heritage Properties (Prohibition) Bill 1998 [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison)*
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 24 **Workplace Relations Amendment (Paid Maternity Leave) Bill 2002 [2004]**—*(Senate bill)*—*(Senator Stott Despoja)*
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 17 November 2004*).
- 25 **Communications—Telstra**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Conroy—That the Senate—
(a) notes that:
 (i) the Government has failed to ensure that telecommunications service standards are up to scratch in rural and regional Australia,
 (ii) the chief of the Government’s telecommunications inquiry, Mr Dick Estens, has said that telecommunications services in the bush remain a ‘shemozzle’, and
 (iii) selling Telstra will cost the budget \$255 million over the next 4 years; and
(b) calls on the Government to keep Telstra in majority public ownership to ensure reliable telecommunications services for all Australians (*Senator Heffernan, in continuation, 18 November 2004*).
- 26 **Criminal Code Amendment (Workplace Death and Serious Injury) Bill 2004**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Senator Nettle)*
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 30 November 2004*).
- 27 **Constitution Alteration (Right to Stand for Parliament—Qualification of Members and Candidates) 1998 (No. 2) [2004]**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)*
In committee (*committee to consider the bill as reported by the committee of the whole on 15 May 2003*)—(*restored pursuant to resolution of 1 December 2004*).

- 28 **Senate Voters' Choice (Preference Allocation) Bill 2004**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)*
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bob Brown, in continuation, 9 December 2004*).
- 29 **Flags Amendment (Eureka Flag) Bill 2004**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Marshall*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 9 December 2004*).
- 31 **Economy**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate—
- (a) notes the deterioration in the economy including the record current account deficit of 7.1 per cent of gross domestic product (GDP), record net foreign debt of \$422 billion, the negative household savings ratio and among the lowest GDP growth rates of the advanced economies; and
 - (b) calls on the Government:
 - (i) to acknowledge that there are severe economic imbalances in the economy that threaten to push interest rates still higher,
 - (ii) to implement policies that will lift the productive potential of the economy,
 - (iii) to invest in skills development to ease skill shortages which are now at 20 year highs, and
 - (iv) to support infrastructure investment to ease capacity constraints and inflation pressures and promote exports (*Senator Lundy, in continuation, 10 March 2005*).
- 32 **Spyware Bill 2005**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*12 May 2005*).
- 33 **Family and Community Services—Welfare reform**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Wong—That the Senate notes the Howard Government's cuts to the incomes of the most vulnerable families in Australia, its introduction of a parents' dole and a disability dole, and its failure to effectively tackle the need for real welfare reform (*12 May 2005*).
- 34 **Migration Amendment (Act of Compassion) Bill 2005**
Migration Amendment (Mandatory Detention) Bill 2005—(*Senate bills*)—*(Senator Nettle and the Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)*
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Nettle, in continuation, 16 June 2005*).
- 35 **National Animal Welfare Bill 2005**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 20 June 2005*).
- 36 **Taxation Laws Amendment (Scholarships) Bill 2005**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Senator Stott Despoja)*
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 21 June 2005*).
- 37 **Transparent Advertising and Notification of Pregnancy Counselling Services Bill 2005**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 23 June 2005*).

- 38 **Truth in Food Labelling Bill 2003 [2005]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Kemp, in continuation, 15 September 2005*) (*restored pursuant to resolution of 11 August 2005*).
- 39 **Employment—Skills shortages—Training policies**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator George Campbell—That the Senate notes that:
- (a) the Howard Government's training policies since 1996 have contributed to Australia's current skills shortages in the traditional trades; and
 - (b) the Government's inaction in addressing this national skills crisis is hurting Australian businesses, families, young people and the economy (*Senator Moore, in continuation, 11 August 2005*).
- 40 **Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs—Ministerial responsibility**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludwig—That the Senate expresses its deep concern that the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (Senator Vanstone) has failed to take responsibility for the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs despite the ongoing revelations and rising financial and human cost of the portfolio mismanagement (*18 August 2005*).
- 41 **36th Presiding Officers and Clerks Conference, APIA, Samoa, 11 to 15 July 2005 and ancillary meetings—Report by Deputy President Senator John Hogg and Deputy Speaker the Honourable Ian Causley MP, dated August 2005**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ferguson—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Ferguson, in continuation, 6 September 2005*).
- 42 **Parliament—Senate—Processes and procedures**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate condemns the Government's arrogant abuse of its Senate majority in subverting the Senate's processes and procedures (*Minister for Ageing (Senator Santoro), in continuation, 8 September 2005*).
- 43 **Enhancements to the Australian Defence Force military justice system, 5 October 2005—Ministerial statement**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bishop—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Hogg, in continuation, 5 October 2005*).
- 44 **Australian electoral system**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate opposes attempts by the Government to restrict the franchise and reduce the transparency of the Australian electoral system (*Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation (Senator Abetz), in continuation, 6 October 2005*).
- 45 **Parliamentary Charter of Rights and Freedoms Bill 2001 [2005]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 9 November 2005*).

46 Law and Justice—Australia’s border security

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O’Brien—That the Senate notes the incompetence of the Howard Government in its failure to protect Australia’s border security, quarantine and environmental integrity and its fishery resource in northern Australia and northern Australian waters (*Senator Ronaldson, in continuation, 10 November 2005*).

**48 Community Affairs References Committee—Children in institutional care—States and territories—Response—Letters to the President of the Senate, responding to the resolutions of the Senate of 29 December 2005, from the—
Minister for Family and Community Services (Northern Territory) (Ms Lawrie), dated 9 January 2006
Premier of Queensland (Mr Beattie), dated 22 December 2005
Premier of Victoria (Mr Bracks), dated 23 December 2005**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Murray—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Murray, in continuation, 7 February 2006*).

49 Administration—Government accountability

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator O’Brien—That the Senate notes that:

- (a) over a decade in office the Howard Government has established a new low for government integrity and accountability; and
- (b) the Howard Government’s record is littered with scandals involving rorts, waste and incompetence (*2 March 2006*).

50 Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 30 March 2006*).

51 Family and Community Services—Child care

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Lundy—That the Senate condemns the Howard Government for ignoring in the Budget the urgent needs of parents struggling with the cost, availability and quality of child care, noting:

- (a) the incompetence of the Howard Government in allocating \$60 million for child care places that will never be delivered given that there are already 100 000 unallocated places due mainly to the shortage of child care professionals;
- (b) the failure to bring forward the 30 per cent rebate on out-of-pocket child care expenses despite criticism of the rebate from the Government’s own backbench and the fact that child care fees are rising far in excess of other goods and services; and
- (c) that parents who cannot find child care, cannot work, adding to the skills shortage (*Senator Kemp, in continuation, 11 May 2006*).

52 Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Zone Excision Repeal) (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2006

Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Zone Excision Repeal) Bill 2006—(Senate bills)—(Senator Bartlett)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 15 June 2006*).

- 53 **Same-Sex Marriages Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senators Stott Despoja and Bartlett)**
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 15 June 2006*).
- 54 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Appropriate Access to Detention Centres) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 19 June 2006*).
- 55 **Australian Capital Territory (Self-Government) Amendment (Disallowance Power of the Commonwealth) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)**
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Minister for Finance and Administration (Senator Minchin), in continuation, 14 September 2006*).
- 56 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Temporary Protection Visas Repeal) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 22 June 2006*).
- 57 **Privacy (Extension to Political Acts and Practices) Amendment Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Stott Despoja)**
 Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 22 June 2006*).
- 58 **Australian Defence Force commitment to southern Iraq—Ministerial statement**
 Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown), in continuation, 22 June 2006*).
- 59 **Australian Defence Force commitment to Afghanistan—Ministerial statement**
 Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 9 August 2006*).
- 60 **Family and Community Services—Housing affordability**
 Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Carr—That the Senate—
- (a) condemns the Howard Government for its failure to address the widely acknowledged affordability crisis in Australia’s rental and home ownership markets; and
 - (b) calls on the Howard Government to show leadership on this critical issue by working with state, territory and local governments, industry, business and the not-for-profit sector to develop a national housing strategy.
- And on the amendment moved by Senator Bartlett—Omit paragraph (a), substitute:*
- “(a) condemns the Howard Government and the state and territory Labor governments for their failure to address the widely acknowledged affordability crisis in Australia’s rental and home ownership markets; and” (*Senator Sherry, in continuation, 10 August 2006*).

61 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Provisions Relating to Character and Conduct) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 14 August 2006*).

62 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Return to Procedural Fairness) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 17 August 2006*).

63 **Migration Legislation Amendment (End of Mandatory Detention) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 7 September 2006*).

64 **Health—Medibank Private**

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

(a) notes that:

- (i) the Government is divided over the sale of Medibank Private,
- (ii) the public is concerned about the consequences of the sale of Medibank Private and its impact on the affordability of private health insurance, and
- (iii) despite government promises to keep private health insurance premiums low, they have risen by almost 40 per cent since 2001; and

(b) calls on the Government to abandon plans to sell-off Medibank Private.

And on the amendment moved by Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)—At the end of paragraph (b), add “, unless the Government is prepared to produce a white paper that substantiates and supports its proposal, to engage in a genuine period of public consultation, and to be able to confirm it has widespread public support for its sale” (7 September 2006).

65 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Complementary Protection Visas) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 13 September 2006*).

66 **Social Security (Helping Pensioners Hit by the Skills Shortage) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, Senator Evans)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator George Campbell, in continuation, 14 September 2006*).

67 **Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (Protecting the Great Barrier Reef from Oil Drilling and Exploration) Amendment Bill 2003 [2006]—(Senate bill)—(Senators Bartlett and McLucas)**

Second reading (*restored pursuant to resolution of 10 October 2006*).

68 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Enabling Permanent Protection) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 12 October 2006*).

- 69 **Skills for the future—Ministerial statement**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Nettle—That the Senate take note of the statement (*Senator Wong, in continuation, 12 October 2006*).
- 70 **Crimes Amendment (Victim Impact Statements) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Ludwig)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Fifield, in continuation, 19 October 2006*).
- 71 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Appropriate Review) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 19 October 2006*).
- 73 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Restoration of Human Rights) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 9 November 2006*).
- 74 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Duration of Detention) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 9 November 2006*).
- 75 **Economy—Inflation and interest rates**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Sherry—That the Senate notes:
(a) that the interest rate rise on 8 November 2006 is the eighth consecutive increase since May 2002 and the fourth since the 2004 election;
(b) that the headline inflation rate increased to 3.9 per cent for the year ending September 2006;
(c) that national and personal debt levels are increasing; and
(d) the lowering of productivity and trending down in manufacturing and services export (*Senator Ian Macdonald, in continuation, 9 November 2006*).
- 76 **Avoiding Dangerous Climate Change (Kyoto Protocol Ratification) Bill 2006 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Carr)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*30 November 2006*).
- 77 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Restoration of Fair Process) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bartlett, in continuation, 30 November 2006*).
- 78 **Climate Change Action Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senator Milne)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Milne, in continuation, 30 November 2006*).
- 80 **Pregnancy Counselling (Truth in Advertising) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Senators Stott Despoja, Troeth, Nettle and Carol Brown)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Stott Despoja, in continuation, 7 December 2006*).

- 81 **Removal of Recognition of US Military Commissions (David Hicks) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)**—(Senators Nettle and Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (Senator Nettle, in continuation, 7 December 2006).
- 82 **Australian Territories Rights of the Terminally Ill Bill 2007—(Senate bill)**—(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (Senator Bob Brown, in continuation, 8 February 2007).
- 83 **Environment—Human activity and climate change**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Wong—That the Senate—
(a) notes:
(i) the continued scepticism of the Prime Minister (Mr Howard) over the link between human activity and climate change,
(ii) that the Howard Government has dragged the chain on climate change for more than 10 years, and
(iii) the environmental and economic cost of past inaction and any future delays in tackling this challenge; and
(b) calls on the Government to recognise the link between human activity and climate change and join in the efforts of the international community by ratifying the Kyoto Protocol (Senator Ronaldson, in continuation, 8 February 2007).
- *84 **Qantas Sale (Keep Jetstar Australian) Amendment Bill 2007—(Senate bill)**—(Leader of the Family First Party, Senator Fielding)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (Senator Fielding, in continuation, 27 February 2007).

BUSINESS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Next day of sitting (1 March 2007)

Business of the Senate—Notices of Motion

Notice given 7 February 2007

- 1 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the following matter be referred to the Community Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 12 June 2007:
Allegations that the Exclusive Brethren, including its leadership, may have been involved in:
- (a) breaching Australian Family Court agreements and denying access by ex-Brethren parents to their children;
 - (b) ex-communicating family members;
 - (c) prohibiting children from their Australian right to a university education;
 - (d) banning unions from Exclusive Brethren workplaces;
 - (e) discriminating against women in Australia;

- (f) the use of public monies; and
- (g) any related matters.

Notice of motion altered on 8 February 2007 pursuant to standing order 77.

Notice given 26 February 2007

2 **Senator Murray:** To move—That the following matters be referred to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 14 August 2007:

- (a) a review of Commonwealth statutory exemptions provided to religious or other organisations, or individual members thereof, on the grounds of religion, belief or conscience;
- (b) whether such Commonwealth statutory exemptions should be maintained, withdrawn or restricted, including in specific instances where they are abused or are made no longer appropriate by the conduct of individuals or organisations conflicting with the justification being provided for the exemption;
- (c) whether any religious organisation, as a result of its beliefs, prevents an adequate and productive education of minors or young persons, including at the tertiary level, contrary to the public interest;
- (d) whether statutory or administrative changes in respect of Commonwealth law or practice are necessary; and
- (e) any other relevant matters.

3 **Senator Bartlett:** To move—That the following matter be referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee for inquiry and report by 9 May 2007:

All aspects of the Federal Government's 10 point National Plan for Water Security, including:

- (a) whether it will return sufficient water to the Murray-Darling Basin to meet the environmental needs of the Murray-Darling Basin catchment; and
- (b) what mechanisms are in place to ensure farmers and the environment obtain maximum value from the funds expended.

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the transparency and accountability of Commonwealth public funding and expenditure.

On 2 March 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Murray-Darling Basin Amendment Bill 2006. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On 14 March 2007

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 **Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the AusCheck Bill 2006. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

2 **Community Affairs—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Aged Care Amendment (Security and Protection) Bill 2007. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Order of the Day

1 **AusCheck Bill 2006**—(*Minister for Community Services, Senator Scullion*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Scullion, 26 February 2007*).

On 15 March 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Human Services (Enhanced Service Delivery) Bill 2007. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On 20 March 2007

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 7 December 2006

680 **Senator Nettle:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act relating to trans fat foods sold in Australia, and for related purposes. ***Food Safety (Trans Fats) Bill 2007.***

On 21 March 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Standing Committees**

Reports to be presented on the 2006-07 additional estimates.

Government Business—Order of the Day

1 **Issues from the Advance to the Finance Minister as a final charge for the year ended 30 June 2006**

Consideration in committee of the whole (*8 February 2007*).

Four sitting days after today (22 March 2007)

Business of the Senate—Notice of Motion

Notice given 30 November 2006

- 1 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Watson):** To move—That Determination No. HIB 29/2006, made under paragraph (1)(bj) of Schedule 1 of the *National Health Act 1953*, be disallowed. [F2006L03266]

Five sitting days remain, including today, to resolve the motion or the instrument will be deemed to have been disallowed.

On the tenth sitting day of 2007 (22 March 2007)

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Standing Committees**

Reports to be presented on annual reports tabled by 31 October 2006.

On 29 March 2007

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

- 2 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on Australia's national parks.

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 27 November 2006

- 634 **Senators Johnston and Adams:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to amend the Commonwealth legislative framework applying to the Australian wheat industry, and for related purposes. *Wheat Marketing Legislation Amendment Bill 2007.*

General Business—Order of the Day

- 79 **Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison), Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) and Senators Bishop and Bartlett)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Allison, in continuation, 5 December 2006.*)

On the first day in the next period of sittings (8 May 2007)

Government Business—Order of the Day

- 1 **Aged Care Amendment (Security and Protection) Bill 2007**—(*Minister for Community Services, Senator Scullion*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (26 February 2007).

On 12 June 2007

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Standing Committee**
Report to be presented on Australia's Indigenous visual arts and craft sector.
- 2 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Standing Committee**
Report to be presented on Australia's public diplomacy.

On 19 June 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Standing Committees**
Reports to be presented on the 2007-08 Budget estimates.

By the last sitting day in June 2007 (21 June 2007)

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education—Standing Committee**
Report to be presented on workforce challenges in the Australian transport sector.

On 15 August 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Employment, Workplace Relations and Education—Standing Committee**
Report to be presented on the current level of academic standards of school education.

On 16 August 2007

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Standing Committee**
Report to be presented on Australia's involvement in international peacekeeping operations.



BILLS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

Aged Care Amendment (Security and Protection) Bill 2007 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Community Affairs Committee (*referred 8 February 2007; reporting date: 14 March 2007*).

Airports Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date varied 26 February 2007; reporting date: 28 February 2007*).

Airspace Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡

Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date varied 26 February 2007; reporting date: 28 February 2007*).

AusCheck Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee (*referred 8 February 2007; reporting date: 14 March 2007*).

Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006‡

Referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date: 29 March 2007*).

Human Services (Enhanced Service Delivery) Bill 2007 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Finance and Public Administration Committee (*referred 8 February 2007; reporting date: 15 March 2007*).

Murray-Darling Basin Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date varied 26 February 2007; reporting date: 2 March 2007*).

Private Health Insurance Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡

Private Health Insurance (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡

Private Health Insurance (Prostheses Application and Listing Fees) Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡

Private Health Insurance (Collapsed Organization Levy) Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡

Private Health Insurance Complaints Levy Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡**Private Health Insurance (Council Administration Levy) Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡****Private Health Insurance (Reinsurance Trust Fund Levy) Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions]‡**Referred to the Community Affairs Committee (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date varied 26 February 2007; reporting date: 28 February 2007*).*Further information about the progress of these bills may be found in the Senate Daily Bills Update at www.aph.gov.au/parlinfo/billsnet/billsupd.pdf.**‡ Reference adopted by the Senate following a recommendation of the Selection of Bills Committee.*

BILLS DISCHARGED, LAID ASIDE OR NEGATIVED

Government Bills**Superannuation Laws Amendment (Abolition of Surcharge) Bill 2005**

Second reading negatived, 15 June 2005.

Restored to *Notice Paper* pursuant to resolution of 10 August 2005 and passed.**Workplace Relations Amendment (Better Bargaining) Bill 2005**Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 30 March 2006.**Workplace Relations Amendment (Extended Prohibition of Compulsory Union Fees) Bill 2005**Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 30 March 2006.**Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004**Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 30 March 2006.**Workplace Relations Amendment (Small Business Employment Protection) Bill 2005**Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 30 March 2006.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions remaining unanswered

Question Nos, as shown, from 29 to 2972 remain unanswered for 30 or more days (see standing order 74(5)).

Notice given 16 November 2004

- 29 **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.

49 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—

- (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 17 November 2004

68 **Senator Bob 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.

Notice given 19 November 2004

103 **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 23 December 2004

- 278 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—On what date(s) has the Prime Minister visited: (a) Christmas Island; (b) the Cocos (Keeling) Islands; and (c) Norfolk Island.
- 298 **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; (e) on what date(s) did staff engage in the task; (f) what was the cost of engaging in the task; (g) to whom did the staff deliver this information in Australia; and (h) what form did that communication take.
- 307 **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.
- (5) Is the Prime Minister aware of the obligations imposed on ministers by *A Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* (December 1998) with respect to the timely response to questions on notice.
- (6) Is the Prime Minister aware that a question placed on notice during the previous Parliament in precisely the same terms as this question lapsed unanswered after 210 days.

Notice given 10 March 2005

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

- (1) In each of the past 5 years what funds have been spent at Gallipoli on: (a) capital works; (b) travel by officials of the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) and the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG); (c) entertainment; and (d) other costs including the provision of public facilities.
- (2) What specific capital works have been funded directly by Australia or as part contribution to works conducted by the Government of Turkey.
- (3) Is the Minister aware of any funding contributed by the New Zealand Government, and the purpose of that funding.
- (4) In each of the past five years, on how many occasions have discussions been held with Turkish authorities concerning the upgrading of the road.
- (5) Was the OAWG consulted by Turkish authorities on the design, funding and timing of the current road works; if so, when and, if consulted in writing, can a copy of the correspondence be provided; if not, why not.
- (6) What Commonwealth funding has been, or will be, contributed to the upgrading of the road.
- (7) (a) Have representations been made to the Government of Turkey to suspend the upgrading of the current road works; if so, when and by whom; and (b) if consultations were made in writing, can a copy of the correspondence be made available to the Senate; if not, why not.
- (8) What investigations have been made by OAWG, or its agents, into allegations that human remains have been uncovered, and in some cases destroyed, at the current road works.
- (9) What research and examination was conducted prior to the current road works with respect to: (a) the environment; and (b) sites of military significance.

- (10) How many Australians were posted missing at Gallipoli and never found.
- (11) When were discussions last held with Turkish authorities concerning reported plans to charge admission to the Gallipoli site.
- (12) On each of the past five Anzac days, what was the estimated crowd at Gallipoli.
- (13) What is the estimated budget for Anzac Day 2005, in total, and, for the entertainment component.
- (14) How many Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel will be in attendance in 2005, and at what cost.
- (15) Which Federal Parliamentarians have, or will be, invited to travel to Turkey to attend the commemoration of the 90th anniversary of the Gallipoli landing.
- (16) What is the estimated cost to the Commonwealth of Federal Parliamentarians travelling to Turkey for this commemoration.
- (17) Can the Minister confirm what proportion of these costs will be met from the Saluting Their Service program.
- (18) (a) What regulation is conducted by Turkish authorities with respect to the sale and consumption of alcohol at Gallipoli; (b) what representations have been made on this subject; and (c) by whom and with what result.

Notice given 17 March 2005

Senator Bob Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 469-474)—With reference to Gunns' proposed pulp mill at Bell Bay in Tasmania:

- (1) From January 2002 to date, what communications have there been between the Minister, the Minister's staff or department and Gunns Ltd relating to the proposed pulp mill, and in each case: (a) what was the date of the communication; (b) what was the nature of the communication; (c) who was involved in the communication; and (d) what was the purpose and content of the communication.
- (2) (a) What conditions apply to the Government's offer of \$5 million assistance for the pulp mill; and (b) when is the money likely to be made available.

469 Minister representing the Prime Minister

Notice given 18 March 2005

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

- (1) Further to questions on notice nos 447 and 464, on how many occasions since August 2004 has Air Vice Marshal (AVM) Beck, Director of the Office of Australian War Graves (OAWG), visited Turkey.
- (2) For each of AVM Beck's visits: (a) what was the itinerary of each visit; (b) what was the cost of each visit; (c) what meetings did he have with Turkish officials; and (d) on each occasion, with whom did he speak.
- (3) When was AVM Beck first provided with information from Turkish officials concerning road works at Gallipoli.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm if AVM Beck consulted with the Outer Area Office of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (CWGC) in Maidenhead, United Kingdom, or the out station at Canakkale, Turkey.

- (5) What, if any, consultation was there with tour operators in Australia, Istanbul or Canakkale.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that the planning procedures for these road works were the same as those for the construction of the Peace Park; if not, why not.
- (7) When was AVM Beck first provided with prepared options and draft plans, either as impressions or as formal drawings.
- (8) How many options were provided, and what, if any, feedback was given.
- (9) Did the options include stopping the road works short of Anzac Cove, or an alternative route to landward; if so, why were they not pursued.
- (10) Can the Minister confirm precisely which sections of the road were subject to these consultations.
- (11) What information, by way of drawings, photographs, or graphic images were provided by AVM Beck for Turkish consideration.
- (12) Currently, what is the width of each section of the road, and what is the width of each new section.
- (13) (a) Have other officers visited Turkey to assist AVM Beck, if so who; and (b) what has been the total cost of their travel.
- (14) Has OAWG established an office at Canakkale; if so: (a) what was the cost; (b) for how long; and (c) by whom was it staffed.
- (15) (a) What technical advice has been sought from consultants in connection with the road plans; (b) for what purpose; (c) from whom was the information sought; and (d) what was the cost.
- (16) What expressions of concern were made by AVM Beck to Turkish officials on the extent of the earth works and the disfigurement of the cliff face.
- (17) (a) What measures were considered to prevent erosion; and (b) what volume of material is planned to be placed in the sea or on the beach.
- (18) Did the plans provide for environmental regeneration and protection.
- (19) Did Australia provide technical advice on any part of the construction including drainage, erosion protection, traffic management, replanting or visitor control and if so, who provided that advice.
- (20) (a) Apart from the road construction, what other broader planning was undertaken prior to this project to examine the effect of tourism on the whole Gallipoli site; (b) what strategic planning has been undertaken; and (c) what input has been provided by the Government.
- (21) Over the past 5 years: (a) what consultancy or expert advice has been sought with respect to the preservation of heritage values on the entire Gallipoli site; (b) what are the details of each consultancy or advice; and (c) what are the costs.
- (22) At any stage, did AVM Beck object to the scope of the Turkish plans and were those concerns conveyed to the Minister; if so: (a) when and in what form was that concern expressed to the Minister; and (b) what was the Minister's response.
- (23) (a) Did AVM Beck object to the Turkish plans; (b) was a request made for amendments, or for work to be suspended; if so: (i) when were these requests made, and (ii) what were the responses.

- (24) Can the Minister confirm the number of occasions, and the dates, of these discussions held with the Embassy of Turkey in Canberra on this project, and which departments were represented.
- (25) Did the Minister and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade receive representations from the Government of Turkey in Canberra or Ankara, on the detailed planning for this project; if so, can this information be provided.
- (26) In each of the options considered; (a) what variations were there with respect to parking at all sites; (b) which of the variations were requested by Australia; (c) which of the variations were objected to by Australia; and (d) what was the outcome.
- (27) As part of the works now under way, what parking capacity is being provided for buses and cars, and at what sites.
- (28) How many cubic metres of soil are being removed from the sites, and how is it being disposed of.
- (29) On how many occasions has AVM Beck briefed the Minister since August 2004.
- (30) Has the Department of Environment and Heritage been consulted, at any stage, on any options; if so, what was its response.
- (31) Was the Australian War Memorial (AWM) involved in any of the planning process, and in particular, what advice was sought and provided on likely burial sites of those missing from 1915 in the areas affected by the roads.
- (32) What information was provided by the CWGC on the likely burial sites of missing Australians, and what were the terms of that advice.
- (33) What other capital works were subject to consultations by AVM Beck, for which facilities, and where.
- (34) Did Australia offer any capital support for any of the works discussed; if so, what was the cost and what were the purposes.
- (35) With reference to the entertainment to be provided during the ANZAC Day period at Gallipoli 2005, which entertainers other than Mr John Farnham were considered or contacted, and were Mr Guy Sebastian and Ms Casey Chambers included on those lists.
- (36) (a) Who contacted Mr John Farnham; (b) over what period did discussions continue on his engagement; (c) what were the terms of the proposed engagement; and (d) what was the estimated cost of his services.
- (37) (a) On whose direction was the proposal for Mr John Farnham's engagement cancelled; (b) did this direction require cancellation of any agreement or contract; if so: (i) was there a cancellation fee, and (ii) what was the cost of that cancellation fee.
- (38) (a) What process was instituted to select the contractors providing the sound and light show; (b) was it an open or selective tender process; and (c) why were Australian providers not considered and selected.
- (39) How many ministerial representations have been received by the Minister to 30 March 2005 on the matter of entertainment at Gallipoli and the road works.
- (40) What is the cost of the contract for the sound and light show, and what is the name of the contractor(s) selected.
- (41) How was the string quartet selected, who are they, and what is the cost.

- (42) How many Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel will be in attendance from Australia and other locations, and at what cost.
- (43) How many persons in the following categories will be in attendance: (a) officials from Australia (b) officials from Turkey; (c) elected representatives; and (d) members of royalty.
- (44) How many will be in the official party, and of those, how many will be funded by Australia and at what cost.
- (45) How many veterans have been included in the official party, who are they, and what is the cost of their travel.
- (46) How many officials with security responsibilities will be in attendance from Australia, and from which agencies.

Notice given 3 May 2005

583 **Senator George Campbell:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the Commonwealth Fleet Management Agreement:

- (1) Can a break-down be provided of all vehicles owned or leased by the Commonwealth Government under the Fleet Management Agreement, including: (a) the total number of vehicles; (b) vehicle type (e.g. sedan, wagon etc); and (c) user (e.g. department, authority etc).
- (2) Can a copy be provided of the Fleet Management Agreement.
- (3) Under the Fleet Management Agreement, does the Commonwealth have any say over the type of vehicles that are used.
- (4) Can full details be provided of any vehicles owned or leased by the Commonwealth which are not covered by the Fleet Management Agreement.

Notice given 4 May 2005

Senator Evans: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 585-615)—With reference to the department and/or its agencies:

- (1) For each financial year from 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date: (a) how many consultants were engaged by the department and/or its agencies to conduct surveys of community attitudes to departmental programs and what was the total cost; and (b) for each consultancy: (i) what was the cost, (ii) who was the consultant, and (iii) was this consultant selected by tender; if so, was the tender select or open; if not, why not.
- (2) Were any of the surveys 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.

588 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

590 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

601 Minister representing the Special Minister of State

Senator Evans: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 678-708)—

- (1) In relation to all overseas travel where expenses were met by the Minister's portfolios, for each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date what was the total cost of travel and related expenses in relation to: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's family; and (c) the Minister's staff.

- (2) In relation to all air charters engaged and paid for by the Minister and/or the Minister's office and/or the department and its agencies, for each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date: (a) on how many occasions did the Minister or his/her office or department and/or agency charter aircraft, and in each case, what was the name of the charter company that provided the service and the related respective costs; and (b) what was the total cost.

678 Minister representing the Prime Minister

Senator Evans: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 710-740)—For each financial year since 2000-01 to 2004-05 to date:

- (1) (a) What overseas travel was undertaken by the Minister; (b) what was the purpose of the Minister's visit; (c) when did the Minister depart Australia; (d) who travelled with the Minister; and (e) when did the Minister return to Australia.
- (2) (a) Who did the Minister meet during the visit; and (b) what were the times and dates of each meeting.
- (3) (a) On how many of these trips was the Minister accompanied by a business delegation; and (b) can details be provided of any delegation accompanying the Minister.
- (4) Who met the cost of travel and other expenses associated with the trip.
- (5) What total travel and associated expenses, if any, were met by the department in relation to: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's family; (c) the Minister's staff; and (d) departmental and/or agency staff.
- (6) What were the costs per expenditure item for: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's family; and (c) the Minister's staff, including but not necessarily limited to: (i) fares, (ii) allowances, (iii) accommodation, (iv) hospitality, (v) insurance, and (vi) other costs.
- (7) What were the costs per expenditure item for each departmental and/or agency officer, including but not necessarily limited to: (a) fares; (b) allowances; (c) accommodation; (d) hospitality; (e) insurance; and (f) other costs.
- (8) (a) What was the total cost of air charters used by the Minister or his/her office or department; and (b) on how many occasions did the Minister or his/her office or department and/or agency charter aircraft, and in each case, what was the name of the charter company that provided the service and the respective costs.

710 Minister representing the Prime Minister

Notice given 21 July 2005

1037 **Senator Forshaw:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the current and proposed advertising campaign on the Government's proposed changes to workplace laws:

- (1) For the 2005-06 and 2006-07 financial years, what is the total budget for the campaign.
- (2) For each of the financial years in (1), can information be provided on the budgeted advertising costs, including: (a) television; (b) radio; (c) newspapers; (d) printing and mail outs; and (e) research.
- (3) Which creative agencies have been used in the campaign or are contracted for future involvement.

- (4) Which research agencies have been used in the campaign or are contracted for future involvement.
- (5) How were the creative agencies and research agencies selected for the campaign.
- (6) During the campaign to date, what research reports have been supplied to the department by the creative agencies and research agencies.
- (7) To date, what payments have been made to each agency used in the campaign.
- (8) If there is to be a mail out to taxpayers as part of this campaign: (a) to how many households and businesses will information be sent; and (b) what databases will be used to select the addresses.
- (9) (a) What appropriations have the department been using to pay for the advertising campaign; and (b) from what appropriations will future expenditures be drawn.

Notice given 18 August 2005

1102 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the Industrial Relations advertising campaign:

- (1) For each of the financial years, 2004-05 and 2005-06: (a) what is the cost of this advertising campaign; and (b) what is the breakdown of these advertising costs for: (i) television (TV) placements, (ii) radio placements, (iii) newspaper placements, (iv) printing and mail outs, and (v) research.
- (2) When did the campaign begin, and when is it planned to end.
- (3) Over what period will the TV advertisements run.
- (4) What: (a) creative agency or agencies; and (b) research agency or agencies, have been engaged in the campaign.
- (5) Is a mail out planned; if so: (a) to whom will the mail out be targeted; and (b) what database will be used to select addresses – the Australian Taxation Office database, the electoral database or other.
- (6) (a) What appropriations will the department use to authorise any of the payments either committed to be made or proposed to be made as part of this advertising campaign; (b) will those appropriations be made in the 2004-05 or 2005-06 financial year; (c) will the appropriations relate to a departmental or administered item or the Advance to the Minister for Finance and Administration; and (d) if an appropriation relates to a departmental or administered item, what is the relevant line item in the relevant Portfolio Budget Statement for that item.
- (7) Has a request been made of the Minister for Finance and Administration to issue a drawing right to pay out moneys for any part of the advertising campaign; if so: (a) what are the details of that request; and (b) against which particular appropriation is it requested that the money be paid.
- (8) Has the Minister for Finance and Administration issued a drawing right as referred to in (7) above; if so, what are the details of that drawing right.
- (9) Has an official or minister made a payment of public money or debited an amount against an appropriation in accordance with a drawing right issued by the Minister for Finance and Administration for any part of the advertising campaign.

Notice given 29 August 2005

- 1112 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the reduction of the Government vehicle fleet by 1 500 vehicles since 2001:
- (1) How was this reduction achieved.
 - (2) Are efforts being made to achieve further reductions; if so, what are these efforts.

Notice given 14 September 2005

- 1222 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—
- (1) With reference to the Investing in Our Schools Program, to date, how many schools in the Northern Territory have applied for funding under this program.
 - (2) Can a list be provided of the schools identified in (1) above, including a breakdown by government and non-government schools.
 - (3) Can a list be provided of the successful applications, including: (a) the name of the school; (b) the project details; and (c) the amount of funding.
 - (4) Are the schools which applied unsuccessfully in round one reconsidered in any further rounds or are their applications spent.
 - (5) With reference to the Parent School Participation Initiative program, to date, how many schools in the Northern Territory have applied for funding under this program.
 - (6) Can a list be provided of the schools identified in (5) above, including a breakdown by government and non-government schools.
 - (7) Can a list be provided of the successful applications, including: (a) the name of the school; (b) the project details; and (c) the date and amount of the funding.
 - (8) For each of the successful cases, what is the amount of funding received by the schools in the past year under the former Aboriginal Student Support and Parent Awareness scheme.
 - (9) Are the schools which have been unsuccessful to date reconsidered in any further rounds or are their applications spent.

Notice given 15 September 2005

- 1232 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—
- (1) For each of the years 1996 to 2005 to date, how many visas have been cancelled because the holder was deemed to be a threat to national security.
 - (2) Can details be provided on the nationality, visa class and visa number of the persons who have had their visas cancelled due to national security reasons, or subsequent security assessments, and the reason those assessments were undertaken.
 - (3) Of those persons identified in (2) above: (a) how many had permanent residency; and (b) what were their nationalities.

- (4) For each person identified in (2) above, what was the time between the cancellation of the visa due to security reasons and the exclusion of that person from Australia.
- (5) Can a list be provided of the circumstances in which a person can be subject to a security assessment after being allowed entry into Australia.
- (6) In the situations mentioned in (5) above, is the person informed of why the visa has been cancelled; if so, at what time does this occur and in what format is the information provided; if not, why not.
- (7) What avenues of appeal are available against such a cancellation, both internally in the Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs (DIMIA) and externally; if there are no avenues of appeal available, why not; if there are avenues of appeal available: (a) what are they; (b) how are they used; and (c) for the years 1996 to 2005 to date, what has been the outcome of the appeals.
- (8) For each of the years 1996 to 2005 to date, how many visas have been refused because the applicant was deemed a threat to national security.
- (9) Can details be provided on the nationality, visa class and number of persons who have had visas refused due to national security reasons, or subsequent security assessments, and the reason those assessments were undertaken.
- (10) Has the department received any correspondence, e-mail, cable or telephone call from any government agency of the United States of America regarding Mr Scott Parkin in respect of subject matter that was likely to alter his security assessment; if so: (a) on what date was the information received; (b) from which agency was the information received; and (c) what was the format in which the information was received (i.e. telephone call, written letter, etc.).
- (11) Was the information used in the security assessment of Mr Parkin.
- (12) Were there any discrepancies between the information Mr Parkin supplied on his inbound passenger card to the facts known and by the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation, DIMIA and the Australian Federal Police.

Notice given 5 October 2005

1283 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Does the department issue best-practice guidelines relating to the development of software.
- (2) Are guidelines changed if: (a) the system is developed entirely for the use of the department or agency; and (b) the system is developed for the public to access a service provided by a department or agency.
- (3) For both instances in (2) above, what is best practice in terms of the development of software and platform and operating system dependency.
- (4) Can a copy of the guidelines be provided.

Notice given 5 January 2006

1462 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—Are banks with an Australian banking licence permitted to hold data or records on accounts in associated banks or subsidiaries domiciled in known tax havens.

Notice given 18 January 2006

1484 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the Secretary of the Department of Transport and Regional Services, Mr Michael Taylor:

- (1) When was Mr Taylor appointed as Secretary of the Department of Transport and Regional Services.
- (2) Did the Prime Minister approve Mr Taylor's conditions of employment including: (a) a \$680 payment per fortnight to cover 'temporary' accommodation arrangements in Canberra; and (b) payments up to \$6 600 per annum for 'reunion travel' including airfares and taxi fares.
- (3) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06 to date, what quantum of 'temporary' accommodation payments were paid to Mr Taylor.
- (4) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06 to date, disaggregated to show airfares and taxi fares, what quantum of 'reunion travel' payments were paid to Mr Taylor.
- (5) When was Mr Taylor appointed as Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- (6) Did Mr Taylor enjoy equivalent conditions of employment during his tenure as Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; if so, for each of the financial years 1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05, what quantum of: (a) 'temporary' accommodation payments; and (b) 'reunion travel' payments, were paid to Mr Taylor.
- (7) Which other secretaries, if any, are in receipt of 'temporary' accommodation payments and 'reunion travel' payments as a condition of employment.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1487-1516)—

- (1) What programs and/or grants administered by the department provide assistance to the people living in the federal electorate of Bass.
- (2) When did the delivery of these programs and/or grants commence.
- (3) For each of the financial years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05, what funding was provided through these programs and/or grants for the people of Bass.
- (4) For the 2005-06 financial year, what funding has been appropriated for these programs and/or grants.
- (5) For the 2005-06 financial year, what funding has been approved under these programs and/or grants to assist organisations and individuals in the electorate of Bass.

1510 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1517-1546)—For each financial year since 2001-02, what grants or payments has the Minister's department, or have agencies for which the Minister is responsible, made to City View Christian Church Inc. (formerly known as Crusade Centre Inc.) based in Launceston, Tasmania.

1523 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

Notice given 15 February 2006

1589 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Could the Government have extradited Abu Quassey from Indonesia to face charges over SIEV X under the Australia-Indonesia extradition treaty; if not, why not; if so, why did the Government not press for his extradition.
- (2) Could the Government have extradited anyone else from Indonesia to face charges over SIEV X under the Australia-Indonesia extradition treaty; if not, why not; if so, why did the Government not press for their extradition.
- (3) Could the Government have extradited Abu Quassey from Indonesia to face charges over SIEV X independently of the Australia-Indonesia extradition treaty; if not, why not; if so, why did the Government not press for his extradition.
- (4) Could the Government have extradited anyone else from Indonesia to face charges over SIEV X independently of the Australia-Indonesia extradition treaty; if not, why not; if so, why did the Government not press for their extradition.
- (5) Could the Government have extradited Abu Quassey from Egypt to face charges over SIEV X despite the fact that Australia has no extradition treaty with Egypt; if not, why not; if so, why did the Government not press for his extradition.
- (6) Has anyone been prosecuted in Indonesia in relation to the sinking of SIEV X; if so, can details of the outcome of any such prosecutions be provided.
- (7) Has anyone been prosecuted in any other country in relation to the sinking of SIEV X; if so, can details of the outcome of any such prosecutions be provided.

Notice given 16 February 2006

1591 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—

- (1) Is the Minister or his department in receipt of nominations for National Heritage or World Heritage listing for the Burrup Peninsula or Dampier Rock Art Province; if so: (a) how many nominations; (b) from which parties; and (c) on what dates.
- (2) Has the Minister or his department received any urgent listing nominations; if so, what is the status of those nominations.
- (3) Has the Minister or his department received any appeals against the National Heritage listing for the Burrup Peninsula or Dampier Rock Art Province; if so, how many and from whom.
- (4) If the Minister or his department has received appeals against the listing, will the details of those appeals be released.
- (5) If the Minister has received appeals against the listing, are those appeals available to the nominees and by what process.
- (6) Has the Minister or his department had any discussions or correspondence with agencies or the Government of Western Australia in relation to their views on the National Heritage listing of the Burrup Peninsula or Dampier Rock Art Province; if so, can an outline of those discussions be provided.

- (7) Has the Minister or his department had any discussions or correspondence with agencies or the Government of Western Australia in relation to their views on the World Heritage listing of the Burrup Peninsula or Dampier Rock Art Province; if so, can an outline of those discussions be provided.
- (8) Has the Minister or his department commissioned any reports into the heritage or other values of the Burrup Peninsula or Dampier Rock Art Province; if so: (a) what are they; (b) how many have been concluded; (c) how many are outstanding; and (d) can any completed reports be released.
- (9) Does the Minister acknowledge that the heritage values of the area are of global significance.

Notice given 27 March 2006

Senator Allison: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1656-1657)—

- (1) What amount of money has the Government provided to the Jean Hailes Foundation since 2000, including the 1999-2000 financial year.
- (2) Can the Government confirm that its funding to the Jean Hailes Foundation for professional development for clinicians and community education primarily focused on the health and wellbeing of women aged between 35 and 65 years is due to expire at the end of June 2006.
- (3) Does the Government intend providing the Jean Hailes Foundation with more funding after this date; if so, what will be the amount of that funding and over what period of time; if not: (a) why not; and (b) will an equivalent sum of money be provided to another organisation to continue professional development for clinicians and community education on the health and wellbeing of women aged between 35 and 65 years.

1656 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

1657 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

1660 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of reports that the organs of executed prisoners in China are removed without their knowledge or consent and used for transplant purposes.
- (2) What information does the Minister have on the validity of these reports.
- (3) Has the Government investigated whether any Australian citizens have received organ transplants from executed prisoners in China; if so, what were the findings from this investigation; if not, why not.
- (4) Has the Government investigated whether Australians are involved in overseas commercial organ transplant activities; if so, what were the findings from this investigation; if not, why not.
- (5) What current laws regulate the involvement of Australians in commercial organ transplant activities in Australia and overseas.

Notice given 4 May 2006

Senator Allison: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1719-1720)—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the recent letter in the *Australian Doctor* magazine that reports that some medical practices are refusing to perform pap smears.

- (2) What information is available on the prevalence of medical practitioners or medical practices refusing to provide services to patients requesting them, including the nature of the services.
- (3) What information is available on the reasons that medical practitioners or medical practices may be refusing to provide services to patients requesting them.
- (4) Does the Government intend to investigate why some medical practitioners or medical practices may be refusing to perform particular services; if not, why not.
- (5) What are the legal requirements for medical practices and individual medical practitioners with regard to providing access to medical services.
- (6) What processes, if any, does the Government require medical practitioners receiving government funds to put in place to ensure that their patients have access to comprehensive medical care.

1720 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

Notice given 9 May 2006

1750 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) On what dates in 2002 and 2003 did: (a) the Prime Minister; and (b) the Prime Minister's office, meet with representatives of the Grains Council of Australia.
- (2) For each meeting, can the following details be provided: (a) who attended; (b) the capacity in which they attended; and (c) where the meeting was conducted.
- (3) If officers from the department did not attend and/or official minutes of the meeting were not recorded, why not.
- (4) In each case, were briefing notes provided by the department prior to the meeting; if so, who requested the briefing notes; if no briefing notes were requested, why not.

Notice given 6 June 2006

Senator Milne: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1883-1911)—Did the Minister host a post-budget function after the release of the 2006-2007 Commonwealth Budget on 9 May 2006; if so:

- (a) where was the function held;
- (b) who was invited to the function;
- (c) who attended the function;
- (d) what was the cost of hosting the function;
- (e) was the cost charged to the Commonwealth; if not, to whom was it charged;
- (f) was a ticket price charged; if so, what was the ticket price;
- (g) if no ticket price was charged, was a donation requested;
- (h) how much revenue was collected by way of tickets charged or donations received; and
- (i) to whom was the revenue paid.

1884 Minister representing the Treasurer

1885 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

1886 Minister for Finance and Administration

- 1888 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 1890 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
- 1891 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- 1893 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
- 1895 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources
- 1897 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 1898 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
- 1901 Minister for Human Services
- 1903 Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Further Education
- 1904 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism
- 1908 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
- 1909 Minister representing the Special Minister of State
- 1911 Minister representing the Deputy Prime Minister

Notice given 8 June 2006

- 1938 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—
- (1) Can details be provided of all Commonwealth-funded state funerals since October 1996.
 - (2) For each state funeral, can details be provided of the itemised cost to the Commonwealth.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1985-2003)—What is the quantum of payments made as settlements to claims for monetary compensation by the departments and agencies for which the Minister is responsible that are consistent with Legal Services Directions issued under section 55ZF of the *Judiciary Act 1903*, by financial year, since the first Legal Services Directions were issued.

- 1985 Minister representing the Prime Minister
- 1989 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 1993 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
- 1994 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- 1998 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

Notice given 16 June 2006

- 2068 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—Can details be provided of the Prime Minister's visit to the United States of America, Canada and Ireland in May 2006 including: (a) the date of departure from Australia; (b) a detailed itinerary including all official meetings; (c) details of departmental officers, including name and role, who accompanied the Prime Minister; (d) details of personal staff, including name and role, who accompanied the Prime Minister; (e) details of family members who accompanied the Prime Minister; (f) details of other persons, including name and role, who accompanied the Prime Minister; and (g) the date of return to Australia.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2069-2070)—

- (1) Can details be provided of all costs associated with the Prime Minister's visit to the United States of America, Canada and Ireland in May 2006, disaggregated to show costs including: (a) transport; (b) accommodation; (c) food; (d) beverages; (e) security; and (f) other specified costs.
- (2) Can details be provided of costs associated with all: (a) personal staff; (b) departmental staff; (c) family members; and (d) other persons who accompanied the Prime Minister on this visit.

2069 Minister representing the Prime Minister

2071 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the Prime Minister's visit to the United States of America, Canada and Ireland in May 2006: Can details be provided of the accommodation for each night, including:

- (a) the name and address of the accommodation;
- (b) the number of rooms or suites booked for: (i) the Prime Minister, and (ii) other members of the Prime Minister's party;
- (c) the cost of accommodation for: (i) the Prime Minister, and (ii) other members of the Prime Minister's party; and
- (d) the cost of: (i) food, (ii) beverages, and (iii) other specified items, for: (A) the Prime Minister, and (B) other members of the Prime Minister's party.

2078 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What costs would be incurred and what ramifications are there if the administration of the Medicare Levy surcharge was adjusted to ensure that it affects or is calculated for same sex couple on the same basis as mixed sex couples.
- (2) In view of the Prime Minister's statements in favour of ending discriminatory provisions, does the government intend to address this deficiency.

Notice given 14 July 2006

2155 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service—With reference to the Preparing to Appear Before Parliamentary Committees seminars hosted by the Australian Public Service Commission:

- (1) Can details be proved for each seminar since inception, including the date, duration, location, presenters (including external presenters) and number of attendees by department and agency.
- (2) Can a copy of all related training materials be provided.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that attendance at each seminar costs departments and agencies \$1,700 per officer.
- (4) What related attendance fees has the Australian Public Service Commission collected from each department and agency.
- (5) For each seminar, what costs were incurred by the Australian Public Service Commission, disaggregated to show venue, food, beverages, external consultants and other identified costs.

2156 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service—With reference to the Parliamentary Committees – Managing the Politics, Perception and Risk sessions hosted by the Australian Public Service Commission:

- (1) Can details be provided for each session since inception, including the date, duration, location, presenters (including external presenters) and number of attendees by department and agency.
- (2) Can a copy of all related training materials be provided.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that attendance at each seminar costs departments and agencies \$230 per officer.
- (4) What related attendance fees has the Australian Public Service Commission collected from each department and agency.
- (5) For each session, what costs were incurred by the Australian Public Service Commission, disaggregated to show venue, food, beverages, external consultants and other identified costs.
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that: (a) the Australian Public Service Commission advertised a session in the April 2006 issue of the *Public Sector Informant* advising prospective attendees that attendance would help them understand ‘how you need to prepare for a successful parliamentary committee appearance and what approach can be career-threatening’; and (b) the same description of the session is published on the Australian Public Service Commission website.
- (7) Can details be provided of the ‘career-threatening’ approaches covered in the session.
- (8) Can the Minister confirm the Australian Public Service Commission advertisement in the April 2006 issue of the *Public Sector Informant* also advised prospective attendees that attendance would help them gain an understanding of the ‘politics behind’ the parliamentary committee process.
- (9) Does section 10(1) of the *Public Service Act 1999* provide that ‘the APS is apolitical, performing its functions in an impartial and professional manner’.
- (10) What is the nature of the political advice provided to attendees at these sessions hosted by the Australian Public Service Commission.
- (11) What political expertise does the Australian Public Service Commission possess.
- (12) Can the Minister confirm the Australian Public Service Commission advertisement in the April 2006 issue of the *Public Sector Informant* also advised prospective attendees they would receive ‘insider tips on how to provide evidence’.
- (13) What ‘insider advice’ is offered by the Australian Public Service Commission at these sessions.
- (14) Can the Minister confirm the Australian Public Service Commission advertisement in the April 2006 issue of the *Public Sector Informant* also advised prospective attendees they would receive ‘advice on questions on notice’.
- (15) What advice does the Australian Public Service Commission provide at these sessions in relation to questions on notice.

2183 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) With reference to calls to the Employee Assistance Program for the period 30 June 2003 to 30 June 2006, by portfolio agency, by month: (a) how many calls were logged; and (b) what was this as a percentage of Full Time Equivalents by agency.
- (2) What was the cost of the program for each portfolio agency in the 2004, 2005 and 2006 financial years.

Notice given 19 July 2006

2234 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (1) On what date did Austral Ships first apply for Temporary Business [subclass 457] Visas to bring foreign workers into Australia.
- (2) How many visas did Austral request.
- (3) (a) On how many subsequent occasions has Austral applied for 457 visas; and (b) on each occasion, how many visas were sought.
- (4) (a) What were the skills required by Austral in relation to the above visa applications; (b) how were the skill levels and qualifications of the foreign workers assessed as part of the application process; and (c) how were the skill levels confirmed by the Government prior to visas being issued.
- (5) Were the positions linked to the above applications first advertised in Australia; if so: (a) where were these positions advertised; (b) how were they advertised; and (c) on how many occasions were advertisements placed in the media.
- (6) Were the above positions advertised online; if so: (a) through which online services were they advertised; and (b) on how many occasions were these online advertisements placed.
- (7) Did Austral seek to find Australian workers to fill the above positions through other means; if so, what were the other methods used by the company to identify Australian workers to fill these positions.
- (8) How did the Government ensure that the above positions were properly advertised by Austral prior to the approval of the company's application for 457 visas.
- (9) Is there a minimum wage specified by the Government for the above 457 visa holders employed by Austral; if so: (a) what is the minimum wage; (b) is the minimum wage imposed on the company by way of regulation; (c) is the wage linked to an hourly rate of pay or a specified number of hours per week; and (d) how has the Government satisfied itself that the minimum rate is being paid to the above visa holders.

2235 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (1) When did the engineering company, United Group first apply for Temporary Business [subclass 457] Visas to bring foreign workers into Australia.
- (2) How many visas did United Group request.
- (3) (a) On how many subsequent occasions has United Group applied for 457 visas; and (b) on each occasion, how many visas were sought.

- (4) (a) What were the skills required by United Group in relation to the above visa applications; (b) how were the skill levels and qualifications of the foreign workers assessed as part of the application process; and (c) how were the skill levels confirmed by the Government prior to visas being issued.
- (5) Were the positions linked to the above applications first advertised in Australia; if so: (a) where were these positions advertised; (b) how were they advertised; and (c) on how many occasions were advertisements placed in the media.
- (6) Were the above positions advertised online; if so: (a) through which online services were they advertised; and (b) on how many occasions were these online advertisements placed.
- (7) Did United Group seek to find Australian workers to fill the above positions through other means; if so, what were the other methods used by the company to identify Australian workers to fill these positions.
- (8) How did the Government ensure that the positions were properly advertised by United Group prior to the approval of the company's application for 457 visas.
- (9) Is there a minimum wage specified by the Government for the above 457 visa holders employed by United Group; if so: (a) what is the minimum wage; (b) is the minimum wage imposed on the company by way of regulation; (c) is the wage linked to an hourly rate of pay or a specified number of hours per week; and (d) how has the Government satisfied itself that the minimum rate is being paid to the above visa holders.

2236 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (1) Has Qantas applied for Temporary Business [subclass 457] Visas to bring foreign workers into Australia; if so, how many visas has Qantas requested.
- (2) (a) On how many occasions has Qantas applied for 457 visas; and (b) on each occasion, how many visas were sought.
- (3) (a) What were the skills required by Qantas in relation to the above visa applications; (b) how were the skill levels and qualifications of the foreign workers assessed as part of the application process; and (c) how were the skill levels confirmed by the Government prior to visas being issued.
- (4) Were the positions linked to the above applications first advertised in Australia; if so: (a) where were these positions advertised; (b) how were they advertised; and (c) on how many occasions were advertisements placed in the media.
- (5) Were these positions advertised online; if so: (a) through which online services were they advertised; and (b) on how many occasions were these online advertisements placed.
- (6) Did Qantas seek to find Australian workers to fill the above positions through other means; if so, what were the other methods used by the company to identify Australian workers to fill these positions.
- (7) How did the Government ensure that the positions were properly advertised by Qantas prior to the approval of the company's application for 457 visas.

- (8) Is there a minimum wage specified by the Government for the above 457 visa holders employed by Qantas; if so: (a) what is the minimum wage; (b) is the minimum wage imposed on the company by way of regulation; (c) is the wage linked to an hourly rate of pay or a specified number of hours per week; and (d) how has the Government satisfied itself that the minimum rate is being paid to the above visa holders.

2237 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (1) How many Long Stay Migrant [457] Visas have been issued to foreign workers employed in the red meat processing sector by: (a) month; (b) year; and (c) employer.
- (2) Has the Government set a minimum hourly rate for foreign workers holding 457 visas who are employed in the red meat processing sector in line with the Government's 'Work Choices' amendments to the *Workplace Relations Act 1997*; if not: (a) on what basis has the Government determined that the minimum pay rates provided for under the program should be inconsistent with the Work Choices amendments that apply to Australian workers in the red meat processing sector; (b) what is the minimum rate of pay that applies to these workers; (c) how was that rate determined; (d) to what hours of work does the minimum rate apply; and (e) how is the payment of the minimum rate enforced.
- (3) Does the Long Stay Migrant Visa Program provide for a reduction in the minimum rate of pay for 457 visa holders employed in regional centres; if so, is the reduction in the minimum rate for these workers set at a specific level or is the rate determined by the specific circumstances of an employer.
- (4) If the minimum rate of pay for 457 visa holders in regional centres is set at a specific level, is that rate specified by legislation, or some other form of legal authority; if not: (a) how is the rate set; and (b) how is compliance with the minimum rate enforced.
- (5) If the minimum rate of pay for 457 visa holders employed in regional centres is determined by the specific circumstances of an employer: (a) who determines what the rate of pay will be; (b) who monitors the payments to these workers to ensure that they are paid that rate; (c) what is the quantum of the discretion available to determine pay rates in these circumstances; and (e) how is the quantum determined.

Notice given 28 July 2006

2265 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—Can the following details be provided for each of the compensation payments made to Australian veterans since 1996: (a) the date of the payment; (b) the payment amount; (c) the nature of the compensable injury; (d) the legislative vehicle through which payment was effected; (e) whether the case was the subject of appeal and the out of that appeal; and (f) the cost of legal services associated with the case.

Notice given 31 July 2006

2269 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that on 25 July 2006 a member of the House of Lords asked a written question of the British Government concerning its knowledge of any payments made by British Aerospace Regional Aircraft Limited to Ansett Transport Industries Operations Limited and East West Airline Operations Limited, under an agreement dated 3 September 1993, in connection with design flaws in the BAe 146 aircraft, allowing contamination of cabin air by oil and other fumes.
- (2) Is the Government aware of any payments pursuant to such an agreement:
 - (a) if so: (i) what is the quantum of these payments, (ii) what are the full terms of the agreement, and (iii) can a copy of the agreement be provided; and
 - (b) if not, will the Minister investigate this matter.

Notice given 8 August 2006

2314 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—Has the Prime Minister sought advice from: (a) the department; and/or (b) the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations; and/or (c) the Office of Workplace Services; and/or (d) any other sources about the circumstances of any workers that have appeared in Australian Council of Trade Unions advertisements opposing the Government's industrial relations legislation; if so:

- (a) can details be provided including the date(s) advice was sought and the date(s), source(s) and the form(s) of any advice received in response to the request; and
- (b) is the Minister aware of whether the information he received was different in form or substance to that which was provided to the workers who appeared in the advertisements.

2316 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Trade—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1866:

- (1) Has the Minister reviewed the Hansard which records his answer to a question without notice from the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives on 30 May 2006 concerning the Grains Research and Development Corporation-funded work by Single Vision on alternatives to the 'single desk' for wheat exports.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that his answer to the question from the Leader of the Opposition does not disclose the date on which he became aware of this work by Single Vision.
- (3) On what date did the Minister become aware of the Grains Research and Development Corporation-funded work by Single Vision on alternatives to the 'single desk' for wheat exports.
- (4) How did the Minister become aware.

Notice given 9 August 2006

2322 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to: (a) the requirement under the Prime Minister's *A Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* dated December 1998 that ministers attending Cabinet or Cabinet committee meetings declare private interests that give rise or are likely to give rise to a conflict with their public duties; (b) the requirement under the *Cabinet Handbook* dated March 2004 that ministers should take into account the interests of family members and all interests of their own when considering whether to make a declaration of interest; and (c) the Prime Minister's admonition to ministers to adhere to 'the spirit as well as the letter' of the *Cabinet Handbook*:

- (1) Did the Treasurer declare the Qantas gift of a business class upgrade for his three children on a flight between Los Angeles and Melbourne preceding Cabinet and/or Cabinet committee consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route: (a) if so: (i) on what date was the declaration made and recorded by Cabinet officers, and (ii) did the meeting excuse the Treasurer from the discussion or explicitly agree to his taking part; and (b) if not: (i) why not, and (ii) what action has the Prime Minister taken with respect to the breach of his ministerial code of conduct.
- (2) Did the Treasurer declare any other matters including complimentary airline lounge memberships, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue, Singapore Airlines and/or other Australian and international airlines; if so: (a) what was the nature of the declaration; (b) on what date was it made; and (c) was the Treasurer excused from discussion or explicitly permitted to take part.
- (3) Did the Minister for Health and Ageing declare the Qantas gift of a business class upgrade for himself and his wife on a flight between Sydney and London preceding the Cabinet and/or Cabinet committee consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route: (a) if so: (i) on what date was the declaration made and recorded by Cabinet officers, and (ii) did the meeting excuse the Minister from the discussion or explicitly agree to his taking part; and (b) if not: (i) why not, and (ii) what action has the Prime minister taken with respect to the breach of his ministerial code of conduct.
- (4) Did the Minister for Health and Ageing declare any other matters including complimentary airline lounge memberships, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue, Singapore Airlines and/or other Australian and international airlines; if so: (a) what was the nature of the declaration; (b) on what date was it made; and (c) was the minister excused from discussion or explicitly permitted to take part.
- (5) Which other Cabinet ministers declared complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue, Singapore Airlines and/or other Australian and international airlines preceding Cabinet and/or Cabinet committee consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route.
- (6) In each case please identify the minister and provide details of: (a) the declaration; (b) the date it was made; and (c) whether the minister was excused from discussion or explicitly permitted to take part.

- (7) With reference to chapter 9 of *APS Values and Code of Conduct in Practice: A Guide to Official Conduct for APS Employees and Agency Heads* dated 2005 relating to avoiding and managing conflict of interest: (a) does the department maintain up-to-date registers of pecuniary interests and/or gifts related to agency heads, members of the Senior Executive Service (SES) and those acting in SES positions; (b) did the Prime Minister and the Secretary of his department ensure that details were up-to-date with respect to officers responsible for the provision of advice in relation to the Government's review of international air services policy; and (c) did relevant declarations include complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines.
- (8) With reference to the requirement under the Prime Minister's *A Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* that ministerial staff should not accept gifts, sponsored travel or hospitality if acceptance could give rise to a conflict of interest or the appearance of such a conflict: has any member of the Prime Minister's staff accepted complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines since the commencement of the Government's consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route; if so, were those interests immediately declared and recorded in a written register; and if, in any case, such interests have not been immediately declared and recorded, why not.

2324 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—With reference to chapter 9 of *APS Values and Code of Conduct in Practice: A Guide to Official Conduct for APS Employees and Agency Heads* dated 2005 relating to avoiding and managing conflict of interest:

- (1) Does the department maintain up-to-date registers of pecuniary interests and/or gifts related to agency heads, members of the Senior Executive Service (SES) and those acting in SES positions.
- (2) Did the Treasurer and the Secretary of the department ensure that details were up-to-date with respect to officers responsible for the provision of advice in relation to the Government's review of international air services policy.
- (3) Did relevant declarations include complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines.
- (4) With reference to the requirement under the Prime Minister's *A Guide on Key Elements of Ministerial Responsibility* dated December 1998 that ministerial staff should not accept gifts, sponsored travel or hospitality if acceptance could give rise to a conflict of interest or the appearance of such a conflict: has any member of the Treasurer's staff accepted complimentary airline lounge memberships, complimentary upgrades, sponsored travel and/or other gifts from Qantas, Virgin Blue and/or Singapore Airlines since the commencement of the Government's consideration of Singapore Airlines' request to access the Pacific route; if so, were those interests immediately declared and recorded in a written register; and if, in any case, such interests have not been immediately declared and recorded, why not.

2326 **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, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06:

- (1) How many flight movements occurred at Sydney Airport on a monthly basis.
- (2) Have there been any changes to flight paths; if so: (a) on what dates did these changes occur; (b) have these changes been maintained; and (c) what, if any, consultations were undertaken by the Department with residents affected by the change of flight path.
- (3) How many noise complaints have been received by the Department or any portfolio agency on a monthly basis.

Notice given 15 August 2006

2378 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to House of Representatives question on notice no. 2116 (House of Representatives *Hansard*, 29 May 2006, p. 156) concerning the development of land at Badgerys Creek, in which the Minister advised 'The Government also previously said that it would retain the land at Badgerys Creek in Commonwealth ownership and protect the site from incompatible development in surrounding areas':

- (1) What type of development is defined as 'incompatible development'.
- (2) What type of development is defined as 'compatible development'.
- (3) Given that the site is to be protected from incompatible development, what does the Government intend to do with this site.
- (4) If the Government has no plans for the site at present, when will a final decision be taken on this site.
- (5) Does the Minister intend to allow development on the land that is exempt from state and local government planning regimes.

2383 **Senator Parry:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the 1987 trial of *Ryker (Faulkner) vs The Commonwealth and Flint*:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of: (a) the documents contained in the Department of Defence's response of 15 May 1996 to Freedom of Information request 61/94/95 which includes: (i) an interview conducted with Brigadier Flint in 1973 by Inspector Jack Davis, (ii) Brigadier Flint's two page response to the Inspector provided on 9 January 1973, (iii) Brigadier Flint's response to a notice to show cause dated 1 March 1973, (iv) Brigadier Flint's complaint to the Defence Force Ombudsman of 26 September 1975, (v) Military Board minute no. 103/1973, (vi) the minute of Brigadier Ewing of 28 March 1973, (vii) the request by Brigadier Flint to retain his appointment to London, (viii) the determinations of the Military Board which allowed Brigadier Flint to resign within 7 days and retain his pension; and (b) a report by Lieutenant Colonel DG Osborne, Chief Instructor, School of Military Engineering, dated 30 April 1968.
- (2) Did the documents in part 1(a) relate to investigations into the conduct of Brigadier Flint in dealing with the Faulkners and/or Trisal Engineering, and other instances and allegations of misconduct by Brigadier Flint in his capacity as Engineer in Chief of the Australian Army.

- (3) For each of the above documents: (a) was it discoverable for the 1987 trial; and (b) was it discovered; if not, was this a deliberate decision, a case of negligence or accident.

Notice given 16 August 2006

- 2395 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the media release by the former Minister for Transport and Regional Services (Mr Anderson) on 20 February 2004, which states that the implementation of the National Airspace System (NAS) ‘involves 50 steps over several years’ and that as at that date, 13 steps had been introduced: Can an outline be provided of the details of each of the 50 steps involved in the implementation of NAS, including: (a) the date of introduction of each of the 13 steps to 20 February 2004; (b) the date of the introduction of each of the steps since 20 February 2004; and (c) the timetable for the introduction of all future steps.

Notice given 17 August 2006

- Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2399-2416)—Has the Minister met with representatives of the Wilderness Society in the past 5 years; if so, on what dates.

- 2399 Minister representing the Prime Minister
 2400 Minister representing the Minister for Trade
 2402 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
 2416 Minister for the Arts and Sport

Notice given 24 August 2006

- 2431 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to the report *Review of Illegal Workers in Australia: Improving immigration compliance in the workplace* published by the department:
- (1) Has the Government issued a response to this review; if not: (a) why not; and (b) does the Government intend to issue a response.
 - (2) For each recommendation, can an indication be given of: (a) the current status of the implementation of the recommendation; (b) the progress of the implementation of the recommendation; (c) any monies expended in the implementation of the recommendation; (d) whether any punitive action has been taken against an employer as a result of that recommendation; if so, can details be provided; and (e) whether any legislative change is necessary to implement the recommendation, for instance, the Migration Amendment (Employer Sanctions) Bill 2006; if so, what is the status of the legislation.
 - (3) Have any persons been removed from Australia as a direct result of the implementation of any of these recommendations; if so, how many have been removed.
- 2432 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—Is the department currently drafting any legislation to give effect to any of the recommendations of the report *Review of Illegal Workers in Australia: Improving immigration compliance in the workplace* published by the Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs; if so, which recommendations are being used as a basis to draft legislation, and can details be provided.

2436 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the communiqué, *Safer kids, Safer Communities*, dated 26 June 2006:

- (1) (a) What is the status of the review of bail conditions (to remove ‘cultural factors’ from mandatory consideration in sentencing) in relation to Commonwealth criminal offences; (b) is this issue currently being progressed by the Attorney-General’s Department; (c) are there plans for any form of consultations regarding the changes; (d) have any amendments to Commonwealth bail conditions been drafted; and (e) is there an expected timeframe for the amendments to bail conditions to be put before Parliament; if so, can details be provided; if not, why not.
- (2) (a) What is the status of the proposed amendments to section 16A of the *Crimes Act 1914* to delete reference to any mandatory consideration of cultural background for all offences against Commonwealth law; and (b) is there an expected timeframe for those amendments to be put before Parliament; if so, can details be provided; if not, why not.
- (3) Were the above proposals put to the Council of Australian Governments meeting: (a) if so: (i) what was the response, and (ii) was any further work on the proposals agreed to and, what was it; and (b) if not, why not.

Notice given 25 August 2006

2441 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to panels of experts used by the Office of Indigenous Policy Co-ordination and the answer to question no. 92 taken on notice during the 2006-07 Budget estimates hearings of the Community Affairs Legislation Committee, which stated that funding was not allocated to each panel but is instead allocated to specific projects, which may be undertaken by panel members: For each project to date, what is: (a) the name and purpose of the project; (b) the location of the community(s) that will participate; (c) the name of the expert(s) that has undertaken the project and how that expert was selected; (d) the start and end date; (e) the amount of funding that has been allocated; and (f) the amount of the above funding allocation that is to be spent on the expert’s fees and costs.

Notice given 28 August 2006

2446 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that agency fees and commissions are not included in the list of items that can be deducted from wages under regulations for 457 visas.
- (2) Does the department undertake any monitoring of whether 457 visa holders are being forced to pay agency fees or commissions.
- (3) What penalties apply if organisations or individuals are found to have deducted agency fees or commissions from the wages of 457 visa holders in breach of the regulations.
- (4) How many individuals or organisations have been penalised for deducting agency fees or commissions from the wages of 457 visa holders in each of the past 3 financial years.

- 2447 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to the 457 visa program, can a table be provided that displays the full breakdown of all occupations filled by principal applicant 457 visa holders who entered Australia in each of the financial years, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06.
- 2448 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—
- (1) What was the total number of 457 visa holders in Australia as at 30 June 2006.
 - (2) How many of these people were principal applicant 457 visa holders.
 - (3) Can a list be provided of all occupations filled by principal applicant 457 visa holders who were in Australia as at 30 June 2006.
- 2449 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to the investigation into reported misuse of 457 visas by T&R Pastoral that was referred to in Senate question time on 16 August 2006:
- (1) On what date did the department commence its investigation.
 - (2) On what date was the Minister's office first made aware that an investigation was underway.
 - (3) Was the investigation actually undertaken by the department or was it performed by someone external to the department; if it was undertaken by someone outside the department, who was that person and/or organisation.
 - (4) On what date was the investigation completed.
 - (5) On what date was the Minister's office first informed that the investigation had been completed.
 - (6) When was the department first advised of the investigation's findings.
 - (7) When was the Minister's office first advised of the investigation's findings.
 - (8) What were the findings of the investigation.
 - (9) What penalties/sanctions, if any, have been imposed against T&R Pastoral.
 - (10) Can a copy of the investigation report be provided; if not, why not.
- 2450 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the list, 'Department of Immigration and Multicultural Affairs: Arrivals by Visa Category 457 by ASCO occupation, financial year 2004-05', referred to in Senate question time on 17 August 2006, includes separate categories for inadequately described, self-employed, retired, pensioner (disability), pensioner (other), home duties, non-working child, student, unemployed and not stated.
 - (2) Are any of the people who appear in the above separate categories, also counted as part of the other occupational categories in this list; if so, why.
 - (3) Are any principal applicant 457 visa holders counted in the above separate categories.
 - (4) What is the meaning of the 'not stated' category on this list.
 - (5) Does the 'not stated' category include any principal applicant 457 visa holders.

2451 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (1) Can a list be provided of all employers in Western Australia sponsoring workers on 457 visas in Western Australia as at 30 June 2006.
- (2) Can a list be provided of the number of principal applicants on 457 visas sponsored by each of the above employers in Western Australia as at 30 June 2006.
- (3) Can a list be provided of the number of other 457 Visa holders sponsored by each of the above employers in Western Australia as at 30 June 2006.
- (4) What is the location of each of the above employers, including the federal electorate they are located in.

2452 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (1) What is the total number of workers on 457 visas employed by businesses located in the federal electorate of Forrest as at 30 June 2006.
- (2) What is the total number of workers on 457 visas, who were the principal applicant, employed by businesses located in the federal electorate of Forrest as at 30 June 2006.
- (3) For all principal applicant 457 visa holders, employed by businesses located in the federal electorate of Forrest as at 30 June 2006, what is the number occupying each relevant ASCO classification.
- (4) For all principal applicant 457 visa holders, employed by businesses located in the federal electorate of Forrest as at 30 June 2006, is the period they have been in Australia under that visa: (a) less than 1 month; (b) 1-2 months; (c) 2-6 months; (d) 6-12 months; (e) 12-18 months; (f) 18-24 months; (g) 24-36 months; and (h) 36 months or more.
- (5) Has the department received any complaints of non-compliance by the employers of workers on 457 visas in the federal electorate of Forrest in the 2005-06 financial year; if so, what was the nature of those complaints and what action was taken to investigate those complaints.

2453 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—

- (1) Did the Minister sign off on new migration regulations to provide for minimum salary levels and occupations for the business long stay visa on 15 June 2006.
- (2) Is it the case that the words 'calculated on a 38 hour week' were included in subsections (2), (3), (4) and (5) of these regulations.
- (3) Is it the case that the previous regulations, that were issued by the Minister on 24 April 2006 and revoked by the regulations issued on 15 June 2006 did not include the words 'calculated on a 38 hour week'.
- (4) What will be the effect of inserting the words 'calculated on a 38 hour week' into the regulations, for example, does it mean that 457 visa holders on the \$41 850 minimum salary level need only work a 38 hour week to earn that amount and if they work more than 38 hours must receive additional salary.
- (5) Does the insertion of those words mean that 457 visa holders are effectively paid a minimum hourly salary of \$21.18.

- (6) Does the insertion of those words mean that 457 visa holders are paid an additional \$21.18 per hour for every hour worked over 38 hours.
- (7) Is it the Minister's intention that 457 visa holders who work 45 hours a week receive overtime equivalent to \$148.26 in addition to the \$804.84 that they are entitled to for working a 38 hour week; if so, what actions have been taken to inform all employers and 457 visa holders of this change.

2455 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—Can a copy be provided of the list that the Minister was referring to in an answer to a question without notice from Senator Bernardi in Senate question time on 17 August 2006.

Notice given 31 August 2006

2460 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Why was the tender RFP 05/06-17 Design, Manufacture and Installation of ADS-B Avionics issued by Airservices Australia terminated.
- (2) Has Airservices Australia developed (or are developing) any alternative arrangements to the cancelled tender; if so, can details be provided.
- (3) Was industry consulted on the termination of this tender:
 - (a) if so: (i) what was the form of this consultation, (ii) what was the outcome of this consultation, and (iii) what was communicated by industry during the consultation; and
 - (b) if not, why not.
- (4) Was industry notified that the tender was to be terminated prior to the termination:
 - (a) if so: (i) when, and (ii) was industry critical of the decision to terminate the tender and can the details be provided;
 - (b) if not, why not.
- (5) Can a copy be provided of the notification issued to industry indicating that the tender was terminated.
- (6) How many applications were received for the tender.
- (7) Will the tender be re-opened at a later date:
 - (a) if so: (i) when, and (ii) why was it necessary to close the tender if it was to be re-opened at a later point; and
 - (b) if not, why not.
- (8) Did any organisations, companies or persons receive grants from federal, state or local governments to assist in the development of the tender application; if so: (a) was the Minister aware of this; (b) what was the total value of grants made to assist in the development of tender applications; and (c) to which organisation, company or person were these grants made.

Notice given 5 September 2006

2473 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) What is the status of the Government's evaluation of Australian participation in the next stage of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) project.
- (2) Did the Government, for example, set up a joint departmental committee; if not, why not.

- (3) With reference to the Government's involvement in an international workshop, 'Towards an Australian involvement in ITER', scheduled for October 11 to 13 2006, in Sydney: (a) who will comprise the Government delegation that will attend the workshop; and (b) what are the names of the delegates.

Notice given 6 September 2006

2476 **Senator Marshall:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to the trade skills training visa (subclass 471) applications:

- (1) What trade qualifications are being sought by each applicant.
- (2) Have any of the applications been approved; if so, which ones; if not, what is the timetable for approval or refusal.
- (3) Have any of the applicants been approved as sponsoring organisations; if so, which ones; if not, what is the timetable for approval or refusal.

Notice given 18 September 2006

2497 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Government of the Solomon Islands:

- (1) What was the commencement date of the Airservices Australia internal investigation that found that, between 1998 and 2003, contract payments totalling \$2.2 million had been made to third parties.
- (2) When did the internal investigation conclude.
- (3) Who conducted the internal investigation.
- (4) When was the report of the internal investigation provided to: (a) the Minister and/or the Minister's office; and (b) the department.
- (5) Can a copy of the report be provided; if not, why not.

Notice given 21 September 2006

2503 **Senator Nettle:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to funding priorities for the 2006 Living in Harmony Funded Community Projects:

- (1) What are the Australian values that funded community projects will promote.
- (2) How were these values identified.
- (3) (a) What criteria are being used to evaluate grant applications in regard to the promotion of Australian values; and (b) how were they developed.

Notice given 4 October 2006

Senator Bob Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2523-2543)—With reference to meetings between the Minister and representatives of the Exclusive Brethren: Has the Minister met with representatives of the Exclusive Brethren in the past 5 years: if so, in each case: (a) when was the meeting; (b) where was the meeting held; (c) who attended the meeting; and (d) what matters were discussed.

2523 Minister representing the Prime Minister

2524 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

- 2525 Minister representing the Treasurer
- 2526 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 2527 Minister for Finance and Administration
- 2528 Minister representing the Minister for Trade
- 2529 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 2530 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 2531 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
- 2532 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- 2534 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
- 2535 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
- 2536 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources
- 2537 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 2538 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 2539 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
- 2540 Minister for Justice and Customs
- 2541 Minister for the Arts and Sport
- 2542 Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation
- 2543 Minister for Ageing

Notice given 17 October 2006

- 2563 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to overseas travel made by the Minister to New Zealand from 3 November to 5 November 2004:
- (1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which were not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones; (h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities; (j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport; (k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.
 - (2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.
- 2564 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to overseas travel made by the Minister to Argentina from 10 December to 19 December 2004:
- (1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which were not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote

dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones; (h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities; (j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport; (k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.

- (2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.

2565 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to overseas travel made by the Minister to the United Kingdom from 13 March to 18 March 2005:

- (1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which were not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones; (h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities; (j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport; (k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.
- (2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.

2566 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to overseas travel made by the Minister to the United States of America from 17 April to 24 April 2005:

- (1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which were not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones; (h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities; (j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport; (k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.
- (2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.

2567 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to overseas travel made by the Minister to Switzerland, France, Denmark, Ireland, United Kingdom and Sweden from 29 May to 3 June 2005:

- (1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which were not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones;

(h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities; (j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport; (k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.

- (2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.

2568 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to overseas travel made by the Minister to the Solomon Islands, Kiribati and Tonga from 7 June to 8 June 2005:

(1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which where not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones; (h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities; (j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport; (k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.

- (2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.

2569 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to overseas travel made by the Minister to the Republic of Korea from 18 June to 24 June 2005:

(1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which where not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones; (h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities; (j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport; (k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.

- (2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.

2570 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to overseas travel made by the Minister to Indonesia from 15 September to 18 September 2005:

(1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which where not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones; (h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities;

(j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport;
(k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.

(2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.

2571 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to overseas travel made by the Minister to Canada from 21 September to 25 September 2005:

(1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which were not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones; (h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities; (j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport; (k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.

(2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.

2572 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to overseas travel made by the Minister to the United Kingdom from 31 October to November 2005:

(1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which were not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones; (h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities; (j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport; (k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.

(2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.

2573 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to overseas travel made by the Minister to Canada from 6 December to 12 December 2005:

(1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which were not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones; (h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities; (j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport; (k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.

- (2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.

2574 **Senator Ray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to each overseas visit made by the Minister between 12 December 2005 to 30 June 2006:

- (1) What were the costs accrued by the department for: (a) accommodation and services related to accommodation, including any additional hotel rooms or facilities being used as an office and/or for hospitality, which were not paid for by the Department of Finance and Administration; (b) hospitality provided; (c) any security arrangements, other than those provided by the Protective Security Coordination Centre; (d) business centre services; (e) installation of telephone lines; (f) official telephone calls and remote dial-in charges made by the Minister; (g) SIM cards for mobile phones; (h) in-flight communication use; (i) non-official spouse program activities; (j) interpreter services, including fares, accommodation and transport; (k) maps and travel guides; and (l) any airport or VIP lounge hire.
- (2) Were there any other costs paid for by the department; if so, can an itemised list be provided, including any accrued costs.

Notice given 18 October 2006

Senator McLucas: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2576-2579)—With reference to applications for relief and/or assistance under the Cyclone Larry/Monica relief package:

- (1) (a) How many applications were received; (b) how many were approved; and (c) what was the total funding approved for each application.
- (2) Can a list be provided of the applications that were rejected and the reasons for each rejection.

2576 Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads

2577 Minister for Finance and Administration

2579 Minister for Human Services

2583 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to surveillance by Coastwatch for each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06:

- (1) What was the number of hours flown by Coastwatch during flights over the waters between the Australian coastline and the Indonesian archipelago.
- (2) (a) How many vessel sightings in the waters between the Australian coastline and the Indonesian archipelago were recorded by Coastwatch; and (b) in relation to those vessel sightings: (i) how many were referred for further action to another agency or another part of the Australian Customs Service, and (ii) can a list be provided of the names of the agencies and the number of referrals to each.

Notice given 19 October 2006

2586 **Senator Hurley:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to the report in the *Australian* on 22 August 2006 that 110 Chinese nationals obtained their passports and citizenship illegally:

- (1) Were both of the people charged in this incident departmental officials before, when or after the incident was uncovered; if so: (a) what were their positions; and (b) between which dates were they employed by the department.

- (2) Were the two people charged employed by any government department at anytime.
- (3) With what crimes were these two people charged.
- (4) Were there only two people charged in this incident; if not, were the additional people charged employed by the department or any other government department at anytime.
- (5) When and how did the department become aware that this incident was occurring.
- (6) What measures has the department put in place to ensure that this corrupt practice does not continue within the department.
- (7) Have any new false passport and citizenship cases been exposed since the two people were arrested.
- (8) Excluding the 110 Chinese nationals, how many false passports and citizenships have been detected by government officials for each of the years 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006.
- (9) Is the Government conducting an enquiry into this incident; if so: (a) who is conducting it; (b) when will the findings be handed down; and (c) will the findings, in their entirety, be made public.
- (10) Whose decision was it to allow the 110 Chinese nationals to keep their passports and maintain their Australian citizenship.

Notice given 31 October 2006

2595 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) Is the Prime Minister opposed to the execution by Indonesia of Australians Scott Rush, Tan Duc Than Nguyen, Si Yi Chen, Matthew Norman, Myuran Sukumaran and Andrew Chan; if so, will the Prime Minister express this view publicly: (a) in Australia; and (b) to the President of Indonesia.
- (2) What representations have been made to date to Indonesia on the matter of the execution sentence of these six young Australians.
- (3) Given that the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr Downer) is reported as saying 'We will at the appropriate time support appeals for clemency': (a) when will the time be appropriate; and (b) what form will such support take.
- (4) Does the Prime Minister consider that the death penalty should be seen as a warning on the dangers of carrying drugs through Asian countries; if so, why.

Notice given 6 November 2006

2614 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—

- (1) Has the department instituted an internal costing or cost recovery system; if so, what was the reason for instituting this system.
- (2) How many staff are there at each Australian Public Service (APS) level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch as at 30 September 2006.
- (3) What is the average salary of staff at each APS level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch as at 30 September 2006.

- (4) (a) What is the methodology used to calculate time and cost of the preparation of answers to questions on notice; (b) what is the justification of this costing methodology; and (c) why has the department not embraced a cost estimate system linked to blocks of time such as that used by law and accounting firms.
- (5) What is the justification of the methodology used to calculate the time and cost of the preparation of this answer, including: (a) the number of staff involved; (b) the substantive or acting levels of the staff members involved; (c) the salary cost per staff member involved; (d) the on costs per staff member involved; and (e) the time taken per staff member in the preparation of the answer.

Notice given 7 November 2006

2615 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—

- (1) With reference to government assistance provided to the Tasmanian Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment to prepare a draft eradication plan for rabbits and rodents on Macquarie Island and to the Tasmanian Government's appointment, with Commonwealth assistance (through National Heritage Trust (NHT) funding), of a project officer to further develop this plan: (a) what steps has the Minister taken to allocate funds, from the NHT or other sources, for the implementation of the plan in conjunction with the Tasmanian Government; and (b) if no such steps have been taken, when will the Minister allocate funds.
- (2) Given that Commonwealth funding has been provided for various phases of the vertebrate pests program for the Macquarie Island World Heritage Area as stated in the answer to question on notice no. 1915 (*Senate Hansard*, 6 September 2006, p. 153), will the Government make a commitment to provide sufficient funds to complete the program.
- (3) What has been the effect so far on the nesting habitat and breeding success of the Macquarie Island grey-headed albatross population, listed as vulnerable under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, given that the location of the only colony, with 80 breeding pairs only, has been severely damaged by rabbits.
- (4) What has been the effect of rabbit grazing on the breeding success of Macquarie Island populations of: (a) wandering albatross, with approximately 19 breeding pairs only; (b) blue petrels; and (c) fairy prions, all listed as vulnerable under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.
- (5) How many king penguins and their chicks were killed as a result of the recent rabbit-induced landslip at Lusitania Bay.
- (6) How will the recent landslip at the Sandy Bay tourist boardwalk affect the experience of the tourists landing on Macquarie Island in 2006.
- (7) What steps has the Minister taken to review the conservation status of endemic species and subantarctic vegetation communities on Macquarie Island in light of the observed increase in rabbit damage and its associated impacts on Macquarie Island biodiversity and landscape.

- (8) Given the accelerating degradation of the environment of Macquarie Island, with increasing risks of landslips due to vegetation loss as a result of rabbit grazing, what are the increased occupational health and safety risks to personnel of the Australian Government Antarctic Division and Bureau of Meteorology working on the island, many of whom travel along the coasts and slopes as part of their professional duties.

Notice given 8 November 2006

2618 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) With reference to the answer to question on notice no.1574, paragraph (4) (*Senate Hansard*, 9 May 2006, p. 199) what was the penalty imposed for each of the 24 personnel awaiting determination of drug offences.
- (2) (a) How many drug tests have been administered to Australian Defence Force (ADF) personnel by service, since 1 February 2006; (b) how many tests returned positive results and at which sites; (c) what was the incidence of different drug types; and (d) what penalties have been imposed to date.
- (3) As at 1 November 2006, how many ADF personnel are currently being treated for alcoholism or are receiving counselling for alcohol substance abuse.
- (4) For each of the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 to date, by service, how many personnel have been discharged for: (a) alcohol substance abuse; and (b) drug usage.
- (5) For the year 2006 to date, how many trainees have been disciplined or counselled by military or civil authorities at the: (a) Australian Defence Force Academy for: (i) intoxication, and (ii) drug usage; and (b) Royal Military College, Duntroon for: (i) intoxication, and (ii) drug usage.
- (6) For each of the years 2005 and 2006 to date, what percentage of ADF applicants were rejected for past drug usage.

2621 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) With particular reference to rest breaks and minimum sleep time, what guidelines exist in the Australian Defence Force (ADF) for the maximum hours of duty to be performed on any 1 day and on consecutive days.
- (2) What guidelines exist in the ADF with respect to the imposition of the disciplinary measure of sleep deprivation caused by long hours of duty resulting in sleep periods less than 8 hours per day, as might for example be imposed as part of restriction of privileges.
- (3) (a) What provisions exist for the recording of disciplinary measures imposed, such as restriction of privileges; and (b) how is such discipline supervised.
- (4) For the 2005-06 financial year: (a) on how many occasions were disciplinary measures taken involving deprivation of less than 8 hours off duty, (that is by requiring duty in excess of 16 hours per day) at the Army bases of: (i) Holsworthy, (ii) Singleton, (iii) Robertson Barracks, (iv) Townsville, and (iv) Kapooka; (b) what was the average length of time of such discipline; and (c) what was the maximum, and the minimum period of consecutive days on which it applied.
- (5) (a) Was the issue of sleep deprivation considered in the Podger report; and (b) has any action been taken to limit its application since the release of the Podger report.

2622 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) (a) For each of the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 to date, what has been the combined resignation and discharge rate of recruits with less than 12 months service in each of the three services; and (b) what statistics exist on the reasons for those discharges whether they be medical or otherwise.
- (2) For the 2005-06 financial year, how many applications to join the Australian Defence Force were rejected: (a) on the grounds of: (i) obesity or excessive weight, (ii) past substance abuse including alcohol and drugs, and (iii) poor eyesight; and (b) for any other reason (please specify).
- (3) Under the new reduced recruiting standards, what estimates have been made of the additional cost of: (a) medical treatment; and (b) remedial education.

2623 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) At the end of each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, how many medically-qualified staff by rank or type were in each of the services.
- (2) By type, what is the current shortfall of qualified medical staff in each of the services.
- (3) (a) What is the most common form of employment of medically-qualified personnel; and (b) at present, what percentage of the total are contracted.
- (4) What estimate is there of medical consultations or individual provisions of medical service conducted currently for: (a) the Defence Health Services Division (DHSD) on base: (i) each week, and (ii) annually; and (b) private or public medical services off base: (i) each week, and (ii) annually.
- (5) (a) How many rehabilitation cases are currently active within the system; and (b) for each of the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 to date, what was the total number of active rehabilitation cases.
- (6) For each of the years 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 to date: (a) what was the cost of rehabilitation treatment; and (b) which providers received the five largest amounts.
- (7) What was the distribution of rehabilitation cases for the 2006-06 financial year, by type of injury or illness, for each of the services.
- (8) For the 2005-06 financial year: (a) what was the total sum paid to private medical providers off base for the treatment of Australian Defence Force serving personnel; and (b) by type, what was the sum paid for medical specialists.
- (9) For the 2005-06 financial year, how many cases of: (a) alcohol substance abuse and addiction; and (b) drug dependency, were treated by the DHSD.

2624 **Senator Faulkner:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—Has the book *Final Exit* by the American author Derek Humphrey, ever been a prohibited import under the *Customs Act 1901* or regulations; if so, and if the book is no longer a prohibited import, how and in what circumstances did it cease to be a prohibited import.

Notice given 9 November 2006

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2631-2650)—

- (1) Has the department instituted an internal costing or cost recovery system; if so: (a) what was the reason for instituting this system; and (b) can details be provided of the costs associated with instituting this system.
- (2) As at 30 September 2006: (a) how many staff are there at each Australian Public Service (APS) level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch; and (b) what is the average salary of staff at each APS level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch.

2631 Minister representing the Prime Minister

2633 Minister representing the Treasurer

2634 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

2635 Minister for Finance and Administration

2636 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

2637 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

2638 Minister representing the Attorney-General

2639 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

2640 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

2642 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

2643 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

2644 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

2645 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

2646 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

2647 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

2648 Minister for Justice and Customs

2649 Minister for the Arts and Sport

2650 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

2651 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to the decision to destroy the ancient forest in Weld River coupe WR15F:

- (1) (a) What is the necessity for the planned deforestation; and (b) what alternatives are available.
- (2) (a) What buffer will be kept between logging and the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area; and (b) how will this be managed.
- (3) (a) Does this buffer or lack thereof, accord with World Heritage respect and values; and (b) have World Heritage experts agreed with this; if so: (i) who are the experts, (ii) what is their complete advice, and (iii) when was it given.
- (4) (a) What areas of the coupe will not be logged; (b) why; and (c) on whose advice.
- (5) Will Gunns Limited be a receiver of wood products from the coupe; if so: what volume and percentage of the commercial wood will go to Gunns Limited.

- (6) Has the Minister inspected logging in the World Heritage value forests of the Weld; if so, when; if not, why not.
- (7) Will the Minister, as part of his portfolio responsibilities, visit the Weld River coupe WR15F to ensure Tasmania's World Heritage values are not contravened in any way while the current Minister is in office.

2652 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the cancellation of Transair's air operator's certificate (AOC) by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) on 24 October 2006 was not disclosed to the public until the opposition asked questions about the matter at the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee estimates hearing on 30 October 2006 (Committee *Hansard*, p 109).
- (2) Why did CASA fail to disclose the cancellation of Transair's AOC on 24 October 2006.
- (3) Did CASA propose to keep the cancellation a secret until the expiry of the automatic stay period or a decision by the Administrative Appeals Tribunal on an application to review the cancellation was made.
- (4) Has CASA previously published notices of AOC suspensions and cancellations on its website; if so: (a) when did this policy change; and (b) why.
- (5) Is it the case that disclosure of AOC suspensions and cancellations are in the public interest.

2653 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the memorandum 'CASA's relationship with industry – a new definition', published by Mr Bruce Byron, the Chief Executive Officer, Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), on 11 October 2006:

- (1) Did the Minister approve the publication of the memorandum.
- (2) Does the Minister agree that a focus on compliance with regulations is 'no longer a viable approach to safety as it is simplistic and not based on any analysis of the ever changing risks the aviation industry faces'.
- (3) What analysis has CASA undertaken that shows that a focus on compliance is not a viable approach to safety.
- (4) How is a failure to focus on compliance with regulations consistent with Australia's obligations under Article 12 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention) which requires each contracting state to 'adopt measures to insure that every aircraft flying over or manoeuvring within its territory and that every aircraft carrying its nationality mark, wherever such aircraft may be, shall comply with the rules and regulations relating to the flight and manoeuvre of aircraft there in force' and 'ensure the prosecution of all persons violating regulations applicable'.
- (5) Does the Minister agree with Mr Byron's decision to place 'far less emphasis on getting involved in the detail of organisations through issuing administrative notices such as request for corrective action'.
- (6) Is it the role of CASA's to demand corrective action when it identifies breaches of safety rules.
- (7) Can the Minister substantiate Mr Byron's claim that 'the amount of industry surveillance has and will continue to increase'.

- (8) Has the restructure announced by Mr Byron in February 2006 enhanced or diminished CASA's capacity to undertake industry surveillance; if it has enhanced CASA's capacity, how has that capacity been enhanced.
- (9) Why does Mr Byron's memorandum fail to make reference to CASA's obligation to the travelling public.

2654 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) cancel Transair's air operator's certificate (AOC) on 24 October 2006.
- (2) Under what section of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* was the AOC cancelled.
- (3) Can a copy of the written cancellation notice be provided.
- (4) (a) How was the notice served; and (b) to whom was it served.
- (5) On what date, and in what form, was CASA advised that Transair intended to make an application to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) seeking a review of CASA's decision to cancel the AOC.
- (6) On what date did Transair make an application to the AAT seeking a review of CASA's decision to cancel the AOC.

2655 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) cancelled Transair's air operator's certificate on 24 October 2006 because the company failed to fulfil its obligations under an enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) entered into on 4 May 2006, and to respond to show cause notices issued on 14 August and 26 September 2006.
- (2) Which of the seven undertakings listed in the EVU did Transair fail to fulfil.
- (3) Why did not CASA apply to the Federal Court of Australia for an order under section 30DK(7) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* in relation to breaches of the terms of the EVU.

2656 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) (a) Which specific breaches or grounds were notified in the show cause notice issued to Transair on 14 August 2006; and (b) how was the notice served.
- (2) (a) Was Transair invited to attend a show cause conference related to this show cause notice; if so, on what date and in what form; and (b) if a conference was conducted: (i) on what date, (ii) what was the location, and (iii) who attended.
- (3) (a) Which specific breaches or grounds were notified in the show cause notice issued to Transair on 26 September 2006; and (b) how was this notice served.
- (4) (a) Was Transair invited to attend a show cause conference related to this show cause notice; if so, on what date and in what form; and (b) if a conference was conducted: (i) on what date, (ii) what was the location, and (iii) who attended.

Notice given 10 November 2006

2657 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Does section 30DK(4) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* require the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to publish details of enforceable voluntary undertakings on the Internet.
- (2) Why did CASA not publish parts 1 to 9 and parts 11 to 14 of the Transair enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) on its website which included: the dates of audits for the years 2001 to 2006 which disclosed to CASA auditors ongoing compliance and structural problems, the details of 14 identified safety breaches, Transair's admission that corrective action is required and the timetable for the implementation of the undertakings.
- (3) Why did the details published on the CASA website identify just five undertakings by Transair when part 10 of the Transair EVU contains seven undertakings.
- (4) Does the CASA publication *CASA New Enforcement Procedures: A Fairer and More Transparent System*, contain the following advice 'Is an EVU public? Yes. The legislation requires that CASA must publish details of EVUs on its website'.
- (5) Why were all details of the EVU not published on the Internet by CASA.
- (6) Did the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee recommend that an EVU scheme should be accompanied by a publicly-available register.
- (7) Did the explanatory memorandum for the Civil Aviation Amendment Bill 2003 advise the Parliament that the Government's proposed EVU scheme had been revised to take into account the above committee's recommendations, including the publication of EVU details on the Internet.
- (8) Did the explanatory memorandum also advise the Parliament that the Government's EVU scheme was modelled on section 87B of the *Trade Practices Act 1974*.
- (9) Is it the case that the guide on section 87B undertakings, published by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) in August 1999, states that 'the Commission's view is that all s.87B undertakings should be a matter of public record and open to public scrutiny'.
- (10) Is it the case that the ACCC maintains a public register of all undertakings made under section 87B of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* and publishes a copy of each signed undertaking on its website.
- (11) Is the Minister satisfied that CASA has complied with section 30DK(4) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* by failing to publish parts 1 to 9 and parts 11 to 14 of the Transair EVU and failing to publish full details of the specific undertakings contained in part 10.

2658 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the statement made by Mr Bruce Byron, the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), in CASA's annual report for 2005-06, that Australian aviation does not require a prescriptive regulator.

(2) Does the Minister endorse this view of CASA's role.

2659 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can details be provided of all costs associated with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's Change Management Project, for each of the years since its inception.

2660 **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. 1472 (Senate *Hansard*, 22 June 2006, p. 313):

- (1) Does Mr Bruce Byron, the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), still maintain offices in Canberra, Melbourne, Moorabbin and at his home.
- (2) For each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, how many days did Mr Byron spend working from: (a) his Canberra office; (b) his Melbourne office; (c) his Moorabbin office; (d) his home office; and (e) any other location.
- (3) (a) Why did CASA pay for the installation of a satellite telephone link at Mr Byron's home costing \$1 896.75 including a first month charge of \$89.95; (b) on what date was the satellite telephone link installed; and (c) for each of the financial years since installation, including 2006-07 to date, what sum has CASA spent on fees associated with the satellite telephone service.
- (4) For each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date: (a) what equipment, if any, has been purchased for Mr Byron's home office; and (b) what other costs has CASA incurred in relation to the operation of the home office.
- (5) For each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, what costs has CASA incurred in relation to Mr Byron's offices in: (a) Canberra; (b) Melbourne; and (c) Moorabbin.

2661 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is it the case that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) restructure instituted by Mr Bruce Byron, the Chief Executive Officer, has resulted in the transfer of fraud control from the Legal Services area to the Human Resources area of the Authority; if so: (a) on what date did this transfer of responsibility occur; and (b) why did this transfer of responsibility occur.
- (2) Which CASA manager is responsible for fraud control.
- (3) For the 2005-06 financial year, how many: (a) suspected fraud incidents were reported; and (b) were investigated.
- (4) Is CASA bound by the Commonwealth Fraud Control Guidelines; if so: (a) do CASA's fraud risk assessments and fraud control plans comply with the guidelines; (b) do all CASA officers with responsibility for preventing, detecting and investigating fraud meet the fraud control competency requirements outlined in guideline 6; and (c) does CASA collect and provide information on fraud to the Attorney-General's Department as required by guideline 8.

2662 **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. 1471 (Senate *Hansard*, 9 May 2006, p. 185), concerning the terms of appointment of the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Mr Bruce Byron:

- (1) Do the current terms of appointment require Mr Byron to spend ‘an average of two to three days a week in Canberra and the remaining days in Melbourne, with an increase in the number of days in Canberra during the Parliamentary sitting period if required’; if not, when and how have the terms of appointment relating to the number of days Mr Byron must spend in Canberra each week been varied.
- (2) For each of the following financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, how many days has Mr Byron spent in Canberra in: (a) non-sitting weeks; and (b) sitting weeks.

2664 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the claim by Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) spokesperson Mr Peter Gibson in the *Australian* newspaper report ‘Freefall to Death’ of 23 January 2006, that proposed rule changes for the entire sports aviation industry have been delayed since 1998, but CASA would make an announcement about rule changes soon:

- (1) What rule changes have been under consideration since 1998.
- (2) Why has the implementation of the rule changes been delayed for eight years.
- (3) Can a copy be provided of all related Notices of Proposed Rule Making.
- (4) When will rule changes be implemented.
- (5) How many people participating in sports aviation, including: (a) skydiving (b) ultralight aviation; (c) ballooning; and (d) other sports, have died in Australia since 1998.

2665 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can the names of all members of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Maintenance Regulations Project Team be provided.
- (2) If the composition of the project team has been varied since its formation, can details of these variations be provided.
- (3) Have any aviation community representatives on the project team been subject to regulatory action by CASA; if so, can the following details be provided:
 - (a) the name of the project team member;
 - (b) the date of appointment;
 - (c) the regulatory action to which they or their aviation business were subject;
 - (d) the timing of the regulatory action;
 - (e) the outcome of the regulatory action; and
 - (f) whether the CASA Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Byron, was advised that the appointment was inappropriate in light of the regulatory action.

2666 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Which members of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Maintenance Regulations Project Team undertook a European study tour in late 2005.
- (2) Did any non-team members participate in the study tour; if so, who.

- (3) On what date did the study tour group depart Australia.
- (4) On what date did the study tour group return to Australia.
- (5) Can a detailed itinerary for each day of the study tour be provided.
- (6) What was the total cost of the study tour.
- (7) What was the cost of the following items: (a) domestic airfares; (b) international airfares; (c) land transport; (d) accommodation, disaggregated to show the name and cost of accommodation for each night; (e) hospitality; (f) meals; (g) travel insurance; and (h) other expenses not listed above.

2667 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the finding in the report of the Seaview Royal Commission that 'no doubt the benevolent treatment of industry and the apparent willingness to overlook quite serious breaches was given impetus by industry being declared the partner of the Civil Aviation Authority'.
- (2) Is the Minister concerned that the 2005-06 annual report of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), the successor to the Civil Aviation Authority: (a) declares that CASA wants to be 'the valued partner with the aviation community industry in providing Australia with a world-class air safety environment, which has public trust and confidence'; and (b) proposes that CASA delegate more activities to industry 'which will enable qualified industry participants to partner with CASA to ensure safety'.

2668 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What is the total cost of introducing the Civil Aviation Safety Authority Generated Minimum Equipment List (GMEL) system, by year.
- (2) Can the cost be disaggregated to include: (a) software adaptation; (b) project team costs; (c) trial costs; (d) payments to Transport Canada; and (e) other costs
- (3) Can details of all GMEL Review Board members be provided.

2669 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can the Minister identify the make-up of projected revenue for the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, comprising: (a) government appropriations; (b) aviation fuel excise; (c) fees; (d) interest; and (e) other revenue, by year in the 2007-08 and 2008-09 financial years.

2670 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What was the cost of establishing and maintaining the Office of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Industry Complaints Commissioner in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the CASA Industry Complaints Commissioner received 219 complaints in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (3) What matters, by category, did the complaints concern in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (4) How many complaints did the CASA Industry Complaints Commissioner investigate in the 2005-06 financial year.

- (5) How many recommendations by the CASA Industry Complaints Commissioner in the 2005-06 financial year resulted in: (a) action by the original CASA decision maker to overturn a decision; (b) action by the CASA Chief Executive Officer to overturn a decision; and/or (c) a change to a CASA procedure.
- (6) How many recommendations from the CASA Industry Complaints Commissioner were not accepted in the 2005-06 financial year.
- (7) Were all complaints dealt with in accordance with the service charter.

2671 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the evidence given by Mr Patrick Murray, Group General Manager of the Air Transport Operations Group, Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), to the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee estimates hearing on 30 October 2006 (Committee *Hansard*, p. 85) about section 30DK(4) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* relating to the publication of details of enforceable voluntary undertakings (EVUs):

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Mr Murray claimed that information about the Transair EVU published on the CASA website 'is designed to be a summary and is designed for ease of understanding by lay people, whereas perhaps publication of the detail of the EVU would mean that it would be less understandable'.
- (2) Which elements of the Transair EVU would not be understandable if published on the CASA website.
- (3) Did CASA fail to publish parts 1 to 9 and parts 11 to 14 of the Transair EVU because this material would not be understandable.
- (4) Did CASA fail to publish full details of specific undertakings contained in part 10 of the Transair EVU because the specific undertakings would not be understandable.
- (5) Can the Minister advise where in the Civil Aviation Amendment Bill 2003, the explanatory memorandum for the bill, the second reading speech for the bill and/or the Act, CASA is exempted from publishing details of EVUs that it deems not understandable.

2672 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to question on notice CASA 50, taken on notice during the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee Budget estimates hearings in May 2005, concerning the procurement of legal services by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA):

- (1) Does CASA maintain a panel arrangement for the provision of external legal services.
- (2) Do the firms Malleson Stephen Jacques, Phillips Fox and Blake Dawson Waldron still comprise the panel; if not: (a) when was the panel varied; and (b) which firms are members of the current panel.
- (3) Since 1 June 2005, has CASA used non-panel members to provide legal services: if so, can the following information be provided for each occasion that a non-panel firm was engaged: (a) the name of the firm; (b) the period of engagement; (c) the matter for which they were engaged; (d) the cost; (e) why the firm was engaged; (f) who authorised the engagement; (g) whether CASA's Legal Services area was consulted before they were engaged; (h) whether a contract was executed before the legal services were

provided; if so, who prepared the contract; (i) whether the engagement was consistent with CASA's contractual arrangements with panel members.

- 2673 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Civil Aviation Regulation 7 (CAR 7) as contained in the Civil Aviation Regulations 1988, which provides that the Director of Aviation Safety 'may, in writing, delegate to a person all or any of CASA's powers and functions under CAR':
- (1) Does the Director of Aviation Safety issue delegations to positions rather than persons; if so, do these delegations comply with CAR 7 which provides for delegation to 'a person'.
 - (2) Does the Director of Aviation Safety ever issue unsigned delegations stamped with an electronic signature.
 - (3) Can a schedule showing the current functions and powers delegated under CAR 7 and the name of the person exercising that delegated power be provided: if not, why not.
- 2674 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) For each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, can details be provided of all costs associated with domestic travel for Mr Bruce Byron, the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, by year, including: (a) fares; (b) accommodation; (c) meals; (d) insurance; and (e) other costs.
 - (2) Can the same details be provided for any domestic travel undertaken by members of Mr Byron's family.
- 2676 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can details be provided of Civil Aviation Safety Authority enforcement decisions: (a) varied; and (b) set aside in the 2005-06 financial year.
- 2677 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What was the cost of the Civil Aviation Safety (CASA) telephone survey of general aviation operators and organisations commissioned in September 2005.
 - (2) Will CASA undertake an extensive survey of all aviation sectors in the 2006-07 financial year, as planned; if so, what is the estimated cost of this survey.
- 2678 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the statement in the Civil Aviation Safety (CASA) annual report for the 2005-06 financial year that CASA issues 'continue to cause some concern in the Minister's office': Can the Minister outline the nature of these concerns with CASA's performance.
- 2679 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Why was the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's average of 6.99 days unplanned absence per employee in the 2005-06 financial year above the Australian Public Service average.
- 2683 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—What is the cost to date of establishing: (a) new Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) operational positions in Brisbane; and (b) CASA's operational headquarters in Brisbane.

- 2684 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—What services to the value of \$5,100 did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority procure from 'Chris Kelly Cartoonist Caricaturist' in the 2005-06 financial year.
- 2685 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that separation and redundancy payments by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) have risen from \$235 000 in the 2003-04 financial year to \$374 000 in the 2004-05 financial year to \$6 514 000 in the 2005-06 financial year.
 - (2) What is the estimated cost of separation and redundancy payments by CASA in the 2006-07 financial year.
- 2686 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) increased from \$213 010 in the 2003-04 financial year to \$364 531 in the 2004-05 financial year to the \$385 000 – \$399 999 band in the 2005-06 financial year.
 - (2) Why does the CASA annual report for 2005-06 fail to report the actual remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer for the 2005-06 financial year, unlike the CASA annual report for 2004-05 which reports the actual remuneration for the Chief Executive Officer for the 2004-05 and 2003-04 financial years.
 - (3) What actual remuneration did the CASA Chief Executive Officer receive in the 2005-06 financial year.
 - (4) Can the Minister confirm that CASA's operating result declined from an operating surplus of \$12.5 million in the 2004-05 financial year to a deficit of \$2.5 million in the 2005-06 financial year.
 - (5) What was the justification for the significant increase in remuneration of the CASA Chief Executive Officer in the 2005-06 financial year.
 - (6) What total remuneration will the CASA Chief Executive Officer receive in the 2006-07 financial year.
- 2687 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Why does the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) annual report for 2005-06 report that the highest remuneration paid to a CASA executive other than the Chief Executive Officer in the 2004-05 financial year was in the \$310,000 - \$324,999 band when the CASA annual report for 2004-05 reports that the highest remuneration paid to a CASA executive other than the Chief Executive Officer in the 2004-05 financial year was in the \$280,000 - \$289,999 band.
- 2689 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can the Minister outline the nature of the car park evaluation for which the Civil Aviation Safety Authority contracted Colliers in the 2005-06 financial year to the value of \$10,000.
- 2690 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to section 30DK(4) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* that requires the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) to publish details of enforceable voluntary undertakings (EVUs) on the internet:

- (1) What is the basis of the claim by the Chief Executive Officer of CASA, Mr Bruce Byron, to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on 30 October 2006 that because the Act requires publication of ‘the details’ of EVUs and not ‘the detail’, CASA may only publish a summary.
- (2) (a) On what date did CASA seek legal advice on its obligations under section 30DK(4) of the Act; and (b) can a copy of the advice be provided.

2691 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the evidence by the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), Mr Bruce Byron, to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on 30 October 2006 that the enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) by Transair ‘was required by CASA, from a significant point of view, as a result of surveillance activity conducted since mid-2005’: Does part 3 of the EVU reveal that Transair ‘was the subject of CASA audits in November 2001, August 2004, February 2005 and February 2006 which disclosed to CASA auditors that it had ongoing compliance and structural problems’.

2692 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the evidence by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Acting General Manager, Legal Services Group, Dr Jonathan Aleck, to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on 30 October 2006 about section 30DK(4) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* relating to the publication of details of enforceable voluntary undertakings (EVUs):

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Dr Aleck claimed that ‘if the public sees that an EVU has been entered into with a particular organisation then they can go to that organisation and say...’before I fly with you, I would like some more information about this’ and then make their own judgement about what they are going to do’.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the Government imposes no obligations on operators to publish details of EVUs.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that operators are under no obligation to provide members of the public with information about EVUs even when requested to do so.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that the only party subject to disclosure obligations under section 30DK(4) is CASA.

2693 **Senator O’Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority General Counsel, Mr Rick Heap, issue a memorandum of advice on 9 May 2006 requesting publication of the details of the enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) by Transair, dated 4 May 2006, on the Internet.
- (2) Did Mr Heap’s memorandum note that the structure of the company’s operations needed to change ‘to rectify the problems identified in the background to the undertakings’.
- (3) Given its relevance to the undertakings, why was the background, contained in parts 1-9 of the EVU, not published on the internet.

- 2694 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can details be provided of all enforceable voluntary undertakings (EVUs) accepted by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) under section 30DK of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988*.
 - (2) For each EVU can the following details be provided:
 - (a) the organisation or individual making the undertaking;
 - (b) the date the undertaking was made;
 - (c) the date the undertaking was accepted by CASA; and
 - (d) the period of the undertaking.
- 2695 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) On what date did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) publish on its website a summary of the enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) by Transair accepted by CASA on 4 May 2006.
 - (2) On what date did CASA remove a summary of the EVU from its website.
- 2696 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) On what date did the enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) by Transair, dated 4 May 2006, cease to have effect.
 - (2) Why did the EVU cease to have effect on this date.
- 2697 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is the Minister aware that in September 2006 Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) spokesperson Mr Peter Gibson told *The Australian* newspaper that 'none' of the issues subject to the Transair enforceable voluntary undertaking (EVU) dated 4 May 2006 'can be linked directly' to the tragedy at Lockhart River on 7 May 2005.
 - (2) What is the basis of CASA's claim that none of the fourteen safety breaches identified in the Transair EVU can be linked to the Lockhart River crash.
- 2698 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the evidence by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Gemmell, to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on 30 October 2006 that CASA failed to enforce training requirements mandated in the Transair operations manual prior to the Lockhart River tragedy in May 2005:
- (1) Is the Minister aware Mr Gemmell told the committee 'whilst we may have known it was occurring, we did not enforce that because, quite frankly, if we sought to enforce it they could simply cross it out of the manual, and that would be the end of it'.
 - (2) Does Civil Aviation Regulation 215(9) as contained in the Civil Aviation Regulations 1988 require each member of the operations personnel of an operator to comply with all instructions contained in the operations manual in so far as they relate to his or her duties or activities.
 - (3) Did CASA knowingly fail in its duty by failing to enforce compliance with Civil Aviation Regulation 215(9).

- (4) Which other instructions contained in the Transair operations manual has CASA knowingly permitted the operator to disregard.

2699 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the evidence by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Gemmell, to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on 30 October 2006 that CASA failed to enforce training requirements mandated in the Transair operations manual prior to the Lockhart River tragedy in May 2005 because ‘if we sought to enforce it they could simply cross it out of the manual, and that would be the end of it’:

- (1) Can holders of air operator’s certificate simply ‘cross out’ provisions in operations manuals.
- (2) Is it the case that original operations manuals must be approved by CASA.
- (3) Is it the case that amendments to operations manuals must be approved by CASA.
- (4) Why did CASA approve the provision in Transair’s operations manual that mandated Human Factors Management training.

2700 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to page 34 of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) annual report for 2003-04 and page 38 of the CASA annual report for 2004-05 and the answer to question on notice no. 352 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 May 2005, p. 271), concerning a review of the new CASA enforcement regime:

- (1) Which CASA officers managed the review.
- (2) Did the review conclude in May 2005.
- (3) On what date was the review report presented to the CASA Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Byron.
- (4) What necessary changes to the enforcement regime did the review identify.
- (5) What necessary amendments to the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* did the review identify.
- (6) Can a copy of the review report be provided.
- (7) On what date did Mr Byron provide a report to the Minister on the review outcomes.
- (8) How did the Minister and the department consider the review.
- (9) When did the Minister’s consideration of the review conclude.
- (10) What changes to the enforcement regime have resulted from this consideration.
- (11) What legislative amendments can be attributed to the review.

2701 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can a copy be provided of the Transair air operator’s certificate (AOC) BN426646-31 issued on 20 October 2005.
- (2) Was this AOC current as at 4 May 2006 when Transair entered into an enforceable voluntary undertaking with the Civil Aviation Safety Authority.
- (3) Were any Transair AOCs issued between 4 May and 17 May 2006; if so, can a copy of each AOC be provided.

- (4) Can a copy be provided of the Transair AOC BN426646-33 issued on 17 May 2006.
- (5) Did Transair operate on three AOCs within the space of a fortnight in May 2006; if so, can an explanation for this be provided.

2702 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is it the case that section 28 of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* provides that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) may only issue an air operator's certificate (AOC) if it is satisfied that the applicant has complied with, or is capable of complying with, the provisions of the Act, the regulations and the Civil Aviation Orders.
- (2) On each occasion that CASA has issued an AOC to Transair, has CASA satisfied itself that Transair has complied with, or is capable of complying with, the provisions of the Act, the regulations and the Civil Aviation Orders.
- (3) Can a list be provided of all identified occasions that Transair has not complied with the provisions of the Act, the regulations and the Civil Aviation Orders.

2703 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Since July 2001, on what dates has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority audited Transair.

2704 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can the Minister confirm evidence by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bruce Gemmell, to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on 24 May 2005 that the CASA audit of Transair in February 2005 found 'nothing serious or significant'.

2705 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) (a) How many serious and imminent risk suspensions has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) issued under section 30DC of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988*; and (b) can details be provided of each suspension, including the holder of the civil aviation authorisation and the reason for the suspension.
- (2) In each case where CASA has made an application to the Federal Court of Australia under section 30DE, what has been the outcome.

2706 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) identify all external maintenance organisations that conducted maintenance on VH-TFU between the CASA audit of Transair in November 2001 and the tragedy at Lockhart River on 7 May 2005.
- (2) Did CASA audit these organisations during this period; if so, can the dates and related findings of these audits be provided.
- (3) Has CASA received complaints about compliance with regulations by these organisations during this period; if so, can details of these complaints be provided, including the action taken by CASA in response to these complaints.

- 2707 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is it the case that section 28(2) of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* provides that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) may take into account the financial position of an applicant when determining whether to issue an air operator's certificate (AOC).
 - (2) What action, if any, has CASA taken to examine the financial position of Transair when issuing AOCs to this operator.
 - (3) Has CASA established whether Transair has maintained a satisfactory credit rating with providers of material and services, such as spare parts suppliers and external maintenance providers.
- 2708 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Have ramp inspections of Transair aircraft undertaken since November 2001 revealed any problems, including fuel leaks; if so, can details be provided, including the date and the nature of each identified problem.
 - (2) Has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority received any complaints from airport owners since November 2001 about the condition of Transair aircraft; if so, can details provided, including the source, date and nature of each complaint.
- 2710 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) safety recommendation R20060002 issued on 24 January 2006 during the course of the investigation into the Lockhart River air tragedy in May 2005:
- (1) Is it the case that the co-pilot of the Transair flight had not been trained in global positioning system navigation or area navigation global navigation satellite system approaches.
 - (2) Has the Government acted to ensure that co-pilots are required to hold an endorsement for any navigation aids being used to navigate an aircraft during flight.
- 2711 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Australian Transport Safety Bureau safety recommendation R20060003 issued on 20 January 2006 during the course of the investigation into the Lockhart River air tragedy in May 2005: (a) What is the timetable for the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's consideration of this recommendation relating to the fitting of serviceable autopilots to Australian aircraft engaged on scheduled air transport operations; and (b) when will consideration of this matter conclude.
- 2713 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) safety recommendation R20060005 issued on 10 February 2006 during the course of the investigation into the Lockhart River air tragedy in May 2005:
- (1) Why are maintenance and testing requirements for cockpit voice and flight data recording systems not defined in Australian regulations.
 - (2) (a) What is the timetable for the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's consideration of the ATSB recommendation relating to the maintenance requirements of cockpit voice and flight data recording systems; and (b) when will consideration of this matter conclude.

- (3) What additional training in the maintenance of cockpit voice and flight data recording systems has been provided for airworthiness personnel.

2714 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—When will the Government act on Australian Transport Safety Bureau safety recommendation R20060006 arising from the May 2005 Lockhart River disaster in May 2005 and permit approved maintenance organisations to replay in-flight cockpit voice recorder data for legitimate maintenance and testing purposes.

2716 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Civil Aviation Order (CAO) 20.16.1 that requires operators to ensure that a copy of a load sheet is retained on the ground at the aerodrome of departure for aircraft engaged in regular public transport services:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that: (a) the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) has found that a copy of the load sheet for the Transair-operated flight from Bamaga to Lockhart River by VH-TFU on 7 May 2005 was not located at Bamaga; and (b) current and former employees of Transair have advised the ATSB that it was not routine practice for load sheets to be left at Bamaga.
- (2) What action has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority taken in response to this ongoing breach of CAO 20.16.1.

2717 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the claim by the Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), Mr Bruce Gemmell, on the ABC television Four Corners program 'Flight 675' about the May 2005 Lockhart River air tragedy broadcast on 4 July 2005 that CASA was asking itself 'Was the training inadequate? Was the oversight arrangements inadequate? What was it?': What conclusions has CASA reached.

2718 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that Senator Abetz, the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services in the Senate on 6 November 2006, told the Senate on 6 November 2006 that the interim reports by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) into the Lockhart River air tragedy in May 2005 contained 'no suggestion' that the tragedy was due to any failure by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).
- (2) Is it the case that the ATSB has not endorsed CASA's regulatory oversight of Transair.
- (3) Is it the case that the ATSB interim factual report published on 31 August 2006 states that the investigation is ongoing and will include further work on 'regulatory oversight of the operator's activities, including approvals and surveillance undertaken'.
- (4) (a) Is the Minister aware that on 6 November 2006 Senator Abetz told the Senate that the CASA Director of Aviation Safety 'has assured himself that there is no imminent threat which would prevent Transair flights continuing at this time'; and (b) how did the Director of Aviation Safety assure himself.

- 2719 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the answer to CASA 19 asked at additional estimates in February 2006, concerning the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) investigation of allegations about Transair operations: Is the claim that 'the company had an open culture and responses to the CASA investigation were cooperative and taken with a view to improving things if required' supported by the company's continuing non-compliance with aviation safety regulations evidenced by, the admission of fourteen breaches of safety rules in the company's Enforceable Voluntary Undertaking dated 4 May 2006, the necessity to issue show cause notices on 14 August 2006 and 26 September 2006, and the decision to cancel the company's air operators certificate on 24 October 2006.
- 2720 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can details be provided of all Requests for Corrective Action (RCA) issued to Transair since November 2001, including: (a) the date of issue; (b) the regulatory breach or breaches identified; (c) the timeline for corrective action; (d) the corrective action taken; and (e) the date the corrective action was taken.
- 2721 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to evidence by the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), Mr Bruce Byron, to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on 30 October 2006, that Transair was not mentioned in reports presented to him before the May 2005 aviation tragedy at Lockhart River in May 2005: Why was no report made to Mr Byron about Transair's 'ongoing compliance and structural problems' identified at CASA audits in November 2001, August 2004 and February 2005.
- 2723 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to evidence by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Director of Aviation Safety, Mr Mick Toller, to the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on 19 February 2001, that Civil Aviation Regulation 206 (CAR 206) as contained in the *Civil Aviation Regulations 1988* that mandates an air operator's certificate for any form of commercial flying training, including training in an ultralight:
- (1) Does commercial flying training in an ultralight still fall within the scope of CAR 206.
 - (2) Do all other forms of commercial flying training in sports aviation aircraft still fall within the scope of CAR 206.
 - (3) Is it the case that it is still not possible to issue an exemption from CAR 206.
 - (4) Has CASA enforced CAR 206 in relation to commercial flying training in sports aviation aircraft; if not, why not.

Notice given 13 November 2006

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2724-2750)—

- (1) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, based on actual program expenditure compared with the program budget estimate, what were: (a) the 10 largest underspending programs; and (b) the 10 largest overspending programs, in the Minister's portfolio.

- (2) For each identified program in paragraph (1): (i) what was the budget estimate, (ii) what was the actual expenditure, (iii) what was the variance, and (iv) can an explanation for the variance be provided.

- 2724 Minister representing the Prime Minister
 2725 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services
 2726 Minister representing the Treasurer
 2727 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
 2728 Minister for Finance and Administration
 2729 Minister representing the Attorney-General
 2730 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
 2731 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
 2732 Minister representing the Minister for Defence
 2733 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
 2734 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
 2735 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources
 2736 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
 2737 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
 2738 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
 2739 Minister for Justice and Customs
 2740 Minister for the Arts and Sport
 2741 Minister for Human Services
 2742 Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation
 2743 Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Further Education
 2744 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism
 2745 Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads
 2746 Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
 2747 Minister for Community Services
 2748 Minister representing the Minister for Workforce Participation
 2749 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
 2750 Minister representing the Special Minister of State
 2751 **Senator Ludwig:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to Australian Federal Police deployments to Solomon Islands and East Timor under the International Deployment Group:
 (1) Can a detailed description be provided of the accommodation arrangements for all staff deployed on these missions including:
 (a) the physical location of the accommodation;
 (b) the physical condition of the accommodation including:
 (i) the nature of the accommodation (for example hotel, motel, barracks etc),
 (ii) the age and general condition of the building,
 (iii) the average, maximum and minimum size of the rooms,
 (iv) the average, maximum and minimum number of people to a room,

- (v) whether bedrooms have air conditioning or fans,
 - (vi) whether bedrooms have their own locks,
 - (vii) whether staff have access to lockers or safes,
 - (viii) access to drinking water,
 - (ix) toilet and bathroom arrangements,
 - (x) access to telecommunications (for example computer, with Internet access),
 - (xi) access to recreational areas, and
 - (xii) a general description of the security provisions of the facility;
- (c) the catering arrangements including:
 - (i) whether meals are prepared on-site or off-site,
 - (ii) whether there is a food quality standard; if so, the details of that standard, and
 - (iii) mess area;
 - (d) cleaning arrangements for the above and the standards that are required to be met;
 - (e) commercial arrangements covering the accommodation including:
 - (i) the process by which accommodation was chosen (e.g. open tender, short list),
 - (ii) a list of parties contracted to provide the accommodation (including both end-providers and intermediaries),
 - (iii) the value of each contract,
 - (iv) for each of the financial years since inception, the total spending on accommodation under each deployment, and
 - (v) the average cost per person per night for accommodation;
 - (f) the audit arrangements in place and key findings and recommendations of any audits that have been completed; and
 - (g) any complaint procedure in place and the number and nature of complaints received, if any.

(2) Can copies be provided of the contracts referred to above.

2753 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the claim by Mr Bruce Byron, Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, to the International Federation of Airline Pilots Association on 26 March 2004 that '[my] direct roots in the industry have meant I have had to formally isolate myself from decisions relating to companies with which I have worked for a period of time':

- (1) Was this decision suggested, approved and/or endorsed by the Minister upon Mr Byron's appointment.
- (2) By year, which decisions, relating to which companies, has Mr Byron isolated himself from.
- (3) Does Mr Byron continue to observe this policy; if not: (a) why not; (b) on what date was it abandoned; and (c) did Mr Byron inform the Minister.

2757 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Airworthiness Bulletin 02-017 concerning 'the increasing trend of leaking fluid lines (oil, fuel, hydraulic, anti-ice, bleed or exhaust) on Metroliner SA226/SA227 aircraft':

- (1) When did CASA conduct the review that established that reports of leaking fluid lines on Metroliner SA226/SA227 aircraft were on the rise.
- (2) Is it the case that CASA considers the leakage of fuel, oil or other fluids a major defect.
- (3) For each month since July 2001, what is the number of service difficulty reports to CASA that identify leaking fluid lines on Metroliner SA226/SA227 aircraft.

2758 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) issued air operator's certificate (AOC) number BN426646-30 to Transair on 30 September 2005 authorising Transair to conduct regular public transport operations in aircraft including a Fairchild SA227-DC with the serial number DC-818B and registration mark VH-TFU.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that a Fairchild SA 227-DC with the serial number DC-818B and registration mark VH-TFU operated by Transair was destroyed at Lockhart River on 7 May 2005 in a tragedy that cost 15 lives.
- (3) Why did CASA issue an AOC to Transair in September 2005 authorising the operator to carry passengers on an aircraft that had been destroyed in one of Australia's worst aviation disasters 4 months earlier.

2759 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Has the Civil Aviation Safety Authority established a group to develop a new compliance policy; if so, can details of the group and its work be provided, including: (a) date of establishment; (b) membership; and (c) role/terms of reference.

2760 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) (a) How many ex-military aircraft are registered in Australia, by aircraft-type, by state/territory; and (b) how many of these aircraft are engaged in commercial operations, by aircraft-type, by state/territory.
- (2) Can an outline be provided of the regulatory regime that governs the operation of ex-military aircraft registered in Australia engaged in: (a) non-commercial; and (b) commercial operations.

2761 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Airworthiness Bulletin (AWB) 02-018 of 20 October 2006, applicable to all BAC 167 Strikemaster and Jet Provost aircraft and relating to airworthiness information arising from a fatal crash of a Strikemaster aircraft near Bathurst on 5 October 2006: By state/territory, how many: (a) BAC Strikemaster aircraft are registered in Australia; and (b) BAC Jet Provost aircraft are registered to operate in Australia.

2762 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Airworthiness Bulletin 02-018 issued on 20 October 2006 applicable to all BAC 167 Strikemaster and Jet Provost aircraft and relating to airworthiness information arising from a fatal crash of a Strikemaster aircraft near Bathurst on 5 October 2006:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the possible structural failure of other Strikemaster aircraft and Jet Provost aircraft registered in Australia prompted the bulletin.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that the bulletin draws attention to United Kingdom Civil Aviation Authority (UKCAA) Mandatory Permit Directives (MPDs) relating to Strikemaster aircraft.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that some of these UKCAA MPDs concern cracking in wing structures on Strikemaster aircraft.
- (4) On what date(s) did CASA issue Airworthiness Directives (AD) AD/Strikemaster/3 and AD/Strikemaster/4 under Civil Aviation Safety Regulation (CASR) 39.001 as contained in the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations 1988 mandating compliance with UKCAA MPDs 1995-101 and 1995-109 respectively.
- (5) Is it the case that CASR 39.003 prohibits the operation of an Australian aircraft that is covered by an AD in breach of any requirement of the AD.
- (6) Has any Strikemaster aircraft registered in Australia operated in breach of AD/Strikemaster/3 and/or AD/Strikemaster/4.
- (7) Have any requirements been mandated, in the form of an AD or otherwise, in relation to the operation of Jet Provost aircraft in Australia; if so, what are the requirements; if not, why not.

Notice given 14 November 2006

2765 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) (a) With reference to a contract in the 2005-06 financial year of \$282 645, awarded to Aerodrome Management Services Pty Ltd for the remote aerodrome inspection service program to Indigenous communities in northern Australia and which ran until September 2006: (i) what work was done under this contract in the Northern Territory, (ii) at which aerodromes, (iii) what follows on from these inspections, and (iv) who meets the costs of any follow-up work; and (b) was all the work related to this contract completed; if not, what work remains to be done.
- (2) Given that the contract of \$36.5 million to Australian Airport Association was to be ongoing until late 2007 under the Regional Airport Funding Program: (a) what funds have been spent in the Northern Territory to date; (b) at which airports; and (c) on which projects.
- (3) Given that there are contracts for multiple recipients of funding for provision of the Remote Air Service Subsidy Scheme (RASS), can a current list be provided of: (a) Northern Territory communities receiving RASS; and (b) the service provider for each.
- (4) Given that the RASS contract(s) appear to end in November 2006, what is the status of contracts ongoing beyond that date.
- (5) Was Aboriginal Air Services, which went into liquidation in September 2006, one of the RASS providers in the Northern Territory; if so, what arrangements have been put into place to ensure that any communities affected continue to receive RASS.

- (6) With reference to the crane at Flying Fish Cove, Christmas Island, that was out of action for months due to cracked footings and which was supposed to be back in use by July 2006, as stated at the hearing of the estimates Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on 23 May 2006 (Committee *Hansard*, p. 130), was the crane finally repaired and put back into use by this deadline; if not: (a) what is the expected timeline; and (b) what is happening with the off-loading of cargo.
- (7) (a) What was the final cost of the repairs in relation to paragraph (6) above; (b) who met these costs; and (c) is there any chance of any of this money being recovered from the contractor; if not, why not.
- (8) With reference to the land for the Linkwater Road project on Christmas Island being resumed from the Christmas Island Resort, when will the proposed road work be carried out;
- (9) (a) Will the Indian Ocean Territories (IOT) Health Service be privatised; and (b) are consultations with the community planned before any decision is made.
- (10) (a) What processes are in place for consulting with either Christmas Island and/or the Cocos (Keeling) Islands; and (b) for each of the years 2005 to 2006 to date, what matters have been referred to the Minister for consultation by either community.
- (11) When will the Government respond to the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories report, *Current and future governance arrangements for the Indian Ocean Territories*.
- (12) Given that mammography screening on Christmas Island has been operational for some months now: (a) are any statistics available as to how many women have used this service; and (b) how many women have had to be sent for further examination and/or treatment.
- (13) Are any statistics available to show how many women accessing this service were from Cocos Island.
- (14) Given that most women from Cocos Island would be Muslim and that there may be possible cultural problems relating to these women travelling alone: (a) have there been any problems with them travelling to Christmas Island; and (b) if they have to be accompanied, who pays for the escort.
- (15) Given that women travelling from Cocos Island would need a stop over of several days, what accommodation arrangements exist for them.
- (16) Is there any ongoing education or awareness program being conducted in conjunction with this breast screening program.
- (17) Is the Government giving any consideration to putting a mammography screening service on Cocos Island.
- (18) (a) Are there any reports on the performance of the wind generators on Home Island, part of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands; (b) have there been any problems, including bird strikes; and (c) is there any data on how these wind generators have affected the cost of power generation.
- (19) Given that earlier in 2006 it was proposed to carry out a further study into the water problem on Home Island: (a) was this study conducted; and (b) what is the current status of this study.
- (20) (a) Is the temporary water desalination plant in place at Home Island; and (b) what is the cost of this project.

- (21) What progress has been made on the Rumah Baru wharf project and the proposal to run a hovercraft service between Home and West Islands for passengers and cargo containers.

Notice given 15 November 2006

2766 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) Can a departmental organisational chart for the Northern Territory be provided.
- (2) How many vacant positions are there in each Northern Territory Indigenous Coordination Centre (ICC) and can a breakdown by position name (for example, Solution Broker) and level be provided.
- (3) What cross-cultural induction is provided for new departmental staff in the Northern Territory.
- (4) Is this for all new staff; if so: (a) when; and (b) how often, is it provided.
- (5) How many departmental officers in the Northern Territory are acting in positions (at Administrative Service Officer level 6 or above) above their substantive levels.
- (6) Can details be provided of the actual operating budgets for each of the ICCs in the Northern Territory.
- (7) Can a list be provided of all shared responsibility agreements (SRA) now agreed to and signed off in the Northern Territory.
- (8) Why is the website with SRA details not kept up to date.
- (9) What is the average time taken from starting SRA negotiations to sign off.
- (10) (a) Can updated information be provided for an SRA administered by Nhulunbuy ICC (the education, arts and nutrition project at the Dhuruputjpi homeland community (DHC)), signed on 31 August 2005 which was to provide a building renovation to house a School of the Air and art centre with \$80 000 in funding from the Office of Indigenous Policy Coordination (OIPC) and to provide a tractor and tools for gardens with \$50 000 in funding from the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations; (b) has this project progressed at all; and (c) what has been the outcome to date after 14 months.
- (11) (a) In relation to paragraph (10) how much money has been released; (b) to whom has the money been released; and (c) is the DHC an incorporated organisation able to receive Commonwealth funds; if not, why were direct negotiations held with them on the above SRA.
- (12) (a) Who costs this type of project which required some building work; and (b) does the ICC engage expert advice to cost such projects.
- (13) Does OIPC intend to make this sort of direct negotiation with family groups the usual model; if so, how is the need for releasing funds only to incorporated organisations met.
- (14) (a) If the Minister or department negotiates with a family group and then has to get another incorporated organisation to accept the funding and carriage of the project, is this a fit and proper way to organise projects; and (b) how does this affect risk management.
- (15) (a) What happens if the initial funding estimate and agreed amount is insufficient; and (b) does the signatory incorporated organisation have to find the rest of the funds.

- (16) In the case of the DHC, has the community complied with its communication part of the agreement and provided regular written reports.
- (17) Was any consideration given to the fact that Indigenous people traditionally rely on verbal communication, not written, when this agreement was negotiated.
- (18) Given that in the communications feedback mechanisms it was agreed that the ICC would visit regularly, how many visits have been made to the DHC since the agreement was signed.
- (19) For the year 2006 to date, can a list be provided of all visits made by officers from each of the Northern Territory ICC's broken down by: (a) office; (b) community visited; (c) who visited and what department they represented; (d) length of visit; and (e) date(s).
- (20) How many of these visits incorporated the whole of government approach espoused by the Government and included officers from across departments or even across levels of Government (that is, included both federal and Northern Territory government officers).
- (21) Given that the review of Indigenous housing, *The Best way Forward: Delivering housing and infrastructure to Indigenous Australians* was due to be completed by the end of September 2006, can a copy of the final report be provided.
- (22) (a) If vital negotiations are continuing, such as at Galiwinku and Nguui, how do the department's officers identify who is really a traditional owner; and (b) on whose expertise and word do they rely.

2767 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the agreement being negotiated at Galiwinku Community in the Northern Territory announced in a press release by the Minister on 19 June 2006:

- (1) (a) Who has visited Galiwinku to discuss this plan since the announcement; (b) on what dates; and (c) how long was each visit.
- (2) (a) With whom have they met (for example, traditional owners, ordinary people, the Galiwinku Community Council); (b) where have these meetings been held; and (c) how have they been advertised in the community.
- (3) (a) How many traditional owners have been positively identified; and (b) by whom.
- (4) Does the Northern Land Council have a role; if so, what is it.
- (5) (a) Who explained the legalities and technicalities of a 99 year lease; and (b) how did they explain the legal terminology.
- (6) How has the Government ensured that the people of the community understand the plan and the overall concept of the 99 year lease (for example, what interpreters have been used).
- (7) Is it correct that 30 November 2006 is the deadline for the people of the community to make their decision on the 99 year lease.
- (8) (a) What absolute safeguards will there be to ensure that the Indigenous people do not lose control of their land; and (b) if they agree to a 99 year lease, how will they be able to terminate that lease, or a sub-lease.
- (9) (a) Is it correct that in signing a head lease, there is no absolute requirement to ensure that the land owner fully understands it and that unless there is fraud committed, once signed, a lease stands; and (b) is this an unfair loophole.

- (10) (a) After 99 years, what guarantee is there of the land reverting back to Indigenous control and in an undamaged useable state if business has operated on it.
- (11) Is there any way that a guaranteed minimum of any leased land can be sub-leased only to Indigenous people.
- (12) What home loan terms and conditions have been negotiated with Indigenous Business Australia for the people of the community, many of whom are and will remain on the Community Development Employment Program or social security.
- (13) What happens to the 50 extra houses if the community decides not to sign a 99 year lease.
- (14) What happens to other services such as the health centre.

2768 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the Outback Stores Initiative announced by the Government on 14 August 2006:

- (1) (a) Since the announcement was made, how many community stores have come under this program; (b) can a list be provided of those stores; and (c) given that the program is voluntary are all those stores, now under the program, voluntary participants.
- (2) What is the criteria by which stores are judged to be eligible to join the program.
- (3) How much of the \$48 million allocated to the program over 4 years has: (a) been disbursed; (b) to whom; and (c) under which broader funding program; (for example, a health program or under Indigenous Business Australia).
- (4) (a) Can a breakdown be provided of the funding that has been spent on the program to date (for example, on new stores, supplies, transport or other requirements); and (b) is there a breakdown for the proposed use of the \$48 million over the 4 years.
- (5) (a) How often has the Board of Outback Stores met; and (b) where have these meetings been held.
- (6) (a) How many community stores have been visited by board members, or their delegates; and (b) can a list of the visits be provided.
- (7) Given that the Minister said that the expertise of both Woolworths and Coles will be available to offer invaluable support and technical assistance without commercial interest in the stores, if one of these major food chains is supplying community stores, who bears the loss if for any reason a store is subsequently unable to pay for those supplies.
- (8) (a) Where do the funds come from to meet any board expenses; (b) who provides secretariat support to the board; and (c) of what does that support comprise.
- (9) In what way do Woolworths and Coles provide support and technical assistance to the stores.
- (10) Given that one of the reasons given for the need for this program is concerns over poor financial management in community stores, how many stores, that are now coming under the program, had their management replaced or changed.

- (11) (a) Is the community store at Beswick Community (Wugularr) in the Northern Territory one of those in this program; and (b) can the Minister confirm or deny that this store has made a very substantial loss which the community are now being asked to repay.

Notice given 17 November 2006

2770 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that Airservices Australia declined to provide the department with a copy of legal advice it obtained in March 2002 relating to its capacity to enter into commercial ventures.
- (2) Did that legal advice question the capacity of Airservices Australia to enter into commercial ventures in the absence of specific legislative authority.
- (3) Can a copy of the legal advice be provided; if not, why not.
- (4) Was Airservices Australia empowered by its enabling legislation to enter into airspace management contracts with the Solomon Islands Government in April 1998 and May 2003.
- (5) Can details be provided of other documents Airservices Australia has declined to provide to the Minister or to the department relating to its commercial ventures.

2771 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that for each of the years 2000, 2001 and 2002, the Airservices Australia relationship manager suggested to his manager that an internal audit be conducted of various aspects of the administration of the contract, including the practice of making third party payments.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that no internal audit was conducted until July 2003.
- (3) Why were the audit proposals ignored for each of the years 2000, 2001 and 2002.
- (4) Who was the Airservices Australia relationship manager during this period.
- (5) Who managed the relationship manager.

2772 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Which consulting firm undertook the review of Airservices Australia's internal audit functions in June 2004.
- (2) When did the review commence.
- (3) How much did the review cost.
- (4) Can a detailed outline be provided of the review findings.
- (5) Can a copy be provided of the report of the review; if not, why not.

- 2773 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: (a) Can a copy be provided of the following reports relating to Airservices Australia's administration of the payment of air navigation fees: (i) the July to September 2003 Airservices Australia internal audit report, (ii) the August to October 2003 Airservices Australia, Office of Security Risk Management review report, and (iii) the June to November 2005 Airservices Australia internal audit report; and (b) if copies of any of the reports cannot be provided, why not.
- 2774 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the finding of the Australian National Audit Office in Audit Report no. 8 of 2006-07 that, until 2006, Airservices Australia reported to the Australian Parliament that the air navigation fee revenue collected on behalf of the Solomon Islands' Government was held on trust:
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the revenue collected by Airservices Australia under its airspace management contract with Solomon Islands has not been held on trust.
 - (2) Why did Airservices Australia fail to provide an accurate report to the Parliament about this matter.
 - (3) Why did the Government not ensure that Airservices Australia provided an accurate report about this matter.
- 2775 **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. 2133 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 166), concerning the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Solomon Islands' Government:
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that all third party payments were requested in writing by either email or letter.
 - (2) Can a copy of all emails and letters requesting third party payments be provided.
- 2776 **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. 2134 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 167), concerning the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Solomon Islands' Government:
- (1) What advice did Airservices Australia receive about its potential liability in May 2006.
 - (2) Can an itemised costing be provided of the legal advice worth \$22 733 sought and received in May 2006 in relation to the contract.
 - (3) Has Airservices Australia sought any further legal advice in relation to its management of the contract; if so: (a) when did it seek advice; (b) from whom was advice sought; (c) when was the advice received; (d) what was the nature of the advice; and (e) what did it cost.
 - (4) Has the Minister's department sought any legal advice following the tabling of reports by the Australian and Solomon Islands Auditors-General in late 2006; if so: (a) when did it seek advice; (b) from whom was advice sought; (c) when was the advice received; (d) what was the nature of the advice; and (e) what did it cost.

- 2777 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Can details be provided, by financial year since the 1997-98 financial year, of all significant business opportunities within Australia or overseas notified by Airservices Australia to the Minister, including but not necessarily limited to notifications required under section 15(1) of the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*.
 - (2) Can a copy of all written directions provided to Airservices Australia under section 15(3) of the Act be provided.
- 2778 **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. 2135 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 167), concerning the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Solomon Islands' Government: Can the Minister explain why, if his department has 'no involvement in the contract' and Airservices Australia is 'custodian of all information and documentation relevant to the administration of such agreements as that which exists between it and the Solomon Islands Government', an extract of the confidential draft report of the Auditor-General of the Solomon Islands was provided to the Minister's office by Airservices Australia on 28 April 2006.
- 2779 **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. 2129 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 163), which confirms that Airservices Australia has identified and reconciled \$2.2 million in third party payments associated with the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Solomon Islands' Government, can the following be provided: A schedule of all third party payments, by financial year, including: (a) the date of payment; (b) the quantum of payment; (c) the date of purported authorisation by a Solomon Islands official; (d) the form of purported authorisation (for example, letter or email); (e) the name of the Solomon Islands official who purported to authorise the payment; (f) the purpose of the payment; (g) the Airservices Australia officer who authorised the payment; (h) the recipient of the payment; and (i) the form of the payment (for example, cash, cheque, electronic funds transfer—if electronic funds transfer, the account to which the funds were paid).
- 2780 **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. 2131 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 165) concerning airspace management contracts between Airservices Australia and the Government of the Solomon Islands:
- (1) Is Airservices Australia a Commonwealth statutory authority incorporated for a public purpose by an Act of the Australian Parliament.
 - (2) Can details be provided of the precise term or terms of the contracts that would make the release of the contracts to the Australian Parliament unlawful.
 - (3) Can the contracts be released with the consent of the parties to the contracts; if so, has the Minister sought the consent of the parties to release the contracts.

- 2781 **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. 2132 (Senate *Hansard*, 10 October 2006, p. 166) concerning the airspace management contract between Airservices Australia and the Government of the Solomon Islands:
- (1) When did the review of Airservices Australia's Performance Enhancement Program, including key performance indicators for officers involved in the administration or management of off-shore activities, commence.
 - (2) When did the review conclude.
 - (3) Can an outline be provided of the post-review and pre-review performance indicators.
- 2782 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the statement by the Minister, on 18 October 2006, in response to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:
- (1) What did the Minister mean when he said 'I am committed to the findings of the report'.
 - (2) (a) On what date did the Minister write to Airservices Australia requiring it to review the ANAO report and to provide him with a detailed response; and (b) can a copy of the letter be provided; if not, why not.
 - (3) (a) On what date did Airservices Australia respond to the Minister's request; and (b) can a copy of the response be provided; if not, why not.
- 2783 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO), audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:
- (1) Can the Minister confirm that, prior to the receipt of the draft ANAO report, Airservices Australia and the department disagreed on whether airspace allocated to other countries under the Chicago Convention but managed by Airservices Australia under contract, such as the Honiara Flight Information Region, was Australian-administered airspace.
 - (2) Can the Minister confirm that Airservices Australia and the department have now reached a shared understanding on whether airspace allocated to other countries under the Chicago Convention but managed by Airservices Australia under contract is Australian-administered airspace.
 - (3) Can: (a) an outline of that shared understanding be provided; and (b) a copy be provided of all advice, including advice from the Australian Government Solicitor, dated 22 September 2006, sought by Airservices Australia and the department in relation to this matter.
 - (4) For all airspace allocated to other countries under the Chicago Convention but managed by Airservices Australia under contract, can the Minister advise whether the airspace is Australian-administered airspace.
- 2784 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Can a copy be provided of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Airservices Australia and the Government of the Solomon Islands, signed in April 1998.
- (2) Can an outline be provided of all services provided by Airservices Australia, consistent with the MOU, with the exception of upper airspace management services provided under contract since 1998.

2785 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO), audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: Can the Minister confirm that a file relating to a 2003 review by Airservices Australia's Office of Legal Counsel of the management of the contract was unable to be located for ANAO examination; if so: (a) how did the file disappear; (b) when did the file disappear; (c) what documents were held on the file; and (d) what efforts were made to locate the file.

2786 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: Why did Airservices Australia fail to identify and assess the nature of the relationship established by the revenue collection and repatriation elements of its contract with the Government of the Solomon Islands, including the requirements and conditions that needed to be satisfied in remitting the air navigation fees and its fiduciary duties.

2787 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: Did Airservices Australia make third party payments in response to all requests for such payments between the years 1998 and 2003; if not, which requests were refused and, in each case, why were they refused.

2788 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) On what date did the company secretary of Airservices Australia provide advice to the then Minister, Mr Anderson, on allegations of misuse of air navigation revenue published in the *Solomon Star* in June 2001.
- (2) Did the advice to Mr Anderson reveal that Airservices Australia had made payments for the purchase of education, training, equipment repairs and vehicles.
- (3) Did the advice address the question of Airservices Australia's obligations under its contract and/or the legality of third party payments under Solomon Islands law; if not, why not.
- (4) Did Mr Anderson seek advice from Airservices Australia about its obligations under its contract and/or the legality of third party payments under Solomon Islands law; if not, why not.
- (5) Can a copy be provided of the written advice to Mr Anderson in June 2001; if not, why not.

- (6) Did Airservices Australia also provided verbal advice to Mr Anderson in or around June 2001; if so: (a) on what date and (b) was the advice provided over the telephone or at a meeting.
- (7) If the verbal advice was provided at a meeting: (a) what was the location of the meeting; and (b) who attended.

2789 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: Can an outline be provided of the progress on implementing each of the additional Airservices Australia governance processes outlined on pages 70 to 71 of the report, including the adoption of anti-bribery guidelines.

2790 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that, despite the contract not authorising cash advances and payments, 17 transactions involving cash advances and payments totalling \$28 558 were made with Airservices Australia corporate credit cards between February 2000 and June 2003.
- (2) Can full details be provided for each of the 17 corporate credit card transactions.
- (3) On what dates was the Airservices Australia relationship manager advised that the credit card transactions were not in accordance with the corporate credit card conditions of use.

2791 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that performance agreements for Airservices Australia staff have given weight to increasing commercial revenue and developing international business opportunities.
- (2) Can a quantitative measure be provided of the performance bonuses paid to Airservices Australia staff associated with the contracts.

2792 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: In preparing advice on the authorisation of transactions by Solomon Islands officials in June 2001, why did the Airservices Australia Office of Legal Counsel not consider whether the officials had actual, and not just ostensible, authority.

2793 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: Did Airservices Australia advise the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands in September 2003 that it would manage the contract in accordance with the contract's conditions and would reconcile all financial transactions made under the contract; if so: (a) why has Airservices Australia continued to hold in its bank account air navigation fees that

the Solomon Islands Government did not request to be remitted despite the contract requiring fees to be paid to the Solomon Islands Government shortly after the end of each month; and (b) why did Airservices Australia not undertake a reconciliation of all financial transactions until 2005.

2794 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO), audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Is the Minister concerned that the ANAO found that 'at no stage did Airservices Australia seek to satisfy itself that the revenue repatriation arrangements complied with Solomon Islands law and/or provided the necessary transparency to the Solomon Islands Government'.
- (2) Why did Airservices Australia fail to satisfy itself that the revenue repatriation arrangements complied with Solomon Islands law and/or provided the necessary transparency to the Solomon Islands Government.

2795 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the report warns that 'it is important that Airservices Australia's commercial focus not overshadow the fact it remains a Commonwealth statutory authority incorporated by an Act of the Australian Parliament for a public purpose'.
- (2) Has Airservices Australia permitted its commercial focus to overshadow its statutory responsibilities.

2796 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*: On what date were Airservices Australia's internal procedures amended to ensure that, prior to entering into future contracts, Airservices Australia takes necessary steps to identify the requirements and/or conditions that need to be satisfied when collecting and remitting statutory revenue.

2797 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Australian National Audit Office, audit report no. 8 of 2006-07, *Airservices Australia's Upper Airspace Management Contracts with the Solomon Islands Government*:

- (1) On what date did Airservices Australia commence consultation with the Solomon Islands Government to ensure that the manner in which Airservices Australia is paid for managing airspace in the Honiara Flight Information Region fully complies with the requirements of the Solomon Islands Constitution.
- (2) What action, if any, has been necessary to ensure the manner in which Airservices Australia receives payment is lawful.

2798 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Airservices Australia Board Governance Manual 2006: Has the Minister issued Airservices Australia with a statement of expectations: (a) if so: (i) on what date, and (ii) can a copy be provided; and (b) if not, why not.

2799 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Airservices Australia, Gifts and Benefits Policy 2006:

- (1) Does the policy provide for the Airservices Australia Office of Legal Counsel to maintain a permanent register of all facilitation payments made by Airservices Australia officers and employees and the circumstances of such payments.
- (2) Can a schedule be provided of all facilitation payments made by Airservices Australia officers and employees and the circumstances of such payments since 1998.

2800 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—For each of the financial years 1996-97 to 2006-07 to date, can a schedule be provided containing details of all memoranda of understanding relating to the provision of commercial services entered into by Airservices Australia.

2801 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA): As at 30 September 2006: (a) how many staff are there at each classification level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch; (b) what is the average salary of staff at each classification level (including executive and senior level staff) by business unit, division or branch; (c) how many staff were employed under: (i) Australian Workplace Agreements, and (ii) the CASA Certified Agreement 2006-08; and (d) how many staff at each classification level (including executive and senior executive level staff) by business unit, division or branch, have previous service in the Royal Australian Air Force.

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2802-2804)—

- (1) Has the Minister, the Minister's office, or any department, agency or authority for which the Minister is responsible received any advice from the Solomon Islands Government about its response to findings contained in the special audit into the financial affairs of the civil aviation division of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Development by the Solomon Islands Auditor-General, including the finding that contract breaches by Airservices Australia 'may warrant action to be taken by the Solomon Islands Government to recover monies from Airservices Australia that were lost through payments made to third parties'; if so, can details be provided.
- (2) Is the contract governed by Australian or Solomon Islands laws.

2802 Minister representing the Prime Minister

2803 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2804 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2806-2809)—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that in June 2001 the Minister and/or the Minister's department received a cablegram briefing from the Australian High Commission in Honiara concerning allegations published in the *Solomon Star* about the misuse of air navigation fees collected by Airservices Australia on behalf of the Solomon Islands Government.
- (2) Can the following details be provided: (a) a list of the cablegram recipients, including the Minister and/or departmental officers; and (b) the date the cablegram briefing was received.

- (3) Can a copy of the cablegram briefing be provided; if not, why not.
- (4) What action has been taken in response to the briefing.
- (5) Having received the briefing, why did the Minister not intervene to prevent the continuing payment of air navigation revenue to third parties in contravention of the contract between Airservices Australia and the Solomon Islands Government.

2806 Minister representing the Prime Minister

2807 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2808 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

2809 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

2810 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Can the complete list of recipients of the June 2001 cablegram briefing from the Australian High Commission in Honiara to Australian Ministers and officials concerning allegations published in the *Solomon Star* about the misuse of air navigation fees collected by Airservices Australia on behalf of the Solomon Islands Government be provided.

Notice given 20 November 2006

2812 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to referrals for assessment and approval lodged in the 2005-06 financial year under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*:

- (1) Of these referrals: (a) how many did the department recommend that the action was not controlled under the Act; and (b) did the Minister overturn any of these recommendations; if so, how many.
- (2) Of these referrals: (a) how many did the department recommend that the action was controlled under the Act; and (b) did the Minister overturn any of these recommendations; if so, how many.
- (3) Of the referrals that were determined to be controlled actions: (a) how many did the department recommend be approved without conditions under the Act; and (b) did the Minister overturn any of these recommendations; if so, how many.
- (4) Of the referrals that were determined to be controlled actions: (a) how many did the department recommend be approved with conditions under the Act; and (b) did the Minister overturn any of these recommendations; if so, how many.
- (5) Of the referrals that were determined to be controlled actions: (a) how many did the department recommend not be approved under the Act; and (b) did the Minister overturn any of these recommendations; if so, how many.

2813 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the decision by the Minister to settle the dispute over the Bald Hills wind farm on 4 August 2006:

- (1) How much of the applicant's legal fees did the Commonwealth agree to pay.
- (2) What were the total legal fees directly incurred by the Commonwealth in relation to this matter.

- (3) Has the Minister or the department previously agreed to pay the legal costs of another party in the settlement of a matter; if so: (a) how many times has this occurred; and (b) when has this occurred.

2814 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can a copy be provided of the air operators certificate under which Transair was operating the aircraft VH-TFU on 7 May 2005.

2815 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Can details be provided of each air operators certificate (AOC) issued to Transair since 1 July 2001, including: (a) number; (b) date of issue; (c) period of validity; (d) listed aircraft permitted to conduct regular public transport; and (e) listed aircraft permitted to conduct charter operations.
- (2) In each case, if the AOC is not effective, can the Minister advise whether the AOC is not effective due to expiry, suspension, cancellation or any other specified reason.

Notice given 21 November 2006

2819 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) What action is the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) taking against the directors of Westpoint Corporation Pty Ltd.
- (2) Is the Minister aware of any proposed legislation or amendments that would have prevented the actions of the Westpoint directors.
- (3) Is the Minister aware of any representation made by ASIC to have legislation amended that would have prevented mezzanine finance deals similar to those employed by Westpoint.
- (4) Did ASIC believe that Westpoint mezzanine funds were regulated products.
- (5) On what dates did KPMG sign off on Westpoint's accounts in the past 6 years.
- (6) What action did the Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority (APRA) and ASIC take when they first discovered that Westpoint was acting as a bank without a licence.
- (7) Why did APRA and ASIC take a long time to realise that Westpoint was breaking the law.
- (8) Why has APRA not increased the limits for Financial Industry Complaints Service jurisdiction.

2820 **Senator Crossin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Tiwi Land Council (TLC):

- (1) What employment and training strategies have been developed between the companies Great Southern Plantations and Matilda Minerals and with the people of the Tiwi Islands to ensure that the people of the Tiwi Islands benefit from employment in these industries.
- (2) Does the TLC have an employment strategy when it negotiates with any new companies wanting to set up on the Tiwi Islands.
- (3) What role does the TLC have in investigating any environmental impact statement of these businesses.

- (4) To date, what is the value in dollars of logs that have been exported from the Tiwi Islands.
- (5) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, how much have each of the above businesses paid in royalties.
- (6) (a) To whom are royalties paid; and (b) into which accounts.
- (7) Where are royalties and associated expenditure recorded and reported.
- (8) For each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, can a list be provided of expenditure from any such accounts.
- (9) (a) How do community members apply to use such funds; (b) is there a formal application form; and (c) how are any applications considered.
- (10) Who approves expenditure and signs off on decisions.
- (11) Has the Tiwi Islands secondary college proposed site been changed; if so: (a) where is the new site; (b) is this a permanent or temporary move; (c) has this relocation been discussed and agreed to with the stakeholders or landowner; (d) how, if at all, will this affect the proposed budget for establishing the college; (e) if required, where will any additional funds come from; (f) how much in funding is coming from royalties or from companies operating on the Tiwi Islands; and (g) how will any changes affect the opening date or other arrangements.
- (12) Given that it is a stated role of the TLC Management Board to assess the impact and make recommendations to the TLC in regard to any new Commonwealth and state legislation and policy affecting the people of the Tiwi Islands, what meetings were held to discuss the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Act 2006*.
- (13) What recommendations were made by the Management Board to TLC about this legislation.
- (14) What discussions were held with the traditional owners and the Tiwi Island Local Government (TILG) about this legislation.
- (15) Has the TLC held any official meetings with any government departments about this legislation; if so: (a) when; (b) with whom; and (c) who was in attendance.
- (16) What consultations have been undertaken with the TILG on these issues.
- (17) Has TLC made any definite undertakings or signed any agreements with the Government over the 99 year leases.
- (18) (a) What rent is being paid by the TLC for its Darwin office; and (b) who owns the office.
- (19) For each of the years 2005 and 2006 to date, how many TLC meetings, including Management Board and full meetings, have been held: (a) on the Tiwi Islands; and (b) in the Darwin office.
- (20) (a) Where are the minutes of any meetings held; and (b) are the minutes easily available to stakeholders like the people of the Tiwi Islands and the TILG.
- (21) In relation to a 600 hectare subdivision for private investment and development of a residential village of 40 blocks with a marina and airfield on Melville Island, referred to in the TLC annual report under proposals considered by TLC: (a) what was this proposal; (b) who made the proposal; and (c) was any decision made regarding the proposal.

- (22) Given that the records of a meeting held on 20 September 2006 at Maxwell Creek Camp, show that the TLC and the TILG seemed to agree that improvements in communications between the two bodies was needed and that TILG/TLC would meet every 2 months with a date to be fixed for November 2006: (a) has this been done; and (b) has a communication strategy commenced.
- (23) How much does the Nguiu Club pay per annum on its present lease.
- (24) (a) Where is the current registered address for Pirntubula Pty Ltd; and (b) is this the principal place of business.
- (25) What is the stated business of Pirntubula.
- (26) From which source(s) does it get revenue.
- (27) On what does Pirntubula spend its money.
- (28) Can copies be provided of the latest Pirntubula reports.
- (29) Does the Minister consider that there is any potential for a conflict of interest in the same person being secretary of the TLC and Pirntubula.
- (30) Has Pirntubula made any payments to any of the companies that employ non-Tiwi members of the Management Board.
- (31) How are people of the Tiwi Islands informed of any proceedings/minutes of the company (for example, is it via computer access or are actual hard copies distributed).
- (32) Who owns the logs that are exported (for example, is it Great Southern Plantations, Pentarch or some other company).
- (33) (a) When logs are shipped, is payment usually made at the point of departure of the shipment or are they sold when they arrive at the destination; and (b) to whom is payment made.
- (34) What information on such sales is provided to the TLC.
- (35) Subsequent to the payment was any part of this income paid to any other person or business; if so, can documentation be provided; if not, what has happened to this income.
- (36) Is the term Red Tiwi, a Pentarch marketing term for the following three types of hardwood, stringybark, woolybutt and Melville Island bloodwood; if so: (a) what is the real market value of each; (b) for what amount are they being sold; and (c) what is the profit on these sales.
- (37) If the term Red Tiwi does not refer to one of the above three types of trees, in precise terms what is meant by Red Tiwi.
- (38) Given that at an estimates hearing of the Community Affairs Committee on 2 November 2006 (Committee *Hansard*, p. 44), it was stated that to date only one shipment of logs has made a profit of \$75 000, to which body or account will this money go.
- (39) After the Tiwi Islands Football Club has been given its \$40 000: (a) how will this income be distributed; and (b) who will distribute it.
- (40) How much, if anything, have the following companies or organisations been paid from the sale of logs from the Tiwi Islands: (a) Sylvatech Pty Ltd; (b) Great Southern Plantations; (c) Pirntubula; (d) Pentarch Forest Products Ltd; (e) Pentarch Ltd Group of Companies; (f) Stratus Shipping (a subsidiary of Pentarch); (g) Pensyl Ltd (a joint venture between Sylvatech and Pentarch Forest Products); and (h) the TLC.

- (41) For each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date: (a) how much has been paid by Pirntubula to Stratus Shipping Pty; and (b) can details be provided on what each payment was for.
- (42) For each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date: (a) how much has been paid to Pensyl Pty Ltd by Pirntubula; and (b) can details be provided on what each payment was for.
- (43) Who maintains records of the number or volume of logs exported from Port Melville.

Notice given 23 November 2006

2821 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-LQH at Toowoomba on 27 November 2001:

- (1) Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) conduct a review of the engine condition monitoring programs of other operators in Queensland following the fatal crash; if so:
 - (a) when did the review commence;
 - (b) how was the review conducted;
 - (c) when did the review conclude;
 - (d) how were operators selected for review;
 - (e) how many operators were reviewed; and
 - (f) how many operators were found to be failing to comply with relevant requirements.
- (2) Has CASA conducted a national review of compliance with engine condition monitoring requirements:
 - (a) if so:
 - (i) when did the review commence,
 - (ii) how was the review conducted,
 - (iii) when did the review conclude,
 - (iv) how were operators selected for review,
 - (v) by state/territory, how many operators were reviewed, and
 - (vi) by state/territory, how many operators were found to be failing to comply with relevant requirements; and
 - (b) if not, why not.

2822 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-LQH at Toowoomba on 27 November 2001: Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) audit of the operator's maintenance organisation in August 2001 identify problems with the operator's maintenance resources; if so: (a) what problems did it identify; and (b) what action did CASA take; if no action was taken, why not.

2823 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-LQH at Toowoomba on 27 November 2001:

- (1) Following the resignation of the operator's full-time maintenance controller in August 2001, did the operator's chief engineer fill that role with the approval of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).
- (2) Was the chief engineer's initial appointment as maintenance controller approved by CASA on 3 August 2001, based on a telephone interview with a CASA inspector.
- (3) Was the further appointment of the chief engineer as maintenance controller approved by CASA on 17 August 2001.
- (4) Were CASA's approvals made in the absence of formal guidelines on the criteria, qualifications or competencies that should be considered when evaluating the suitability of a person to act in a managerial role for a maintenance organisation.

2824 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-LQH at Toowoomba on 27 November 2001:

- (1) Was the operator's fleet of aircraft maintained by external maintenance organisations until the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) approved a change in maintenance arrangements in early 2001.
- (2) How did CASA satisfy itself that the operator was capable of conducting maintenance on its own aircraft when it issued the operator with a certificate of approval valid to September 2001.
- (3) Is it the case that CASA took no action when the certificate of approval expired in September 2001 because it had been mistakenly annotated in the CASA database as being valid for 12 months.
- (4) Was the certificate of approval renewed on 21 November 2001 on the basis of a telephone conversation with the operator; if so, why was the certificate of approval renewed on the basis of a telephone conversation.

2825 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-LQH at Toowoomba on 27 November 2001:

- (1) Were the aircraft's engines operating on a life extension to 5 000 hours time between overhaul (TBO) in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Airworthiness Directive AD/ENG/5 Amendment 7.
- (2) Is it a requirement of the Airworthiness Directive that, if the engines were operating to a 5 000 hour TBO, they had to be subject to an engine condition trend monitoring (ECTM) program.
- (3) Prior to the fatal crash, was CASA aware that the operator's maintenance controller had not completed ECTM training and was not qualified to conduct ECTM functions.
- (4) Was CASA aware that the operator had entered into an arrangement to have ECTM data analysed by the engine manufacturer's field representative but failed: (a) to ensure this arrangement was documented by the operator; and (b) to establish whether the ECTM data was being submitted for analysis on a regular basis.

- (5) Is it the case that in the 4 months prior to the fatal crash, ECTM data was not recorded or submitted for analysis in accordance with the engine manufacturer's requirements and AD/ENG/5.
- (6) Is the Minister aware that the ATSB supplementary report published in August 2006 found that ECTM data indicated that a potentially significant problem had been developing in the left engine in the months preceding the fatal crash and 'was both real and indicative of a trend significant enough to warrant a proactive response to identify and rectify a developing problem in the engine'.
- (7) Why did CASA surveillance fail to detect problems with the operator's ECTM program prior to the fatal crash of VH-LQH.

Notice given 24 November 2006

2830 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Has the Minister read the report in the July 2006 edition of *Australian Aviation* which records the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Mr Bruce Byron as saying 'I am keen to outsource some of CASA's regulatory service functions'.
- (2) Which regulatory functions does Mr Byron want to privatise.
- (3) When did Mr Byron consult the Minister on his privatisation plans.
- (4) What is the timetable for the implementation of Mr Byron's privatisation agenda.

2831 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the claim by the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), Mr Bruce Byron, at the Corporate Governance in the Public Sector conference on 20 April 2004, that he had the agreement of the then Minister (Mr Anderson) to hold a formal meeting 'at least every two months' on the basis that regular structured communication is an essential element in ensuring CASA's governance arrangements operate successfully:

- (1) On what dates have regular formal meetings involving Mr Byron, the Minister and the Secretary of the department been conducted.
- (2) If regular formal meetings have been abandoned, can the Minister advise: (a) when; and (b) why these meetings were abandoned.

2832 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is the Minister aware that the Chief Executive Officer of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), Mr Bruce Byron, told a safety conference in November 2006 that when he joined CASA in 2004 'there were a lot of people, highly competent in their technical fields, who had risen up the hierarchy to management positions, but were simply out of their depth as managers'.
- (2) How did Mr Byron measure the performance of CASA management before concluding his managers were 'out of their depth'.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that Mr Byron claims that only one member of CASA's current management team was at CASA when Mr Byron joined the authority.

- (4) For each of the years to date since Mr Byron's appointment, how many CASA managers have left the authority.

2833 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Can copies be provided of all Civil Aviation Safety Authority Chief Executive Officer (CEO) directives relating to surveillance of Transair and the Lockhart River tragedy, including CEO directives 001/2006 and 002/2006.

Notice given 28 November 2006

Senator O'Brien: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2839-2856)—With reference to the department and all agencies in the Minister's portfolio:

- (1) How many staff are engaged under a Certified Agreement (CA).
- (2) How many staff are engaged under the provisions of an Australian Workplace Agreement (AWA).
- (3) Does the department or portfolio agency have any staff engaged under the provisions of a common law contract; if so: (a) by level, how many staff are under these contracts; and (b) for what reason has the department or agency determined that common law contracts are preferred employment instruments over either CAs or AWAs.

2839 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2840 Minister representing the Treasurer

2841 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

2842 Minister for Finance and Administration

2843 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

2844 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

2845 Minister representing the Attorney-General

2846 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

2847 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

2848 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

2850 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

2851 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

2852 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

2853 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

2854 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training

2856 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs

2857 **Senator Wong:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Further Education—

- (1) What is the average number of annual curriculum hours undertaken by a student enrolled in adult literacy and numeracy programs classified under Australian Standard Classification of Education Broad Field 12, in the following narrow field areas: (a) 1201 General Education Programs; (b) 1203 Social Skills Programs; (c) 1205 Employment Skills Programs; and (d) 1299 Other Mixed Field Programs.
- (2) For each of the above programs, what is the: (a) average per hour cost; and (b) proportion of that cost contributed by the Commonwealth.

- 2858 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) discontinue the category of 'high risk' carrier when assessing regular passenger transport operators; if so: (a) when; and (b) why.
 - (2) Has Qantas Airways Ltd ever been rated as a 'high risk' carrier by CASA.
 - (3) Has CASA instituted a replacement assessment process; if so, what are the current possible assessment categories for regular passenger transport operators; if not, why not.
 - (4) What is the current risk assessment for Qantas.
- 2859 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) By year since 1996, how many non-compliance notices have been issued by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority or any other relevant agencies to international aviation providers undertaking regular passenger transport in Australian controlled airspace.
 - (2) In each case what was the: (a) reason for the issue of the notice; and (b) the name of the international carrier.
- 2860 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—By year since 1996, has Qantas Airways Ltd been banned from servicing any aviation components; if so, in each case: (a) why was the ban put in place; (b) which agency (domestic or international) made the determination to ban Qantas from servicing the components; (c) which components were Qantas banned from servicing; (d) for what period was Qantas banned from servicing the components; and (e) what remedial action did Qantas undertake prior to the ban being lifted.
- 2861 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the decision by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) on 25 November 2006 to suspend Transair's air operators certificate (AOC) under section 30DC of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* on the grounds that the operator had engaged, may be engaging and was likely to engage in conduct constituting, contributing to, or resulting in, a serious and imminent risk to air safety: Why did CASA publish the notice of the suspension on its website when it had failed to publish details of the earlier suspension of Transair's AOC which was initiated by CASA on 24 October 2006.
- 2862 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the decision by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) on 25 November 2006 to suspend Transair's air operators certificate (AOC) under section 30DC of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* on the grounds that the operator had engaged, may be engaging and was likely to engage in conduct constituting, contributing to, or resulting in, a serious and imminent risk to air safety: What is the impact of this suspension on: (a) the earlier suspension of Transair's AOC which was initiated by CASA on 24 October 2006; and (b) matters before the Administrative Appeals Tribunal related to the earlier suspension of Transair's AOC which was initiated by CASA on 24 October 2006.

2864 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the decision by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) on 25 November 2006 to suspend Transair's air operators certificate (AOC) under section 30DC of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* on the grounds the operator had engaged, may be engaging and was likely to engage in conduct constituting, contributing to, or resulting in, a serious and imminent risk to air safety:

- (1) Is a serious risk one where conduct has caused, or is reasonably likely to cause, an aviation accident or incident.
- (2) On what basis did CASA determine the risk was serious.
- (3) On what basis did CASA determine the risk was imminent.
- (4) On what date did CASA first receive information about the serious and imminent risk.
- (5) On what date did CASA seek from Transair a written explanation of events and/or undertakings necessary to alleviate the serious and imminent risk.
- (6) In what form was the request made.
- (7) On what date did the operator respond to that request.
- (8) Which officer authorised the suspension action.
- (9) On what date and at what time did CASA decide to suspend the AOC.
- (10) (a) On what date and at what time; and (b) in what form, was the suspension notice served on the operator.
- (11) Can a copy of the suspension notice be provided; if not, why not.
- (12) If there was a delay between the decision to suspend the operator and the service of the suspension notice, what is the explanation for the delay.
- (13) On what date and at what time was the suspension effective.
- (14) On what date did CASA make an application to the Federal Court of Australia (FCA) seeking an order under section 30DE of the Act.
- (15) What order of the FCA did CASA seek.
- (16) Did CASA seek costs.
- (17) Can a copy of the application and supporting affidavit be provided; if not, why not.
- (18) What was the outcome of the application, including the details of any order made by the FCA.

2867 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Did the Defence Housing Authority (DHA) announce in June 2006 that it had purchased 52 blocks of land at Bruce in the Australian Capital Territory as part of 350 serviced blocks for the accommodation of Australian Defence Force personnel located at the new Headquarters Joint Operations Command (HQJOC) at Bungendore, New South Wales; if so, apart from the 52 blocks at Bruce, how many other blocks so purchased are on the north side of Canberra.
- (2) For both the Australian Capital Territory (broken down into north side and south side properties), and Queanbyan, how many properties does DHA: (a) own; and (b) lease.

- (3) (a) How many personnel will be transferring from interstate to work at the new HQJOC building at Bungendore; and (b) how many will be accommodated in the northern part of the Australian Capital Territory (that is, north of the Molonglo River).
- (4) What is the comparable travel distance and time by private car to the Bungendore HQJOC site from: (a) Canberra City north; (b) Canberra City south; (c) Belconnen; and (d) Queanbeyan, by way of the Kings Highway and Macs Reef Road.
- (5) In consultations with the New South Wales Department of Main Roads concerning the assessment of need to upgrade both the Kings Highway and Macs Reef Road, what estimates of increased traffic flow were provided by the department for both routes.
- (6) What is the current estimate of increased daily traffic flow through the city of Queanbeyan from the Australian Capital Territory as the result of the HQJOC.
- (7) What advice on necessary upgrades was given by the New South Wales Department of Main Roads for each road and at what cost.
- (8) (a) What specific upgrades to either road have now been agreed to; (b) at what cost; and (c) what contribution will the Commonwealth be making either from the Department of Defence or other Commonwealth road funds.
- (9) (a) Did the former Minister state that no funding would be provided for roads in New South Wales for the purposes of Bungendore HQJOC traffic; and (b) is this still the case.
- (10) (a) What surveys have been conducted by the department into the road crash statistics for both Bungendore HQJOC routes over recent years; and (b) what were the results for both crashes and fatalities.

2868 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) What is the status of the consideration being given to the class action against the department by the parents of recent suicide victims seeking act of grace payments.
- (2) How many parties form that class action.
- (3) Is the department dealing with this matter, or has it been allocated to a firm of lawyers on a panel of the Department of Defence; if the latter: (a) to which firm has the matter been allocated; and (b) to date, what has been the cost of those services.
- (4) Has advice been sought from the Attorney-General's Department; if so, on what particular matters.
- (5) When is it expected that a response will be made to the families through their legal representative.

2869 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer given to question on notice W1 (c) from an estimates hearing of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee on 1 June 2006 concerning the referrals made to psychiatric providers in Western Australia: For each of the years 2004, 2005 and 2006 to date, how many resulted in a discharge.

2870 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer given to question on notice W1 (o) asked during the 2006 Budget estimates hearing of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee:

- (1) Of the 28 cases listed under military justice, six of which concern sexual harassment: (a) how long has each of those cases been active; (b) at what stage are proceedings with respect to mediation, court hearings, or negotiation; (c) how many await applicant responses or input; and (d) how are the remaining 22 categorised.
- (2) Of the asbestos cases: (a) what is the age distribution of those from original date of lodgement; (b) how many cases are active with respect to court proceedings, mediation or negotiation; and (c) how many have already received disability compensation payments.
- (3) Of the F III claims, how many of those cases have already received a compensation payment under the act of grace scheme administered by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- (4) With respect to those cases listed under 'contract law': (a) who are the claimants; (b) where known, what are the sums sought; (c) how long has each case been active; and (d) what is the current stage of the process in each case.

2871 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer given to question on notice W1 (o) asked during the 2006 Budget estimates hearing of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee: (a) without identifying the claimant, of the eight cases listed for compensation under the heading of 'military justice': (i) what is the substance of each claim, and (ii) how long has each claim been active; and (b) of the eight cases listed under 'medical': (i) what is the nature of each claim for which payment is sought, and (ii) how long has each case been active.

Notice given 29 November 2006

2875 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to Table 5.3 on page 253 of the department's annual report for 2005-06: (a) of the 14 complaints of unprofessional and unethical conduct against the Service Police, what was the: (i) substance of the complaint in each case, and (ii) outcome of each investigation; (b) what was the outcome of the investigation into the 14 complaints on victimisation/threats/intimidation; (c) what were the outcomes of the 16 complaints of denial of natural justice; and (d) what disciplinary action was taken in each of the above investigations.

2877 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to Table 5.7 on page 259 of the department's annual report for 2005-06: (a) what was the categorisation of investigations undertaken by the Service Police in the 1222 cases on hand for the Army as at 30 June 2006; (b) what percentage in each category resulted in the offence being proven; and (c) what disciplinary measures resulted.

2878 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) With reference to Chart 5.10 and 5.11 on pages 268 and 269 of the department's annual report for 2005-06 relating to unacceptable behaviour: (a) why is the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) significantly over represented in comparison with the other services; and (b) why are complaints increasing in the Royal Australian Air Force.

- (2) With reference to the RAN, what is the categorisation of unacceptable behaviour complaints, as shown in Chart 5.10. on page 268 of the annual report.

2880 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) With reference to the department's advertising budget, what was the purpose of: (a) \$23 035 paid to Newspoll for polling; (b) \$10 000 paid to the Southern Football League; and (c) \$749 591 to Universal McCann for educational features.
- (2) For the 2005-06 financial year, what was the total sum paid to: (a) HMA Blaze; and (b) each other advertising agency by name.
- (3) What is the process by which: (a) advertising agents are chosen; and (b) work is distributed between them.

2881 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to Table 4.16 on page 243 of the department's annual report for 2005-06, is the dramatic downturn in incapacity cases reflected in Military Compensation Rehabilitation Scheme/Military Rehabilitation Compensation Scheme claims and payments; if so: (a) to what extent; and (b) with what savings.

2884 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many Australian Defence Force personnel have served overseas in: (a) East Timor; (b) Afghanistan; (c) Iraq; and (d) the Solomon Islands.
- (2) For each of those deployments: by percentage and disability category, how many personnel are now in receipt of, or have received, disability compensation; and of those: (a) how many are still serving; and (b) how many have been discharged as medically unfit.
- (3) How many from each deployment are now in receipt of: (a) a totally and permanently incapacitated pension; or (b) incapacity pay as being unable to work.
- (4) For all personnel who have served in the above deployments: (a) how many have entitlement to the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986* and the *Military Compensation and Rehabilitation Act 1989* combined; and (b) how many have access only to the *Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 2005*.

2887 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) For the 2006-07 financial year to date: (a) how many recruits have signed up with the Australian Defence Force, by service, from each overseas country; and (b) what amount has been spent on recruitment in each of the source countries.
- (2) (a) What evaluation has been conducted on the recruitment program developed to attract young people to the defence services; (b) what were the findings; (c) what was the final development cost; (d) how much has been spent since initial acquisition on further development; and (e) how much has been spent supporting the program.

2888 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Supporting Young Carers Project:

- (1) Has an evaluation been made of the effectiveness of this program; if so, can the report of the evaluation be provided.

- (2) Has an assessment been made of the extent to which the \$500 000 in annual funding is meeting demand; if so, can details be provided.
- (3) Is it the case that there is only one state in Australia that has been able to employ a full-time worker to implement the project.
- (4) Has the effectiveness of the project been compromised in other states where funding limits young carer workers to 1 or 2 days of paid work.
- (5) Given that the focus of the project is on young carers who are at risk of not completing secondary education or the vocational equivalent, has the Government assessed the needs of: (a) the 19-year to 25-year old age group; (b) the under 10-year old age group; and (c) those whose parents have a drug or alcohol dependency; if so, can details be provided.
- (6) Does the Government have data on the number of young carers who have already disengaged from education because of their caring role; if so, can that data be provided.
- (7) Does the Government consider it desirable to provide young carers with a support program that provides direct assessment plans to carers and their families that include counselling, information, respite, individual support such as case management and other programs tailored for young people; if so, what action is being taken to provide such a program.

2889 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) With reference to the \$1.45 million grant under the National Aboriginal Health Strategy (NAHS) program for the La Perouse community: (a) how much money will be spent on: (i) new housing stock, (ii) housing repairs, (iii) infrastructural works, including sewerage, (iv) the remuneration and expenses of the project manager, and (v) other items/services (please specify); and (b) has the department engaged a project manager to oversee the NAHS program; if so, on what date was the project manager appointed.
- (2) What actions/repairs have been taken since the department received the environmental impact study (EIS) on La Perouse including: (a) the date of the action/repair; and (b) the cost of the action/ repair.
- (3) Are the costs of the repairs, undertaken as a result of the EIS, being funded from the \$1.45 million grant or a separate pool of funding.
- (4) Has the department remedied all the environmental health issues that were raised in the EIS.
- (5) Does the department intend to offer another grant of NAHS funding to the La Perouse community in addition to the \$1.45 million; if so, when will that offer be made.
- (6) At the time that NAHS was transferred from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission to the department, was any amount of NAHS funding allocated for the La Perouse community; if so, what amount was allocated.
- (7) Has the La Perouse community ever been allocated \$4.5 million of NAHS funding in the time that the department has been responsible for the program.

2890 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) For each of the years 2005 and 2006 to date: (a) how many Indigenous children were/are enrolled in Multi-Functional Aboriginal Child-care Services (MACS); and (b) can a breakdown be provided of those figures by state and territory.
- (2) For each of the years 2005 and 2006 to date: (a) how many Indigenous children were/are enrolled in Aboriginal playgroups; and (b) can a breakdown be provided of those figures by state and territory.
- (3) For each of the financial years 2000-01 to 2006-07 to date, how much funding was allocated and expended to: (a) MACS; and (b) Aboriginal playgroups.
- (4) For each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, can a list be provided of the bodies, including their location, that have ceased receiving MACS or Aboriginal playgroup funding.
- (5) For each of the financial years 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, can a list be provided of the bodies, including their location, that have begun receiving MACS or Aboriginal playground funding.
- (6) Given that the 2004 census of child care services found that there were no MACS or Aboriginal playgroups in the Australian Capital Territory, was that still the case in: (a) 2005; and (b) 2006.
- (7) Can the Minister confirm that funding to MACS in the western Sydney suburbs has ceased; if so: (a) when did funding cease; and (b) what child care services are now available to Indigenous children in the western suburbs of Sydney.

2893 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the decision by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) on 25 November 2006 to suspend Transair's air operator's certificate under section 30DC of the *Civil Aviation Act 1988* on the grounds the operator had engaged, may be engaging and was likely to engage in conduct constituting, contributing to, or resulting in, a serious and imminent risk to air safety:

- (1) Is the Minister aware that a CASA spokesperson, Mr Peter Gibson, told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's *PM* program on 27 November 2006, that the information that prompted the suspension was 'new information, information which literally only came to light in the last few days. So in no way does it relate to the accident at Lockhart River'.
- (2) Is this statement accurate.

2894 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Human Services—With reference to the practice of providing, at the end of answers to questions on notice, the number of hours and the cost involved in producing the answer:

- (1) Why was this practice instituted.
- (2) Why did question on notice no. 1981 (Senate *Hansard*, p. 97) notice of which was given on 7 June 2006 and answered on 7 November 2006, allegedly cost approximately \$62.21 per hour to answer, while question on notice no. 2002 (Senate *Hansard*, p. 101) asked and answered on the same days allegedly cost \$32.94 per hour.
- (3) Why is there no consistency in the hourly rate and the cost of producing these answers.

- (4) What methodology is used to calculate the number of hours and the cost involved in producing answers to questions on notice.
- (5) Can a copy be supplied of the written instructions to staff detailing the methodology to be applied in determining the cost of producing answers to questions on notice; if not, why not.
- (6) Can an itemised account consistent with a methodology to justify the claimed costs in producing the answers to questions on notice 1981 and 2002 be provided; if not, why not.

Notice given 30 November 2006

2895 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the answer to question on notice no. 1881 (Senate *Hansard*, 6 November 2006, p. 230) concerning payment of the passenger movement charge (PMC) by persons who purchased tickets but did not travel due to the suspension of Air Paradise services in November 2005:

- (1) Has the Government made any effort to establish how many affected persons paid the PMC; if so, how many; if not, why not.
- (2) Has the Government made any effort to establish how many affected persons paid the PMC but have not received a refund; if not, why not.
- (3) Has the suspension of services caused the Government to review the regime for collecting and remitting the PMC; if so, what is the outcome of the review.
- (4) What is the nature of the authority that permits the collection of the PMC as part of the ticketed fare paid to an airline or ticketing agent.
- (5) What are the details of the formal arrangements under which airlines remit the PMC to the Government.
- (6) Under these formal arrangements, does the Government pay the administration costs incurred by airlines in collecting and remitting the PMC; if so, by year, what amounts have been paid to Air Paradise.
- (7) Is it the case that section 9 of the *Passenger Movement Charge Collection Act 1978* provides that a person is entitled to a refund of the PMC paid by the person if the departure in respect of which the PMC was paid does not take place.
- (8) Is the Commonwealth liable for the refund of the PMC paid by persons who purchased tickets to travel on Air Paradise but did not travel due to the suspension of services; if not, why not.

2896 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that passenger movement charge (PMC) revenue collected for the 2005-06 financial year was \$374.6 million.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that, based on the revenue projections provided in the answer to question on notice no. 1272 (Senate *Hansard*, 15 May 2003, p. 11329), for the 2005-06 financial year, actual revenue exceeded projected revenue by \$52.4 million.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that PMC revenue collected for the 2004-05 financial year was \$363.8 million.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that, based on the revenue projections provided in the answer to question on notice no. 1272, for the 2004-05 financial year, actual revenue exceeded projected revenue by \$51.3 million.

- (5) For the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06, why has actual PMC revenue exceeded estimated revenue by more than \$103 million.
- (6) For each of the financial years 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10, what is the total amount of PMC revenue estimated to be collected.

2902 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the article ‘Big Empty Sky’ in the *Manning-Great Lakes Extra* of 30 November 2006:

- (1) Has the suspension of Transair’s air operators certificate by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) resulted in the grounding of flights from Taree to Sydney provided by Big Sky Express.
- (2) Is the newspaper report that Transair is ‘the company from which Big Sky Express leases its Metroliner aircraft’ correct.
- (3) Can an outline be provided of the operational relationship between Big Sky Express and Transair.
- (4) Was CASA’s evidence to the estimates hearing of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on 13 February 2006 (Committee *Hansard*, p. 156) that Big Sky Express is ‘Transair’s operation in New South Wales’ correct.

Notice given 1 December 2006

2906 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of any contact between the department or the Australian Defence Force and the directors or staff of Knight Industries Pty Ltd.
- (2) Is the Minister aware of any attempts by the department to acquire the technology known as the Knight Direct Location System, also known as KDLS.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that the department has conducted testing on this technology or investigated it in any way.
- (4) Can the Minister confirm that a military police officer was with police when Mr Peter Cowell was arrested in November 2004.

Notice given 4 December 2006

2908 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the Minister’s statement in his second reading speech on the Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2006 (Senate *Hansard*, 30 November 2006, p. 34) that he has ‘consulted widely on the detail and philosophy of this bill, not only with conservation groups but also with industry’: (a) Which conservation and industry groups were consulted; and (b) on what dates.

Notice given 6 December 2006

2921 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—By medical speciality, does the Government have data on districts of workforce shortage; if so, is Sale in Victoria a district of workforce shortage for specialist paediatrics.

Notice given 7 December 2006

2925 **Senator O'Brien:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to accidents involving motor vehicles leased or owned by the department for the department's use or for use by other departments or agencies, for each of the financial years 2004-05 and 2005-06:

- (1) How many accidents occurred on: (a) official business; and (b) during private use.
- (2) How many people involved in these accidents who were injured and required hospitalisation were: (a) government employees, or (b) other persons.
- (3) How many people involved in these accidents who died as a result were: (a) government employees; or (b) other persons.
- (4) How many Comcare claims are: (a) finalised; and (b) pending.
- (5) How many staff days have been lost as a result of these motor vehicle accidents.
- (6) How many supplementary restraint systems were deployed in vehicles involved in these accidents.

2927 **Senator Carr:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads—With reference to the abolition of the Regional Flood Mitigation Program (RFMP):

- (1) On what date was the RFMP abolished and incorporated into the Natural Disaster Management Program (NDMP).
- (2) Can the Minister explain all the reasons behind this decision to close down a successful, long-term program that directly linked the Commonwealth Government with local government.
- (3) Can the Minister explain the benefit of abolishing the RFMP which was a program directed toward long-term preventative and planning measures and incorporating its funding within the NDMP which is a program that is necessarily involved with many more reactive activities.
- (4) Did the proposal to conclude the RFMP and incorporate it into the NDMP originate from a Commonwealth department or agency; if so, on what date; if not: (a) who made the suggestion; and (b) on what date.
- (5) (a) Which agencies and individuals were consulted as part of the decision to abolish the RFMP; and (b) can a list be provided of all Commonwealth, state and local government organisations and agencies that were consulted.
- (6) Were any other individuals or organisations consulted as part of this process; if so, can full details be provided.
- (7) Can full details be provided of how it is proposed to integrate the two different programs in practice.
- (8) Can the Minister guarantee that there will be no decline in funding for floodplain management as a result of the integration of these two programs.
- (9) For each of the financial years 2002-03 to 2007-08, can a comparative table be provided, showing the real and notional (for 2007-08) allocations in New South Wales for floodplain management under the RFMP and more recently the NDMP.
- (10) Can the Minister confirm that all projects currently under way, such as the Taminda Levee project at Tamworth, will be funded through to completion.

- (11) Can the Minister confirm that all such current projects will receive Commonwealth funding equivalent to what they would have received under the RFMP.
- (12) Since changes to the RFMP and the NDMP funding in 2000 that placed a greater financial burden on local government, how many councils have indicated that they could not afford their contributions.
- (13) Is this the principal reason for the adoption by the Council of Australian Governments of 'exceptional circumstances' for financial assistance under these programs.
- (14) What are the criteria for eligibility for assistance under these 'exceptional circumstances'.
- (15) What is the process by which these criteria have been developed.
- (16) Who was involved in or consulted as part of this process.
- (17) Who will determine when 'exceptional circumstances' apply.
- (18) (a) Does an acceptance of 'exceptional circumstances' mean that a standard of relief will apply to all such applications; or (b) will additional relief be provided on a case by case basis; if so, what measures have been put in place to ensure both transparency and equity in the application of 'exceptional circumstances'.

2928 **Senator Conroy:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Can the Minister explain why the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's (ABC) annual report for 2005-06 does not contain the graph, contained in previous annual reports, of the ABC's operational appropriation in real terms compared with the 1985-86 financial year.
- (2) With reference to a statement by the ABC at the supplementary budget estimates hearing of the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee on 31 October 2005 (Committee Hansard, p. 83) that at the time the ABC had \$51 million less in real terms to make programs than in the 1995-96 financial year: (a) can an update be provided on this figure; (b) how much funding will the ABC receive from the Commonwealth to make programs for the 2006-07 financial year; and (c) in real terms, what is the equivalent figure for the 1995-96 financial year.

2929 **Senator Webber:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) Did the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) ever place any restrictions, formally or informally, on Mr Murray Nugent or the companies he was involved with, specifically Reward Insurance Ltd and Australian Home Warranty Pty Ltd, on writing licensed builder home warranty insurance (LBHWI) from 1 July 1999 onwards.
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that Mr Nugent continued to write LBHWI through Rewards Insurance Ltd after 1 July 1999.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm that APRA has the power to disqualify an individual from holding roles within the Australian insurance industry; if so, why has APRA never moved to disqualify Mr Nugent from operating in the insurance industry.
- (4) If Reward Insurance Ltd was under the minimum capital requirements for insurance companies from 2001 onwards, why did not APRA shut the company down.

- (5) Can an outline be provided of all investigations, recommendations and directions undertaken and instigated into Reward Insurance Ltd since 1999 by: (a) APRA; and (b) the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC).
- (6) Can the Minister confirm that investigations by APRA and ASIC into Reward Insurance Ltd and Mr Nugent have stalled since May 2005; if so, why.

Notice given 8 December 2006

- 2930 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the proposed clearing of regrowth rainforest at Field 28, North West Point on Christmas Island for phosphate mining:
- (1) Does the proponent, Christmas Island Phosphates (CIP), have a permit to kill, injure, or relocate the Christmas Island pipistrelle bat; if so, can a copy be provided of this permit and any attendant conditions; if not, does the Minister intend to issue such a permit.
 - (2) If the Minister does not intend to issue such a permit, why not.
 - (3) Will the Minister use ministerial call-in powers to require CIP to refer this proposal under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*; if not, why not.
- 2931 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the proposed clearing of regrowth rainforest at Field 28, North West Point on Christmas Island for phosphate mining:
- (1) Is this activity exempt from the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* as a consequence of the leases being approved prior to the Act coming into force.
 - (2) Did Christmas Island Phosphates/Phosphate Resources Limited have to notify the Minister of their plans which will impact on the critically-endangered Christmas Island pipistrelle bat.
 - (3) Does the Minister have the power under the Act to declare this a controlled action; if so, does the Minister intend to declare this a controlled action; if not, why not.
- 2932 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the proposed clearing of regrowth rainforest at Field 28, North West Point on Christmas Island for phosphate mining:
- (1) Is the Minister aware that Phosphate Resources Ltd is about to remove an estimated 90 per cent of the foraging habitat of the remaining population of the Christmas Island pipistrelle bat, which was listed as critically-endangered on the same day as the orange bellied parrot.
 - (2) Can the Minister identify what financial resources have been allocated to recovery efforts for the: (a) orange-bellied parrot; and (b) pipistrelle bat.
- 2933 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the proposed clearing of regrowth rainforest at Field 28, North West Point on Christmas Island for phosphate mining:

- (1) Does the proposed mining: (a) impact on the recovery plan for the Christmas Island pipistrelle bat; if not, why not; and (b) contravene the recovery plan for the Christmas Island pipistrelle bat; if not, why not.
 - (2) Can a map be provided of the proposed mining area.
 - (3) Has Parks Australia formally approved mining in this area in the past; if so, can a copy be provided of the relevant approval documents, including any conditions attached to the approval.
 - (4) Does this approval contravene the recovery plan; if not, why not.
- 2934 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the proposed clearing of regrowth rainforest at Field 28, North West Point on Christmas Island for phosphate mining:
- (1) Did Christmas Island Phosphates/Phosphate Resources Ltd (PRL) notify the Minister of their plans which will impact on the Christmas Island pipistrelle bat; if so, what action did the Minister take on receiving this notification; if not, what action will be taken against PRL.
 - (2) Will the Minister be declaring this area as critical habitat.
 - (3) What procedures apply when listing of a threatened species postdates the granting of a lease or some other right.
- 2935 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the Royal Australian Air Force weapons training that took place over the defence training area at Lancelin, Western Australia, on or about 21 November to 23 November 2006, and concerns raised by residents in the area about the unusual intensity and scale of the bombing during this training session:
- (1) (a) What was the nature of the munitions used during this training; and (b) were any of these munitions: (i) used for the first time during this training session, and (ii) likely to have been specifically responsible for the reported elevated levels of noise and vibration reported by residents.
 - (2) Is the training area approved for laser guided bombs.
 - (3) What is the designation of airspace over the Ocean Farm subdivision, Nilgen.
 - (4) Did the Australian Defence Force or relevant agencies receive any complaints from residents during or after this training session; if so: (a) how many complaints; and (b) what was the nature of the complaints.
- 2936 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to inspections of occupational health and safety (OHS) in Commonwealth workplaces and workers covered under Commonwealth agreements:
- (1) For each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, by state and territory, what was the number of OHS: (a) inspections; (b) investigations; (c) fines; and (d) prosecutions.
 - (2) What administrative arrangements are currently in place for OHS regulation in Commonwealth workplaces and workers covered under Commonwealth agreements.

2937 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the presentation by the Minister of a number of Jobs Career Future awards for excellence in Indigenous job services:

- (1) Have any of the following successful organisations ceased receiving, or will they cease to receive, Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) funding as a result of the announcement by the Minister on 6 November 2006 to shut down all CDEPs in urban or major regional areas:
 - (a) Wagga Wagga CDEP, trading as Gannambarra Enterprises, which received the developing business opportunities award;
 - (b) Shoalhaven Community Development Aboriginal Corporation, trading as Koori Habitat, Nowra in New South Wales, which received the gaining employment for CDEP/Indigenous Employment Centres participants award;
 - (c) Ngunnawal Aboriginal Corporation, which received the gaining employment or establishing a commercially viable business award;
 - (d) Kalano Community Association Inc., which received the special partnerships award; and
 - (e) Central Queensland Indigenous Development, which received the outstanding achievement in commercial benefit award.
- (2) Did any of these successful organisations know that they would have their CDEP funding cut in the week following the awards.
- (3) On what date did/will the CDEP funding for the above organisations cease.
- (4) Will the above organisations be able to continue all of their successful activities using the Structured Training and Employment Projects funds as provided under the new arrangements.

2938 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the cessation of Community Development Employment Project (CDEP) funding for organisations in urban and major regional cities, as announced by the Minister on 6 November 2006:

- (1) Can a list be provided of the names of the organisations that will cease receiving CDEP funding as a result of this announcement.
- (2) When will CDEP funding for those organisations cease.
- (3) For the 2006-07 financial year, how much CDEP funding, including both operational and activities funding, was each organisation allocated.
- (4) For the 2006-07 financial year, what is the total CDEP funding for those organisations.
- (5) What will the funding be used for instead.
- (6) Given that the announcement also provided that these organisations would have the opportunity to apply to be a Structured Training and Employment Projects (STEP) brokerage service, will all the funding that is saved through the reduction of CDEP be spent on the expansion of STEP.
- (7) What functions of CDEP will a STEP brokerage service not carry out.

2940 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—With reference to the Minister's announcement on 12 September 2006 that the Government was reconsidering the Northern Territory permit system that applies to Aboriginal land and the discussion paper released by the Minister in early October 2006, which outlined several proposals for change to the permit system:

- (1) On what date: (a) did the Minister first request that the department investigate options for reform to the permit system; (b) was the Minister first briefed on the options for reform to the permit system; (c) did the Minister first request that the department prepare the discussion paper; (d) did the Minister see the first draft of the discussion paper; and (e) was the discussion paper first publicly released.
- (2) How many departmental staff worked on the discussion paper.
- (3) What documented research, evidence or consultations did the discussion paper draw on.
- (4) Were any consultants engaged in the research for, or preparation of, the discussion paper; if so: (a) how long was the consultation period; and (b) what was the total cost of the consultancy.
- (5) (a) To date, how many submissions have been received; and (b) will these submissions be made publicly available.

2941 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference the International Clinical Trials Registry Platform of the World Health Organisation (WHO):

- (1) When will the Government act on the recommendation made by the WHO in May 2006 that all medical studies that test treatments on humans, including the earliest studies, whether they involve patients or healthy volunteers, are registered at the beginning of the study with full disclosure of 20 key standardised points.
- (2) If the Government does not intend to mandate registration, how does it intend to : (a) ensure transparency in medical research; and (b) fulfil ethical responsibilities to patients and study participants.
- (3) Is the Government aware that the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, representing 11 prestigious medical journals, has instituted a policy whereby a scientific paper on clinical trial results cannot be published unless the trial has been recorded in a publicly-accessible registry at the trial's outset.

Notice given 12 December 2006

2942 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the Minister's statement on 7 December 2006 that item 189 of the Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2006 will not apply to the Gunns Ltd owned pulp mill because the Minister has already made a controlled action decision in relation to the pulp mill (Senate *Hansard*, 7 December 2006, p. 136):

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that item 189: (a) does not apply to the Gunns pulp mill, given that the Minister has not yet made a decision to approve or refuse to approve the taking of the action (namely Gunns pulp mill); and (b) will apply to future developments such as pulp mills, wood-fired power stations and charcoal plants.
- (2) Are the proponents of the Gunns pulp mill required, under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, to assess the impacts on listed threatened species of forestry operations necessary to supply wood for the pulp mill.

Notice given 14 December 2006

2943 **Senator Parry:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—

- (1) Does question on notice no. 2383, which has been on the Senate Notice Paper since 15 August 2006, in large part inquire whether certain documents were: (a) discoverable; and (b) discovered by the Commonwealth for the 1987 trial of *Ryker (Faulkner) vs The Commonwealth and Flint*.
- (2) Did legal advice in 2002 concerning this case from Mr Henry Burmeister, Chief General Counsel, Australian Government Solicitor's Office to the Attorney-General deal with the opinions by Mr Clarence Stevens, QC on this case.
- (3) Is it a fact that the opinions of Mr Stevens, QC turned on the alleged non-discovery by the Commonwealth of these same documents; if so, were not these same questions examined by Mr Burmeister in preparing his advice.
- (4) When will an answer be provided to question on notice no. 2383.

Notice given 15 December 2006

2946 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) In which year, or over which years, did Australia decommission its stockpile of cluster munitions.
- (2) If the decommissioning of Australia's stockpile of cluster munitions took place during the term of the Howard Government, what was the motivation behind the decommissioning.
- (3) Why has not the Government supported Norway's call for an international treaty to ban cluster munitions.
- (4) Will the Government attend a meeting to be convened by Norway in Oslo early in 2007 for the purpose of working towards an international treaty to ban cluster munitions.
- (5) Which types of cluster munitions does the Government label: (a) legal; (b) discriminating; and (c) reliable.
- (6) What types of cluster munitions does the Government label illegal under international humanitarian law.
- (7) In what circumstances can a government legitimately use cluster munitions.
- (8) What involvement, if any, has Australia had in the use of cluster munitions in: (a) Afghanistan; and (b) Iraq.

Notice given 18 December 2006

2949 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister for Ageing—With reference to Commonwealth funded residential aged care facilities which failed to meet the 1999 Certification Assessment Instrument by 31 December 2005, as at 18 December 2006, how many facilities: (a) have received technical advice from the department; (b) have had a review conducted of their suitability to be certified by the department; and (c) are being closely monitored by the department for their regulatory compliance and demonstration of continuous improvement under the Aged Care Accreditation Standards.

Notice given 20 December 2006

2953 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister for Justice and Customs—With reference to the finding of the Federal Court of Australia (FCA) in *Eberle vs Chief Executive Officer of Customs* (N 2504 of 2003), where the FCA ordered that the appeal be upheld and that the decision of the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) given on 21 November 2003 be set aside:

- (1) Was an error made by the AAT in its original finding; if so, what was the error.
- (2) What error, if any, was made by the Australian Customs Service.

Notice given 22 December 2006

2954 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation 2007 taskforce on travel expenses:

- (1) Of the \$683 000 spent by the taskforce on travel between July 2005 and May 2006, how much was spent on: (a) domestic travel; and (b) international travel.
- (2) With reference to the spending on international travel in paragraph (1): (a) which countries were visited and on how many occasions; (b) how many staff travelled on each trip; and (c) what was the class of air travel.
- (3) Of the \$524 000 spent by the taskforce on travel between June 2006 and October 2006 (inclusive), how much of this total was spent on: (a) domestic travel; and (b) international travel.
- (4) With reference to the spending on international travel in paragraph (3): (a) which countries were visited and on how many occasions; (b) how many staff travelled on each trip; and (c) what was the class of air travel.
- (5) From November 2006 to the time the taskforce is disbanded, what is the budget of the taskforce for: (a) domestic travel; and (b) international travel.

2955 **Senator Evans:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to funding for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC):

- (1) How many staff of the department are working on preparations for APEC 2007.
- (2) How much was spent on travel (including all transport, accommodation, food and beverages, per diem and other costs) by staff of the department working on preparations for APEC 2007 for:
 - (a) domestic travel for the period up to and including May 2006;
 - (b) international travel for the period up to and including May 2006, including a breakdown of: (i) international destinations visited, (ii) the number of trips to each destination, and (iii) the class of travel;
 - (c) domestic travel for the period from 1 June 2006 to 31 October 2006; and
 - (d) international travel for the period from 1 June 2006 to 31 October 2006 including a breakdown of: (i) international destinations visited, (ii) the number of trips to each destination, and (iii) the class of travel.

Notice given 11 January 2007

- 2958 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—When did the Prime Minister last meet Mr Bruce Hales, the leader of the Exclusive Brethren.

Notice given 12 January 2007

- 2959 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the decision by the President of the United States of America (US), George W Bush, to send an additional 21 500 troops to Iraq and the Prime Minister's public response on 11 January 2006:

- (1) To what was the Prime Minister referring when he said that Australia would support the move.
- (2) What evidence did Mr Bush provide to the Prime Minister that indicated that these additional troops would achieve victory in the fight against terrorism.
- (3) What were the consequences for the stability of the Middle East to which the Prime Minister was referring.
- (4) Can the Prime Minister guarantee that there will be no impact on Australian troops as a result of this escalation in the deployment of US Armed Forces.
- (5) Why did the Prime Minister not rule out sending more Australian forces to Iraq.
- (6) What are the conditions necessary for a decision to be made to withdraw Australian troops from Iraq.

Notice given 15 January 2007

- 2960 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Why did the Prime Minister's recent announcement of rebates for bone mineral density scans exclude rebates for people under the age of 70 when osteoporosis typically occurs in women much earlier, at about the time of menopause.
- (2) What preventive measures has the Government adopted for osteoporosis, given that it is largely preventable through weight bearing exercise and calcium supplements.
- (3) (a) Why did the Government take calcium off the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme for osteoporosis; and (b) was this against the advice of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee.
- (4) Has the Government considered providing blood vitamin D testing given the evidence that the high rate of hip fractures in old people is due to deficiencies in calcium and vitamin D.
- (5) Does the Government accept that people in wheelchairs are unable to do weight bearing exercise and warrant earlier access to bone mineral density scans; if so, will rebates be provided for such people.
- (6) What was the rationale for limiting the Medicare rebate on bone mineral density scans at minimum intervals of 2 years.

2963 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the evidentiary provisions which are to apply in the forthcoming trial of Mr David Hicks under the newly constituted Military Commissions Act (2006) of the United States of America's (US):

- (1) Does the Attorney-General understand that Mr Hicks will face charges before the newly constituted Military Commission that are similar to those made in June 2004.
- (2) Can the Attorney-General confirm that, under the Military Commissions Act, statements made by Mr Hicks and obtained by cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment before 30 December 2005 will not be automatically excluded from evidence by the commission; if so, does the Attorney-General consider that such evidence is in accordance with Article 16 of the United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, to which both the US and Australia are party; if not, why not.
- (3) What does the Attorney-General understand to be the reason for this time-related qualification on admissible evidence, given that the decision by the US Supreme Court in *Hamdan vs Rumsfeld* in June 2006, determined that presidential appointments of military commissions were illegal and that lawfully appointed commissions would have needed to comply with common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions.
- (4) Can the Attorney-General confirm that if Mr Hicks were to have been charged before a US court-martial such evidence would be inadmissible.
- (5) Has the Australian Government made representation to the US Government requesting: (a) that Mr Hicks be tried by court martial; if not, why not; and (b) through regulation or instruction, that no statement by Mr Hicks obtained by cruel, inhuman or degrading conduct, whether before or after 30 December 2005, will be admissible in the proposed commission; if not, why not.

Notice given 17 January 2007

2964 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) With reference to data contained in the October 2006 report, *Fair Dental Care for Low Income Earners*, by the Australian Council of Social Service (ACOSS), does the Government agree that:
 - (a) Australians most likely to be in pain and unable to access dental treatment are single parents, people on low incomes, people living in nursing homes, older people, people living in rural and remote areas and Indigenous people;
 - (b) people with poor dental health have difficulty eating and speaking and often suffer avoidable health problems such as tooth loss or gum disease;
 - (c) approximately 500 000 people are on waiting lists around Australia for general dental care from public dental services with an average waiting time of 27 months;
 - (d) 40 per cent of Australians cannot access dental care when they need it;
 - (e) there will be a national shortage of around 1 500 dental staff by 2010;

- (f) consumers contributed nearly \$3.4 billion or 67 per cent of funding for dental services in the 2004-05 financial year, compared with only \$953 million from the Government (19 per cent) and \$701 million from private health insurance funds (14 per cent);
 - (g) since 1999, there has been a 45 per cent increase in the price of basic dental services;
 - (h) 21 per cent of adults who are not eligible for public dental care avoided or delayed treatment because of the cost of basic dental care; and
 - (i) in 2002, over a quarter of Australian adults experienced painful aching because of problems with their teeth, mouth or dentures and reported behaviour such as avoiding certain foods to cope.
- (2) Does the Government consider this situation satisfactory in health policy terms; if not, what efforts are being made at the federal and state government level to overcome these problems.
 - (3) Has the Government: (a) considered the October 2006 proposal by ACOSS and the Australian Dental Association for the Commonwealth to provide people on concession cards with free basic costs of dental care every 2 years at an estimated cost of \$160 million in the first year, rising to \$800 million in the fifth year; and (b) had discussions with the states with regard to this proposal whereby Commonwealth funding could be contingent on the states making satisfactory progress on building services and meeting minimum standards in children's dental services, preventive checks and emergency dental services; if not, why not.

2966 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Is it the case that: (a) not all Australian ex-servicewomen who enlisted during World War II are entitled to a gold card but that Australian ex-servicemen are so entitled; if so, when will this anomalous and discriminatory situation be rectified; and (b) Australian ex-servicewomen have been afforded less recognition for their wartime contribution than their male counterparts; if so, when will this imbalance be rectified.
- (2) Does the Government agree that Australian servicewomen generally receive less pay per day than their male counterparts, despite being subjected to the same rules and regulations.

Notice given 23 January 2007

2967 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation—
With reference to the Minister's announcement on 4 December 2006 that Gunns Limited will be paid \$2.6 million to assist in the development of a pulp mill feasibility study and preliminary engineering works:

- (1) How much of the \$2.6 million will go towards: (a) funding the study; and (b) the preliminary engineering works.
- (2) Has the study been completed; if not, when will the study be completed.
- (3) When will the study be made available to the public.
- (4) What is involved in the preliminary engineering works.
- (5) Have the preliminary engineering works begun; if not, when will they commence.

- (6) Why has the Minister agreed to provide funding for preliminary engineering works for the pulp mill when the construction of the pulp mill has not been approved.
- (7) Will the Minister request that the funding for the preliminary engineering works be re-funded if the pulp mill is not approved; if not, why not.

2968 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that participants at the Maralinga nuclear tests must independently prove that they were at the tests in order to be eligible for the new white cards; if so, why is this the case given that the Administrative Appeals Tribunal has ruled that the published document of the preliminary nominal roll was sufficient evidence that they were present.
- (2) Does the Government now dispute the fact that those on the roll were present at the tests; if so, on what basis.
- (3) If the Government has taken the position that the *Epidemiology Studies (Confidentiality) Act 1981* restricts the use of the roll for such purposes, is it the case that this restriction does not apply once the relevant study is completed.
- (4) To date, how many: (a) veterans have been issued with white cards; and (b) applications have been made for white cards.
- (5) What is the average length of time taken to process applications.
- (6) Are veterans who were on ships providing services to the tests entitled to white cards; if not, why not.
- (7) How many veterans received: (a) an act of grace compensation; and (b) Comcare compensation, for leukaemia prior to the closure of those schemes.
- (8) Given the number of veterans found in the study to have leukaemia, is the Government considering reinstating these schemes; if not, why not.

Notice given 25 January 2007

2969 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm reports that new research by the Harvard School of Public Health has shown that in the period from 1998 to 2005, tobacco companies in the United States of America increased the level of addictive nicotine in their cigarettes by 11 per cent.
- (2) Has the level of addictive nicotine in cigarettes in Australia increased in a similar manner; if so, what has the Government done to: (a) alert the public to increased nicotine in cigarettes; and (b) control the level of nicotine in cigarettes.

2970 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to the approval given by the Therapeutic Goods Administration in 2005 for the establishment of human milk banks and the fact that 12 months later, no milk banks had commenced operating:

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the substantial benefit to the health of premature babies of providing human milk banks, as recommended by the World Health Organisation and the United Nations Children's Fund.

- (2) Given that there are 11 human milk banks already operating in North America and the United Kingdom and 300 in Brazil, is the Government considering developing a program for the establishment of such banks in all Australian states; if so, at what stage is this process; if not, why not.
- (3) Is the Minister aware that the John Flynn Private Hospital on the Gold Coast, Queensland is ready to operate, but needs \$350 000 per year in funding for this to be possible.
- (4) What does the Government consider to be appropriate funding sources for the establishment of human milk banks.

Notice given 29 January 2007

2971 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the Government's water policy—

- (1) In Australia, is the water that falls on a person's roof the property of that person or the property of government.
- (2) If it is not the property of the individual person, under what legislation in Australia are rights to water that falls on a person's roof vested in governments, as claimed under clause 2 of the National Water Initiative (NWI) Agreement.
- (3) Under clause 2 of the NWI Agreement, can governments, at their discretion, set entitlement regimes for the use of water that falls on a person's roof in Australia; if so, under what circumstances would state or federal governments issue a specific entitlement to persons who capture water from their roof and what would that entitlement be.
- (4) What magnitude of rainwater collected from roofs would be sufficient to warrant the issuing of specific entitlements to use this class of water as has been proposed by the National Water Commission.
- (5) Does the Government rule out setting an entitlement regime for persons to use water collected from roofs in rainwater tanks; if so, will the Federal Government ask the state governments to amend the NWI Agreement to make clear that no rights to water that falls on a person's roof are vested in governments.
- (6) Is it correct that section 7 of the Victorian *Water Act 1989* states, 'The Crown has the right to the use, flow and control of all water in a waterway and all groundwater'; if so, is it the Commonwealth's view that, for the purposes of the NWI, water from a person's roof comes under this definition.
- (7) Is it correct that section 392 of the New South Wales *Water Management Act 2000* states, 'the rights to the control, use and flow of ... all water occurring naturally on or below the surface of the ground, are the **State's water rights**'; if so, does water from a person's roof come under this definition.
- (8) Is it correct that section 19 of the Queensland *Water Act 2000* states, 'All rights to the use, flow and control of all water in Queensland are vested in the State', where: (a) 'water means... (a) water in a watercourse, lake or spring; (b) underground water; (c) overland flow water; (d) water that has been collected in a dam'; and (b) '*Overland flow water* does not include ... water collected from roofs for rainwater tanks'; if so, does water from a person's roof come under this definition.

- (9) Is it correct that section 124 of the South Australian *Natural Resources Management Act 2004* states, 'the occupier of land is entitled to take surface water from the land for any purpose' and does surface water mean 'water flowing over land'.
- (10) Is surface water in South Australia: (a) water that is not captured and controlled; and (b) no-one's property.
- (11) Can water that falls on a person's roof in South Australia be surface water.

2972 **Senator Conroy:** To ask the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—

- (1) Why has the investigation by the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) of Telstra's recent complaint about stories on the *Today Tonight* program taken more than 12 months to resolve.
- (2) Is it acceptable that complaints about breaches of the commercial television code of conduct should take this long to reach a conclusion.
- (3) Since the ACMA was established, what has been the average length of time for the authority to resolve complaints concerning the commercial television code of conduct.
- (4) Is the Government or the ACMA taking steps to accelerate the resolution of complaints under codes of conduct registered with the ACMA.
- (5) Will the Government commit to ensuring that all complaints are resolved within 3 months.

Notice given 1 February 2007

2973 **Senator McLucas:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—With reference to the investigation by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) of the fatal crash of the aircraft VH-TFU at Lockhart River in May 2005: Was the information available to the ATSB, which formed the basis for the ATSB's decision to refer Transair Pty Ltd to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions: (a) available from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority's (CASA) audit and monitoring processes; and (b) acted upon by CASA.

2974 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Following the death of Private Jake Kovco in Baghdad on 21 April 2006, was an instruction given to the Combined Joint Task Force (CJTF) in Baghdad by the Special Investigation Branch that the body was not to be moved in advance of the arrival of the investigating team so as to protect vital forensic evidence, and was that order the subject of a phone call to Major Pemberton of the Special Investigation Branch at 0200 hours on Sunday, 23 April 2006 from a senior officer at the CJTF in Baghdad challenging the order on the basis of a counter order to remove the body to Australia as soon as possible, as referred to in evidence given to the Board of Inquiry (BOI) (Transcript of Proceedings, 16 August 2006, p. 1122).
- (2) Was a second phone call also made to Major Pemberton from the Chief of Staff at the CJTF in Baghdad 3 hours later, also challenging the order that the body not be removed, and was reference made to 'risk managing' the removal of the body from Baghdad so that it could be returned home to Australia as soon as possible; if so: (a) did that 'risk management' include the over ruling of Major Pemberton; and (b) who gave that new order.

- (3) Did Major Pemberton deny in evidence (Transcript of Proceedings, 16 August 2006, p. 1123) that he had ever given approval for the removal of the body, contrary to his earlier order; if so: (a) why was he misrepresented in evidence; (b) why was his order countermanded; and (c) on whose instruction.
- (4) As referred to on page 1157 (Transcript of Proceedings, 16 August 2006), is it a fact that the 'investigative protocols, or the way we do business, our procedures', referring to the Military Police, were 'overtaken by competing priorities', were these 'priorities' the urgent repatriation of Private Kovco to Australia within 4 days; if so, what effect did that decision have on the quality of the investigation.
- (5) Can the Minister confirm the evidence on page 1157 (Transcript of Proceedings, 16 August 2006) that this type of conflict by which investigations are compromised by competing priorities is commonplace; if so, what action has been taken to address this shortcoming.
- (6) Did Major Pemberton as officer in charge of the Special Investigations Branch, also order that Private Kovco's pistol was not to be released to 'anybody until we were given clarification as to what was occurring' and was he again overruled by the CJTF with the gun being passed to the New South Wales police.
- (7) (a) Why was the immediate travel to Baghdad on 22 April 2006 by the Military Police flyaway team suspended; and (b) on whose instruction.
- (8) When was it decided that the New South Wales Police Homicide Branch should investigate the death of Private Kovco, and were the reasons for that due to the lack of relevant ballistic and forensic skills on the part of the Military Police.
- (9) (a) When were the Military Police, investigating the incident scene in Baghdad, informed that the New South Wales Police were also involved; and (b) was that after the incident scene had been completely cleaned and all traces of evidence destroyed.
- (10) (a) On what date were the Military Police first able to interview witnesses to the incident and why did it take so long; (b) when did the New South Wales Police interview those same witnesses; and (c) which witnesses were not interviewed by either of the investigating police and why not.
- (11) (a) Were highly critical comments made on the resourcing and capacity of the Military Police, as evident in the transcript of the BOI, including lack of staff, equipment and training; if so, how is this being address; and (b) does the Military Police have a poor reputation and therefore lack the confidence of senior command.
- (12) Does the Minister accept the evidence given at pages 1350 and 1351 of the BOI transcript (23 August 2006) iterating the failures of the investigation, as follows:

The lack of investigative support on the ground at the time of the incident was the starting point for a number of significant and avoidable situations. Those being the loss of potential forensic evidence from the deceased and witnesses, uncontrolled access to the incident site and removing of evidence, the moving of PTE Kovco after direction was given not for him to be moved which eventually lead (sic) to his failed repatriation to Australia, witnesses not being in location at the time the investigators arrived, change of jurisdiction of the coroner for where the deceased was to

be returned to, the interference that came from certain elements within the command structure and because we had no investigative support on the ground, no liaison being effective with coalition forces prior who may have been able to assist us on the ground;

if so, what action has been taken within the Australian Defence Force to specifically address these shortcomings and what directions have been altered with respect to future incidents.

2975 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—

- (1) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to a media item published in the *Australian* of 5 December 2006 concerning a request from the family of the late Private Kovco for a review of the Board of Inquiry (BOI) findings on the death of Private Kovco; if so, has the Minister agreed to such a review; if not, why not.
- (2) For the past decade: (a) in how many cases have such reviews of BOI findings been conducted; and (b) in each case: (i) by whom, and (ii) with what outcome.
- (3) Can the Minister confirm the assertion in the media article referred to that Group Captain Cook, Chairman of the BOI, had stated that his findings had been sent for such review, and that no such review had been undertaken; if so: (a) what is the reason for that decision; and (b) does that mean that the department is satisfied that the BOI findings reflect the evidence given to the Inquiry.
- (4) In his answers to the media on 7 July 2006, did the Chief of the Defence Force state that 'had we been successful the first time around we would have got Private Kovco's body back in four days'; if so, would such timing have coincided with ANZAC Day in Australia.
- (5) Did Brigadier Cosson state at paragraph 8 of her report, in relation to the mix-up of caskets that 'to accelerate the repatriation process within four days of his death is too short a timeframe within which to properly risk manage and execute a highly sensitive situation'; if so: (a) why was the process accelerated; and (b) on whose instruction.
- (6) Did Mrs Shelley Kovco, the widow of the deceased, state to the BOI on 19 September 2006 (Transcript of Proceedings, p. 1803) that the haste of repatriation was not at her request and that not once did she demand that her husband be brought home quickly; if so, does this statement rebut the suggestion that the hasty repatriation was undertaken for the sake of the grieving family.
- (7) Did Mrs Kovco also state that it was her belief that the hasty repatriation was that 'it would look good to have him back in the country on ANZAC Day'; if so: (a) has that claim been confirmed or denied to her directly; and (b) by whom.
- (8) In exhibit 164, was a statement made by Brigadier Symon that on 22 April 2006 the Chief of Army gave him 'guidance' that the body was to be brought home 'as quickly as I could'; if so, can the Chief of Army verify that 'guidance'.
- (9) Further in evidence at page 1402 (Transcript of Proceedings, 24 August 2006), did Brigadier Symon agree that getting the body of Private Kovco repatriated by ANZAC Day 'was a factor' in the repatriation of the body; if so, was it also a factor in removing the body from Baghdad prior to examination by the Special Investigation Branch officers.

- (10) At page 858 of the transcript of evidence (4 August 2006) did Soldier 34, as he was titled, agree that the pressure for hasty repatriation came from the chain of command; if so, what orders or instructions were extant at the time which might have given rise to what seems to be a commonly held perception, or was it a figment of Soldier 34's imagination.
- (11) At page 1135 of the transcript of evidence (16 August 2006) did counsel for Mrs Kovco refer to an affidavit by Lt Colonel Pearce, the Commanding Officer of the 1st Military Police Battalion to the effect that 'HQJTF ... had determined that the priority was for the return of the body by ANZAC Day and that they would risk manage the investigation'; if so: (a) can it also be confirmed that in evidence Lt Colonel Pearce did not resile from that evidence, apart from being unclear as to who provided it to her, including at page 1168; (b) have there been any subsequent investigations as to the source of the advice; (c) can the contents of that affidavit be confirmed; and (d) has that evidence been subsequently revised or retracted.
- (12) At page 1139 of the transcript of evidence (16 August 2006) did Major Pemberton agree with the proposition by counsel that 'there was also ... an understanding of political pressure to bring PTE Kovco home regardless of the lesson learned' from a previous death, namely the 'need to view the body as part of the incident scene', and did he clarify that political pressure as coming from the chain of command.
- (13) (a) Between the dates of 21 April and 25 April 2006 how many e-mail messages to and from the Chief of the Defence Force, the Chief of Army, Brigadier Symons, Brigadier Hallinan, Wing Commander Guerrin and Major Pemberton, as well as file notes and minutes on file, contained reference to the need to get Private Kovco's body back to Australia by 25 April 2006; and (b) how many of those included circulation to the Minister's office.

Notice given 5 February 2007

2976 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—

- (1) Has the Government, through the National Water Commission (NWC), received correspondence from BHP Billiton (BHP) concerning government funding for a desalination plant or related pipeline infrastructure proposed to be constructed to support the expansion of the Olympic Dam Mine in South Australia; if so, can details be provided of the correspondence received, including e-mails and records of telephone conversations, and all replies.
- (2) Has the Government, through the NWC or any other government agency, received an application from BHP for grants under any government program, including the Australian Government Water Fund; if so, can details be provided of the correspondence received, including e-mails and records of telephone conversations, and all replies.
- (3) What is the Government's position on: (a) desalination plants; and (b) providing public funding to the mining industry for desalination plants.
- (4) If the Government receives an application from BHP for Commonwealth funding to construct a desalination plant, will the Government commit to undertake an assessment of the impact on greenhouse gas emissions of the plant incorporating construction through to operation.

- (5) Does the Prime Minister's statement at the National Press Club on 25 January 2007 on the impact of the proposed expansion of the Olympic Dam Mine on water usage in the Murray-Darling Basin, that 'everyone would have to do their bit for conservation' indicate that the Government is favourably disposed towards supporting a desalination plant.

2977 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the drug, Tysabri, was: (a) approved for use in the treatment of multiple sclerosis; and (b) registered for use in Australia in 2006.
- (2) Has an application been made for Tysabri to be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme; if so, when.

Notice given 6 February 2007

2978 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to the answer to question no. W 23 taken on notice at the supplementary estimates hearing of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee in November 2006: Has the Inspector-General conducted any investigations into professional behaviour within the Legal Branch of the Defence Material Organisation; if so: (a) what were the findings; and (b) what action was taken.

2979 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—Further to question on notice no. 2828 that refers to the issuing of conscientious objection certificates to employers:

- (1) Have there been any certificates issued to employers in states other than Victoria.
- (2) To which businesses in Victoria have certificates been issued.

2980 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for Community Services—

- (1) Is it correct that the department intends to: (a) cease funding self-advocacy, citizen advocacy and systems (group) advocacy under the National Disability Advocacy Program (NDAP); and (b) focus instead only on individual advocacy as mentioned in the departmental report, *Enhancing the National Disability Advocacy Program* (consultation paper 2006); if so, what is the legislative basis for this new program.
- (2) Does the Minister agree that: (a) this change is inconsistent with the department's responsibilities under the *Disability Services Act 1986*; and (b) the department should have sought the approval of Parliament to make a change that is so clearly inconsistent with its responsibilities under the *Disability Services Act 1986*.
- (3) Since 1996, what, if any, new funds have been appropriated for the NDAP.
- (4) For each of the years since 1986, can a copy of the budget appropriations be provided for the NDAP.
- (5) What percentage of program growth does this represent.
- (6) Since 1996, have any funding decreases, including any efficiency savings, been made to the NDAP; if so: (a) what is the cumulative funding saved as a result of these measures; and (b) from where has the funding saved as a result of the measures been appropriated.

- (7) Are the department's current initiatives for the NDAP based on the evaluation of the program conducted by Social Options Australia (SOA) in July 2006; if so, does the department endorse the methodology, findings and recommendations of this evaluation.
- (8) (a) Does the department have any concerns about the evaluation report produced by the SOA after conducting the evaluation in paragraph (7) ; if so, what are those concerns; (b) can the Minister provide copies of any departmental responses to the evaluation report; (c) does the department consider that the evaluation report provides a suitable basis for proposed changes to the NDAP; and (d) does the Minister agree that the evaluation report is highly critical of advocacy services funded under the NDAP; if so, does the department consider that this evaluation report is a balanced and considered portrayal of the achievements of the NDAP.
- (9) What is the current level of unmet demand for advocacy assistance to persons with disabilities in Australia.
- (10) (a) Since 1996, what efforts, has the department engaged in to estimate the unmet demand for advocacy services in Australia; and (b) can the Minister provide a copies of any such estimates.
- (11) Does the department agree that in this respect it has failed in its administrative responsibility for the NDAP.
- (12) Is it the case that the department proposes to cease to fund, under the NDAP, organisations focused on systems advocacy as proposed in the department's consultation paper.
- (13) Does the department believe that systemic discrimination, abuse and neglect perpetrated on persons with disabilities have been eradicated from Australian life; if so: (a) how has this assessment been made; and (b) what conclusions have been drawn; if not, why is the department dismantling a service system established to challenge such discrimination, abuse and neglect.
- (14) What programs does the department employ to address structural discrimination, abuse and neglect of people with disabilities at the: (a) local; (b) regional; and (c) state levels.
- (15) In determining the geographic spread and mix of advocacy service types available to persons with disabilities, has the department taken into account advocacy for persons with disabilities funded by state and territory governments; if so, where and how is this reflected in the initiatives proposed in the department's consultation paper; if not, why not.
- (16) Does this represent a failure of the department to fulfil its joint planning responsibility with the states and territories under the Commonwealth State and Territory Disability Agreement.
- (17) Is the department concerned that its current unilateral approach may lead to distortions in the distribution of advocacy services for persons with disabilities across Australia.
- (18) What is the estimated cost per annum of the proposed central advocacy call centre.
- (19) Will the funds to operate the call centre be taken from the existing funding of the NDAP.
- (20) Is the Minister confident that the national call centre will be able to keep up with projected demand for advocacy services; if so, what programs does the department have in place to ensure that projected demand is met.

- (21) Does the department intend to conduct a competitive tender for all existing funding under the NDAP.
- (22) When will this tender be conducted.
- (23) Will the tender be based on particular specifications for each service to be funded; if so, what will those specifications be.
- (24) What planning regions will be used to determine the distribution of funding for the NDAP.
- (25) What funds have been set aside for each region.
- (26) How has the department liaised with state government disability service agencies on all aspects of the proposal.

2981 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—With reference to defence equipment exports as defined by the Defence and Strategic Goods List, for each of the top 200 export approvals: (a) what was the value; (b) what equipment was involved; (c) which country/countries exports were made or planned to be made; (d) what organisation, company or government department was the planned recipient of the goods approved; (e) what assistance by the department or Austrade was provided for the sale; and (f) what safeguards in the form of end user certificates were obtained.

2982 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—

- (1) Is the Minister aware of the June 2004 Report by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services, *Corporate Insolvency Laws – a Stocktake*, which made a number of recommendations to address the non-payment of employee entitlements, including superannuation contributions and workers compensation payments by phoenix companies, especially in the building and construction industry.
- (2) Is the Ministers aware of the work of the Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) through the Assetless Administration Fund in cracking down on the systematic misbehaviour of company officers who deliberately avoided their responsibilities to creditors, including employees, who had missed out on entitlements due to their actions. (see ASIC Media Release 07-05 of 8 January 2007 *Phoenix crackdown reaps results*, ASIC Media Release 07-02 of 5 January 2007 *Nine directors banned* and ASIC Media Release 06-420 of 5 December 2006 *ASIC bans 9 directors*).
- (3) Does the Minister agree that companies and their officers that have been found guilty of engaging in phoenix arrangements could also be failing to comply with the payment of employee entitlements such as superannuation, long service leave and workers compensation premiums.
- (4) (a) Does the Office of Workplace Services (OWS) monitor the work of ASIC in relation to phoenix companies, including the Assetless Administration Fund and related enforcement programs; and (b) follow-up on matters related to it which may arise from the ASIC investigations.
- (5) Is there a memorandum of understanding between ASIC and OWS in place so that: (a) these matters can be properly followed up; and (b) workers do not miss out on entitlements which are properly owed to them, or employers are prosecuted for failing to pay entitlements.

- (6) (a) Can details be provided of any measures that have been taken in association with the Council of Australian Governments to enhance the detection of phoenix activity and the prosecution of offenders; and (b) has the Minister raised the adequacy of arrangements for checking business names of companies on state business names registries against the ASCOT database with an appropriate ministerial forum, as recommended in the June 2004 report on insolvency by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services.
- (7) (a) Can the Minister advise how much of the additional \$62 million allocated to the General Employee Entitlements and Redundancy Scheme (GEERS) enhancements that apply to insolvencies after 1 November 2005 has been spent; and (b) are there any plans for further GEERS enhancements to employee entitlements under the Government's proposed new insolvency laws.

2983 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the report of 13 December 2006 by the Australian Institute of Medical Scientists *Review of Australia's Blood Fractionation Arrangements*, found that competitive tendering and offshore fractionation of Australian donated blood plasma will undermine access to intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg) by:
- (a) increasing the costs to the Australian health services in the regulation of plasma fractionated off shore;
 - (b) increasing the price of plasma due to increased international handling costs (e.g. transport, special storage and warehousing);
 - (c) reducing the amount of plasma available due to lower yields achieved by offshore fractionation technology;
 - (d) increasing the vein to vein time between donation of plasma and clinical use as a finished blood product;
 - (e) elevating the risk of disturbance of supply (transportation by shipping) the consequences of which are costly and highly disruptive; and
 - (f) undermining of the volunteer ethos of blood donation and the high regard in which the Australian Red Cross Blood Service is held.
- (2) Will the Government be adopting recommendation 10 of the Review which states: 'Australia should maintain its reservation regarding the procurement of blood fractionation services under the Australia - United States Free Trade Agreement. The reservation exempts the procurement of plasma fractionation services from the government procurement provisions in Chapter 15 of the Agreement. The CSL Act should also be maintained.'; if not: (a) why not; and (b) how will the Government ensure that access to intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIg) does not deteriorate by becoming more expensive, less available and less reliable.
- (3) What plans does the Government have to maintain and encourage volunteer blood donation.

2984 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) What is the status of discussions between the Government and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) regarding the forging of a formal relationship.

- (2) Does the Government support NATO's policy of nuclear first strike.
- (3) Is the Government aware of the public opinion polling conducted by independent reputable companies, commissioned by a non government organisation, which reveals that close to 70 per cent of citizens in all six European countries hosting NATO nuclear weapons (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Turkey) under NATO nuclear sharing arrangements wish them to be removed (Survey found at: <http://www.greenpeace.org/international/press/reports/nuclear-weapons-in-europe-survey>).
- (4) If Australia does establish a formal relationship with NATO, will the Government raise concerns about how out of step the NATO nuclear sharing policy is with the democratic majority in European nations hosting nuclear weapons.

Notice given 8 February 2007

2985 **Senator Hutchins:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) When did the Minister first receive the proposal from Emeritus Professor Geoffrey Wright to identify the remains of Australians killed at Fromelles and Pheasant Wood in France during World War I.
- (2) Will the Minister consider the proposal.
- (3) Can a breakdown be provided of the \$150 000, for Dr Tony Pollard's geophysical survey, quoted on page 5 of the *Australian* of 8 February 2007.

2986 **Senator Hutchins:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) How many entitlement cards have been allocated to Australian participants in British nuclear testing.
- (2) Have any entitlement cards been allocated to Commonwealth Police officers; if so: (a) how many; and (b) to whom were they allocated.

Notice given 15 February 2007

Senator Ray: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 2987-3016)—(a) Has the Minister, Assistant Minister or Parliamentary Secretary in the portfolio been provided with a pay television package by the department for: (i) the electorate office, (ii) the ministerial office in the home state, and/or (iii) home; and (b) if so, what was the cost of each pay television package.

2987 Minister representing the Prime Minister

2988 Minister representing the Minister for Transport and Regional Services

2989 Minister representing the Treasurer

2990 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

2991 Minister for Finance and Administration

2992 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

2993 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

2994 Minister representing the Attorney-General

2995 Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

2996 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

2997 Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources

- 2998 Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- 2999 Minister for Human Services
- 3000 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 3001 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 3002 Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
- 3003 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
- 3004 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources
- 3005 Minister for Justice and Customs
- 3006 Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation
- 3007 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business and Tourism
- 3008 Minister representing the Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads
- 3009 Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
- 3010 Minister representing the Minister for Workforce Participation
- 3011 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
- 3012 Minister representing the Special Minister of State
- 3013 Minister for Ageing
- 3014 Minister representing the Minister for Vocational and Further Education
- 3015 Minister for the Arts and Sport
- 3016 Minister for Community Services

Notice given 20 February 2007

- 3017 **Senator Bishop:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the Discretionary Grants Central Register:
- (1) For each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, what is:
(a) the total value of grants approved; and (b) the total value of grants approved, broken down by state and territory.
 - (2) For each program in the register: (a) what is the name and description of the program; (b) what is the administering agency; and (c) for each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06, what is: (i) the total value of grants approved, and (ii) the total value of grants approved, broken down by state and territory.
 - (3) What discretionary grants are not included in the register.

Notice given 22 February 2007

- 3018 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—
- (1) Does the Minister consider the current labelling requirements on palm oil products to be satisfactory.
 - (2) Does the Minister agree that palm oil, though technically a vegetable oil, should be identified as palm oil, given that it is a saturated fat; if not, why not.
 - (3) Has the Government investigated the extent to which palm oil is being used in processed food; if so, does it consider its use a health risk.

3019 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—With reference to human sexual trafficking, will the Government consider:

- (1) Allowing trafficked persons to regularise their status in Australia, temporarily or permanently, as appropriate, with:
 - (a) an automatic reflection period or period of grace of approximately 45 days during which trafficked persons would not have to fear deportation while they are initially separated from the trafficking environment and receive medical attention, counselling and legal advice on their options;
 - (b) Temporary Protection Visas renewable at approximately 2 years for those who would feel endangered on return to their country; and
 - (c) the possibility of permanent residence status and family reunion.
- (2) Establishing government-funded programs unique to trafficked persons such as the provision of funding to non-government organisations for trafficking specific residential programs/shelters, a 24 hour hotline and awareness campaigns for this issue.
- (3) Enhancing funding for law enforcement/immigration training on trafficking as well as protection services for trafficked persons.

3020 **Senator Bartlett:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—

- (1) Does the department provide funding to non-government organisations whose objectives or activities include the culling of either native or introduced animals living in the wild; if so, can details be provided of the:
 - (a) names of the organisations;
 - (b) amount of funding; and
 - (c) names of the funding programs.
- (2) Do any of these organisations qualify for funding either primarily or partially on the basis that their objectives or activities include the killing of animals (for example, pest control); if so, which organisations receive these moneys: (a) primarily; or (b) partially, on this basis.
- (3) What steps does the department take, prior to paying these moneys, to ensure that any killing of animals undertaken will be: (a) conducted humanely; and (b) economically cost effective, (for example, if moneys are paid to an organisation to assist it with the killing of cane toads, what steps are taken to ensure that: (i) the toads are killed as quickly and painlessly as possible, and (ii) the killing of the cane toads will have a beneficial effect in terms of reducing the damage perceived to be caused by the toads).
- (4) Does the department provide these organisations with any guidelines and/or advice on the most humane killing techniques and methods for each particular species; if so: (a) who prepares these guidelines and/or advice; (b) on what information and expert advice is it based; and (c) in what form are the guidelines and/or advice provided.
- (5) Does the department assess the effectiveness of these organisation's activities in terms of addressing the perceived problem.
- (6) What steps does the Government take, after paying these moneys, to ensure that: (a) any killing of animals undertaken was: (i) conducted humanely, and (ii) justifiable in terms of its benefits to the Australian public; and (b) such moneys are not paid again to the same organisation for the same purpose, if any killing of animals: (i) was undertaken inhumanely, or (ii) has resulted in no discernable benefit to the Australian public.

- 3021 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has the Government of the United States (US) of America applied to the Attorney-General for permission to bring firearms into Australia during the period of Vice President Cheney's visit to Australia, as called for under the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956.
 - (2) (a) What legislation in New South Wales addresses the carriage of firearms by foreign security personnel; (b) under what circumstances would foreign security personnel be permitted to carry firearms, in New South Wales; and (c) what types of firearms would they be allowed to carry.
 - (3) Given that Guideline 14.6 of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) Protocol Guidelines, pertaining to security personnel for foreign dignitaries, does not appear to allow any exceptions to its determination that: 'It is a long-standing policy of the Australian Government that foreign security personnel accompanying foreign dignitaries on visits to Australia are not permitted to carry firearms', can the Government confirm whether in fact there are any exceptions allowed under this Guideline.
 - (4) Can the Government reassure the Australian people that US security personnel accompanying Vice President Cheney on his visit to Australia will not be permitted to carry firearms while performing their duties, in accordance with DFAT Protocol Guideline 14.6.

- 3022 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—
- (1) Did the Federal Government request that the Government of New South Wales alter firearms regulations to allow security personnel for United States (US) Vice President Cheney to carry firearms while in Australia; if so: (a) what changes were made to New South Wales regulations; and (b) what type of firearms will US security personnel be allowed to carry.
 - (2) On what basis does the Federal Government consider it acceptable to alter longstanding policy against foreign security personnel carrying firearms when, as detailed in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade Protocol Guidelines, Australia has security capabilities of a '...very high standard' and a '...low level of threat'.
 - (3) Will the Federal Government now consider allowing foreign security personnel guarding prominent dignitaries from other countries to carry firearms in Australia.

Notice given 23 February 2007

- 3023 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is the Minister aware of the simultaneous press-conferences held by the Advisory Board of the Nobel Prize winning *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* on 17 January 2007, in which the hands of the iconic Doomsday Clock were moved forward from 7 minutes to midnight to 5 minutes to midnight.
 - (2) What significance does the Minister attribute to the fact that the decision to move the hands of the Doomsday Clock were taken by a board of advisors comprised of 18 Nobel Prize winning physicists, environmentalists and arms control experts.

- (3) (a) Does the Government agree with other authorities, notably, former United Nations Secretary General, Mr Kofi Annan, the World Summit of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates held in Rome on 17 November to 19 November 2006, former United States (US) Secretaries of State, Henry Kissinger and George Schultz, former US Secretary of Defence, William Perry, former US senator, Sam Nunn, and former President of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Mikhail Gorbachev, about the increasing urgency of measures to promote nuclear disarmament as well as non-proliferation; and (b) what is the reaction of the Minister to recent statements and articles by those figures.
- (4) Will the Minister take steps, as suggested by the Advisory Board of the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, as well as Mr Annan, Mr Kissinger, Mr Schultz and Mr Perry, to raise the priority of both nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and climate change in foreign policy.
- (5) What new and additional steps will the Government take to adopt the advice of the *Bulletin's* advisors and other eminent figures and to make a balanced approach to nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation the centrepiece of foreign policy.
- (6) (a) How will the recent statements on the urgency and high priority of nuclear disarmament by so many prominent figures affect the Government's approach to the meeting of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Preparatory Committee (Prepcom) to be held in Vienna from 30 April to 11 May 2007; and (b) specifically, what new and additional steps will the Government take at the upcoming NPT Prepcom to adequately reflect and respond to the concern expressed by so many eminent people.
- (7) Will the Government take urgent steps, especially at the NPT Prepcom, to promote:
 - (a) the outlawing of nuclear tests by any nation and not only Iran and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;
 - (b) the universal signature and ratification of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, especially by the US and the People's Republic of China;
 - (c) the continued reduction of strategic and other nuclear weapons stockpiles by the established nuclear powers and, particularly by the US and the Russian Federation below the numbers specified by the Moscow Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions;
 - (d) negative security assurances to non-nuclear armed nations by nuclear weapons states and others with nuclear weapons;
 - (e) an immediate reduction in nuclear weapons operating status by the US and the Russian Federation, and by India and Pakistan such that a catastrophic accidental use of nuclear weapons or their use by malfunction or miscalculation is no longer possible;
 - (f) the removal of nuclear weapons use from national security doctrines, and the revision of nuclear postures to render their use highly improbable; and
 - (g) other measures as specified in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution, 'Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons'.

- (8) Will the Government support other worthy measures in the UNGA such as: (a) the New Agenda resolution; (b) the Non-Aligned Movement resolution; and (c) the resolution, 'Reducing Nuclear Danger', sponsored by India.
- (9) Does the Government intend to modify, accelerate, give greater priority to, or change in any other way to raise the priority of the abolition of nuclear weapons in the context of the NPT Prepcom, the 2010 NPT Review Conference and the alarming statements by so many authoritative figures.
- (10) (a) What will the Government do to promote the representation of non-government organisations (NGOs) at the upcoming NPT Prepcom, in line with the highly positive statements toward NGO roles in the resolution, 'Renewed determination towards the total elimination of nuclear weapons'; and (b) specifically, will the Government make a place for an NGO on its delegation.

3024 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the United States (US) of America agreement to supply uranium to India:

- (1) What is the status and timeframe for decision-making by the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) to exempt India from laws that prohibit the sale of nuclear technology and uranium to countries not party to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).
- (2) In regard to the reported offer by the Government of India to open some of its nuclear facilities for International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) monitoring, is it the case that India proposes to exclude from IAEA monitoring: (a) reactors that make plutonium for nuclear weapons; (b) nine power reactors including a plutonium breeder reactor; (c) India's three reprocessing plants; and (d) the 11.5 tons of reactor grade plutonium produced in the spent fuel of India's power reactors.
- (3) Which if any of the above exclusions will or has the Australian Government agreed to.
- (4) Does the Australian Government agree with the report of the International Panel on Fissile Materials at www.fissilematerials.org indicating that these facilities could be used to add significantly to India's stock of nuclear weapons; if not, why not.
- (5) Can the Australian Government confirm that: (a) India has about 500 kg of weapons grade plutonium which would enable it to produce 100 nuclear warheads; (b) India's prototype fast breeder reactor: (i) is scheduled to start operating in 2010, (ii) will be fuelled with reactor grade plutonium, and (iii) will produce weapons grade plutonium, increasing by fourfold, India's current weapons grade plutonium production; and (c) by substituting imports of uranium for domestic uranium and expanding existing uranium recycling efforts, India would be capable of producing up to 200 kg a year of weapons grade plutonium in those reactors proposed to be excluded from IAEA monitoring.
- (6) What does the Australian Government consider is the impact of the US-India uranium supply agreement on: (a) the effectiveness of the NPT; (b) relations between India and Pakistan in regard to nuclear weapons capability and potential use; and (c) the effectiveness of the United Nations Security Council's Resolution 1172, calling on India and Pakistan to 'immediately stop their nuclear weapon development programmes ...and any further production of fissile material for nuclear weapons'.

- (7) How will Australia vote when approval is sought from the NSG of the proposed arrangements under the US-India uranium agreement.
- (8) Will the Australian Government allow Australian-sourced uranium to be supplied to India as part of this proposed agreement.

3025 **Senator Allison:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the \$10 billion in funding for the National Plan for Water Security:

- (1) What are the timelines for returning water to the Murray and Darling Rivers.
- (2) Is it the intention of the plan to return at least 1 500 billion litres to the Murray River; if not, what is the target.
- (3) In determining water entitlements, will reductions in the Murray River's flow predicted to be 3 300 billion litres within the next 50 years as a result of climate change, be taken into account; if not, why not.
- (4) Is it the case that under the plan, the states will still manage river catchments, while the Commonwealth will control the river's water; if so, how will the responsibility for protecting and renewing river health be determined.
- (5) What changes, if any, are anticipated with respect to the controlled release of water which currently reverses natural flows, for example, is it proposed that water will be released to mimic natural floods.
- (6) (a) Under the plan, what is the process for determining whether saved water is returned to the river for environmental flows or sold to irrigators; and (b) will the final decision be made by the Federal Government or state governments.
- (7) Will non-government independent environment organisations be given legal standing to question decisions to sell, withhold or give away environmental water; if not, why not.
- (8) In regard to the 90 kilometre open channel proposed to connect the Murray and Goulburn Rivers, has the Prime Minister considered the report commissioned by the Victorian Government in 2006 which found that this scheme was the worst and most expensive option available; if so, what is the rationale behind the proposal.
- (9) With regards to the proposal for the Commonwealth to fund 80 per cent of the cost of fixing irrigation channels, does this mean that 80 per cent of the water savings will be returned to the river; if not: (a) what is the anticipated percentage; and (b) on what basis was it determined.
- (10) What monitoring programs will be put in place to ensure targets and agreements are met.

3026 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—With reference to the article by R.W. Johnson in the *London Sunday Times* of 7 January 2007, 'Zimbabwe, the land of dying children':

- (1) Can the Minister confirm that the broad detail of this article is accurate.
- (2) Does the Minister agree with the author that 'it is a genocide perhaps 10 times greater than Darfur's and more than twice as large as Rwanda's'.
- (3) Can details be provided of all actions the Government is taking with respect to this human tragedy.

3027 **Senator Murray:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) With reference to sub section 93(1)(b)(ii) of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*, how many British subjects coded as being eligible to vote on 25 January 1984 still remain on the Electoral Roll as non-Australian citizens.
- (2) Given the current interest in and debate concerning Australian values and an obligation and commitment to Australia, is the Government of the view that voting in federal elections should only be available to citizens of Australia.
- (3) Since some non-citizens can vote in elections but not others; since at the local level voting in some jurisdictions is also given to property owners, and in others to non-citizen residents; and, in light of trends in other democracies to widen the franchise to permanent residents or other categories: does the Federal Government consider it opportune to review the varied rights to vote in the three tiers of government in Australia.

Notice given 26 February 2007

Senator Lundy: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3028-3029)—With reference to the proposal to pipe water from Googong Dam to Goulburn, announced on 24 January 2007, by the Liberal Party of New South Wales:

- (1) Has the Minister or the Assistant Minister/Parliamentary Secretary ever had contact with the Leader of the Liberal Party of New South Wales, Mr Peter Debnam or other members or representatives of the New South Wales Opposition in relation to the proposal; if so, in each case: (a) who instigated the contact; (b) who was involved in the contact; (c) when and where did the contact occur; (d) what was the nature of the contact; (e) what was the purpose and outcome of the contact; (f) who was present and in what capacity; and (g) do written records of the contact exist; if so, can copies be provided.
- (2) Has the Minister, Assistant Minister/Parliamentary Secretary or the department had contact with other members of the Commonwealth Government in relation to the proposal; if so, in each case: (a) who instigated the contact; (b) who was involved in the contact; (c) when and where did the contact occur; (d) what was the nature of the contact; (e) what was the purpose and outcome of the contact; (f) who was present and in what capacity; and (g) do written records of the contact exist; if so, can copies be provided.
- (3) Has the department been asked to do or commission any work in relation to any such proposal; if so: (a) when was the work commenced and finished; (b) by whom was the work done; (c) who instigated the work or instructed the department to commission the work; (d) what was the outcome or findings of the work; (e) was the nature of the work financial modelling or engineering feasibility analysis; (f) can the product of that modelling be provided; if not, why not; (g) what was the total cost of the work; and (h) what is the estimated cost of the proposal or proposals.

3028 Minister for Finance and Administration

3029 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

3030 **Senator Lundy:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources—With reference to the intended transfer of the land on which Googong Dam is situated to the Australian Capital Territory Government or its utility, ACTEW Corporation Limited:

- (1) On what date did the Minister and/or the Assistant Minister first become aware of the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (2) (a) Who made the Minister and/or the Assistant Minister aware of this; and (b) in what manner were they made aware.
- (3) On what date and from whom has the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department sought legal advice on the view that the Commonwealth never intended to make the transfer.
- (4) What was the cost of that legal advice.
- (5) On what date did the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department receive that legal advice.
- (6) On what date did the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the Executive as a whole adopt the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (7) Why was this view adopted.
- (8) On what date and in what manner did the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department notify the Minister for Local Government Territories and Roads, his staff or the Department for Local Government, Territories and Roads that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (9) (a) What contact has the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department had with the Member for Eden Monaro in relation to the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land; (b) what was the date of the contact; (c) what was the nature of the contact; (d) what was the purpose of the contact; (e) what was the outcome of the contact; (f) who instigated the contact; and (g) if written records of the contact are held, can copies be provided; if copies cannot be provided, why not.
- (10) (a) What contact has the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department had with the Prime Minister, or his Assistant Minister or their offices in relation to the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land; (b) what was the date of the contact; (c) what was the nature of the contact; (d) what was the purpose of the contact; (e) what was the outcome of the contact; (f) who instigated the contact; and (g) if written records of the contact are held, can copies be provided; if copies cannot be provided, why not.
- (11) (a) What contact has the Minister, the Assistant Minister and/or the department had with Senator Gary Humphries in relation to the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land; (b) what was the date of the contact; (c) what was the nature of the contact; (d) what was the purpose of the contact; (e) what was the outcome of the contact; (f) who instigated the contact; and (g) if written records of the contact are held, can copies be provided; if not, why not.

3031 **Senator Lundy:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—With reference to the intended transfer of the land on which Googong Dam is situated to the Australian Capital Territory Government or its utility, ACTEW Corporation Limited:

- (1) On what date did the Minister and/or the Parliamentary Secretary first become aware of the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (2) (a) Who made the Minister and/or the Parliamentary Secretary aware of this; and (b) in what manner were they made aware.
- (3) On what date and from whom has the Minister and/or the Parliamentary Secretary sought legal advice on the view that the Commonwealth had never intended to make the transfer.
- (4) What was the cost of that legal advice.
- (5) On what date did the Minister and/or the Parliamentary Secretary receive that legal advice.
- (6) On what date did the Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary and/or the Executive as a whole adopt the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (7) Why was this view adopted.
- (8) On what date and in what manner did the Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary and/or the department notify the Minister for Local Government Territories and Roads, his staff or the Department for Local Government, Territories and Roads that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land.
- (9) (a) What contact has the Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary and/or the department had with the Member for Eden Monaro in relation to the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land; (b) what was the date of the contact; (c) what was the nature of the contact; (d) what was the purpose of the contact; (e) what was the outcome of the contact; (f) who instigated the contact; and (g) if written records of the contact are held, can copies be provided; if copies cannot be provided, why not.
- (10) (a) What contact has the Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary and/or the department had with the Prime Minister, or his office in relation to the view that the Commonwealth never intended to transfer the land; (b) what was the date of the contact; (c) what was the nature of the contact; (d) what was the purpose of the contact; (e) what was the outcome of the contact; (f) who instigated the contact; and (g) if written records of the contact are held, can copies be provided; if not, why not.

Senator Lundy: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3032-3033)—

- (1) With reference to the land upon which the Googong Dam is situated: (a) who owns the land; and (b) who manages the land.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that the management of this land requires the manager to outlay funds as part of that management role: if so, for each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, how much funding has been outlaid.
- (3) If the land is not managed by the Commonwealth, what is the: (a) type; and (b) quantum, of assistance or payment for management services that the Commonwealth pays to the manager.

- (4) With reference the water in Googong Dam: (a) who owns the water; and (b) who manages the water.
- (5) Is the Minister aware that the management of this water requires the manager to outlay funds as part of that management role: if so, for each of the financial years 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 to date, how much funding has been outlaid.
- (6) If the water is not managed by the Commonwealth, what is the: (a) type; and (b) quantum of assistance or payment for management services that the Commonwealth pays to the manager.

3032 Minister for Finance and Administration

3033 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

Senator Lundy: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 3034-3035)—

- (1) Can the Minister confirm the intent of the Government to transfer the infrastructure of Googong Dam to the Australian Capital Territory Government or its utility, ACTEW Corporation Limited (ACTEW): if so, what pieces of infrastructure would be subject to such a transfer.
- (2) Since 1989, has it always been the intent of the Commonwealth to transfer these pieces of infrastructure to the Australian Capital Territory Government and/or ACTEW; if not: (a) since 1989, what pieces of infrastructure have been included or excluded; and (b) what is the reason for their inclusion or exclusion.

3034 Minister for Finance and Administration

3035 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources

Notice given 27 February 2007

*3036 **Senator Stott Despoja:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training—

- (1) Did the Minister announce that projects to be funded under the first tranche of the Voluntary Student Unionism Transition Fund for Sporting and Recreational Facilities would be known by late 2006; if so, what is the reason for the delay.
- (2) Given that the first tranche of funding of \$55.6 million is just over a third of the amount that universities collected each year via compulsory university fees, how does the Government anticipate institutions will make up the shortfall.
- (3) Given that the first tranche of funding equals \$55.6 million, as opposed to the \$40 million originally set aside for the first year of funding, what is the revised funding pattern for year 2 and year 3.

*3037 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) For each month since inception, how many calls have been received by the Child Care Access Hotline: (a) in total; and (b) by state and territory.
- (2) How many full-time equivalent staff are allocated to operate the hotline.
- (3) For the 2006-07 financial year and across the forward estimates period, what is the total budget allocation for the hotline.
- (4) To date, how much has been spent on the hotline.

*3038 **Senator Stephens:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—

- (1) For each of the years 2005, 2006 and 2007 to date, how many instances has the department uncovered, of services submitting fraudulent claims for the Child Care Benefit or Special Child Care Benefit.
- (2) How much money has been recovered as a result of these investigations.

ORDERS OF THE SENATE

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Committees

1 Allocation of departments

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

Community Affairs

Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
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 Water Resources
Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Finance and Public Administration

Parliament
Prime Minister and Cabinet
Finance and Administration
Human Services

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

Foreign Affairs and Trade
Defence (including Veterans' Affairs)

Legal and Constitutional Affairs

Attorney-General

Immigration and Citizenship

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

Transport and Regional Services

Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

*(Agreed to 9 February 2006, amended 8 February 2007.)****2 Community Affairs—Standing Committee—Authorisation to meet**

That the Community Affairs Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 1 March 2007, from 3.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the Aged Care Amendment (Security and Protection) Bill 2007.

*(Agreed to 27 February 2007.)***3 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 the sittings of the Senate.

*(Agreed to 6 December 2004.)****4 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 public meetings during the sittings of the Senate on Wednesday, 28 February 2007, and Wednesday, 21 March 2007, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into Australia's trade with Mexico and the region.

*(Agreed to 27 February 2007.)****5 Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Standing Committee—Authorisation to meet**

That the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 1 March 2007, from 4.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the provisions of the AusCheck Bill 2006.

*(Agreed to 27 February 2007.)***6 Migration—Joint Standing Committee—Authorisation to meet**

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

*(Agreed to 29 March 2006.)***7 Privileges—Standing Committee—Adoption of 94th report recommendation**

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

(Agreed to 4 September 2000.)

***8 Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Statutory Committee—Authorisation to meet**

That the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit be authorised to hold public meetings during the sittings of the Senate as follows:

- (a) on Wednesday, 28 February 2007, from 11.30 am to 1 pm, to take evidence for the committee's review of Auditor-General's reports; and
- (b) on Thursday, 1 March and 29 March 2007, from 10.30 am to 1 pm, and Wednesday, 28 March 2007, from 11.15 am to 1.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into financial reporting and equipment acquisition at the Department of Defence and the Defence Materiel Organisation.

(Agreed to 27 February 2007.)

9 Substitute members of committees—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2007 sittings:

If a member of a committee appointed under standing order 25 is unable to attend a meeting of the committee, that member may in writing to the chair of the committee appoint a participating member to act as a substitute member of the committee at that meeting. If the member is incapacitated or unavailable, a letter to the chair of a committee appointing a participating member to act as a substitute member of the committee may be signed on behalf of the member by the leader of the party or group on whose nomination the member was appointed to the committee.

(Agreed to 7 February 2007.)

10 Treaties—Joint Standing Committee—Authorisation to meet

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

(Agreed to 18 October 2006.)

11 Unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings

That the following order operate as a sessional order:

- (1) The Senate confirms that any disclosure of evidence or documents submitted to a committee, of documents prepared by a committee, or of deliberations of a committee, without the approval of the committee or of the Senate, may be treated by the Senate as a contempt.
- (2) The Senate reaffirms its resolution of 20 June 1996, relating to procedures to be followed by committees in cases of unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings.
- (3) The Senate provides the following guidelines to be observed by committees in applying that resolution, and declares that the Senate will observe the guidelines in determining whether to refer a matter to the Committee of Privileges:
 1. Unless there are particular circumstances involving actual or potential substantial interference with the work of a committee or of the Senate, the following kinds of unauthorised disclosure should not be raised as matters of privilege:

- (a) disclosure of a committee report in the time between the substantial conclusion of the committee's deliberations on the report and its presentation to the Senate;
 - (b) disclosure of other documents prepared by a committee and not published by the committee, where the committee would have published them, or could appropriately have published them, in any event, or where they contain only research or publicly-available material, or where their disclosure is otherwise inconsequential;
 - (c) disclosure of documents and evidence submitted to a committee and not published by the committee, where the committee would have published them, or could appropriately have published them, in any event;
 - (d) disclosure of private deliberations of a committee where the freedom of the committee to deliberate is unlikely to be significantly affected.
2. The following kinds of unauthorised disclosure are those for which the contempt jurisdiction of the Senate should primarily be reserved, and which should therefore be raised as matters of privilege:
- (a) disclosure of documents or evidence submitted to a committee where the committee has deliberately decided to treat the documents or evidence as in camera material, for the protection of witnesses or others, or because disclosure would otherwise be harmful to the public interest;
 - (b) disclosure of documents prepared by a committee where that involves disclosure of material of the kind specified in paragraph (a);
 - (c) disclosure of private deliberations of a committee where that involves disclosure of that kind of material, or significantly impedes the committee's freedom to deliberate.
3. An unauthorised disclosure not falling into the categories in guidelines 1 and 2 should not be raised as a matter of privilege unless it involves actual or potential substantial interference with the work of a committee or of the Senate.
4. When considering any unauthorised disclosure of material in the possession of a committee, the committee should consider whether there was any substantive reason for not publishing that material.
- (4) Before deciding to raise a matter of privilege involving possible unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings, any committee may seek the guidance of the Committee of Privileges as to whether a matter should be pursued. If the committee decides that such a matter should be raised, it must consult with the Committee of Privileges before taking the matter further.
- (5) When applying this resolution a committee shall have regard to the matters set out in paragraphs 3.43 to 3.59 of the 122nd Report of the Committee of Privileges, June 2005.

(Agreed to 6 October 2005 upon adoption of a recommendation of the Procedure Committee in its first report of 2005.)

Estimates

12 2005-06 Budget estimates—Answers to questions

That answers be provided by 31 January 2005 to:

- (a) estimates questions on notice lodged with legislation committees in the course of the estimates hearings in May and June 2004; and
- (b) estimates questions on notice lodged with legislation committees by 2 December 2004.

(Agreed to 18 November 2004.)

13 2006-07 Budget estimates—Answers to questions

The dates set by legislation committees for answering questions taken on notice during the 2006-07 Budget estimates are as follows:

Group A:

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts	Friday, 28 July 2006
Finance and Public Administration	Friday, 7 July 2006
Legal and Constitutional	Friday, 14 July 2006
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport	Thursday, 13 July 2006

Group B:

Community Affairs	Friday, 28 July 2006
Economics	Friday, 28 July 2006
Employment, Workplace Relations and Education	Friday, 28 July 2006
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	Thursday, 27 July 2006.

Standing order 74(5) takes effect 30 days after these dates.

14 2006-07 Supplementary Budget estimates—Answers to questions

The dates set by standing committees for answering questions taken on notice during the 2006-07 Supplementary Budget estimates are as follows:

Group A:

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts	Friday, 15 December 2006
Finance and Public Administration	Friday, 15 December 2006
Legal and Constitutional Affairs	Wednesday, 13 December 2006
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport	Tuesday, 12 December 2006

Group B:

Community Affairs	Friday, 15 December 2006
Economics	Friday, 15 December 2006

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education	Friday, 15 December 2006
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	Thursday, 14 December 2006.

Standing order 74(5) takes effect 30 days after these dates.

15 2006-07 Additional estimates—Answers to questions

The dates set by standing committees for answering questions taken on notice during the 2006-07 additional estimates are as follows:

Group A:

Community Affairs	Friday, 30 March 2007
Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts	Wednesday, 4 April 2007
Finance and Public Administration	Friday, 30 March 2007
Legal and Constitutional Affairs	Friday, 30 March 2007

Group B:

Economics	Thursday, 5 April 2007
Employment, Workplace Relations and Education	Friday, 30 March 2007

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	Thursday, 29 March 2007
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Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport	Thursday, 5 April 2007.
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Standing order 74(5) takes effect 30 days after these dates.

16 2006-07 Additional estimates—2007-08 Budget estimates—Hearings

That—

- (1) ...
- (2) Estimates hearings by legislative and general purpose standing committees for 2007 be scheduled as follows:

2006-07 additional estimates:

Monday, 12 February and Tuesday, 13 February and, if required, Friday, 16 February (*Group A*)

Wednesday, 14 February and Thursday, 15 February and, if required, Friday, 16 February (*Group B*).

2007-08 Budget estimates:

Monday, 21 May to Thursday, 24 May (*Group A*)

Monday, 28 May to Thursday, 31 May (*Group B*)

Monday, 12 November and Tuesday, 13 November (*supplementary hearings—Group A*)

Wednesday, 14 November and Thursday, 15 November (*supplementary hearing—Group B*).

- (3) Committees consider the proposed expenditure in accordance with the allocation of departments to committees agreed to by the Senate.

- (4) Committees meet in the following groups:

Group A:

Community Affairs
 Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
 Finance and Public Administration
 Legal and Constitutional Affairs

Group B:

Economics
 Employment, Workplace Relations and Education
 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport.

- (5) Committees report to the Senate on the following dates:

- (a) Wednesday, 21 March 2007 in respect of the 2006-07 additional estimates; and
 (b) Tuesday, 19 June 2007 in respect of the 2007-08 Budget estimates.

(Agreed to 7 December 2006 as part of a longer order—see also 'Meeting of the Senate' below, amended 8 February 2007.)

Legislation

*17 Senate consideration—Variation

- (1) That the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (8) of standing order 111 not apply to the following bills, allowing them to be considered during this period of sittings:

ACIS Administration Amendment (Unearned Credit Liability) Bill 2007
 Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Bill 2007
 Broadcasting Legislation Amendment Bill 2007
 Family Law (Divorce Fees Validation) Bill 2007
 Migration Amendment (Maritime Crew) Bill 2007
 Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Simplification) Bill 2007
 Income Tax Amendment Bill 2007
 Income Tax (Former Complying Superannuation Funds) Amendment Bill 2007
 Income Tax (Former Non-resident Superannuation Funds) Amendment Bill 2007
 Income Tax Rates Amendment (Superannuation) Bill 2007.

- (2) That, after the motion for the second reading of the Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Simplification) Bill 2007 and four related bills has been moved, they may be taken together for their remaining stages with the Tax Laws Amendment (Simplified Superannuation) Bill 2006 and five related bills.

(Agreed to 27 February 2007.)

Meeting of Senate

18 Meeting of Senate

That—

- (1) The days of meeting of the Senate for 2007 be as follows:

Autumn sittings:

Tuesday, 6 February to Thursday, 8 February
 Monday, 26 February to Thursday, 1 March
 Tuesday, 20 March to Thursday, 22 March
 Monday, 26 March to Thursday, 29 March

Budget sittings:

Tuesday, 8 May to Thursday, 10 May

Winter sittings:

Tuesday, 12 June to Thursday, 14 June
 Monday, 18 June to Thursday, 21 June

Spring sittings:

Tuesday, 7 August to Thursday, 9 August
 Monday, 13 August to Thursday, 16 August

Spring sittings (2):

Monday, 10 September to Thursday, 13 September
 Monday, 17 September to Thursday, 20 September

Spring sittings (3):

Monday, 15 October to Thursday, 18 October
 Monday, 22 October to Thursday, 25 October
 Monday, 5 November to Thursday, 8 November
 Monday, 26 November to Thursday, 29 November
 Monday, 3 December to Thursday, 6 December.

(Agreed to 7 December 2006 as part of a longer order—see also ‘Estimates’ above.)

19 Divisions on Thursday—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order until 30 June 2007:

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 10 August 2006.)

20 Adjournment debate on Tuesdays—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2007 sittings:

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.

(Agreed to 6 February 2007.)

Orders for production of documents

21 Trade—Free trade agreement—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Trade, no later than 4 pm on Tuesday, 7 December 2004, the final letters and any attachments and annexures exchanged between the governments of Australia and the United States of America (US) to finalise the free trade agreement between Australia and the US.

(Motion of Senator Nettle agreed to 2 December 2004.)

22 Foreign Affairs—Gallipoli—Road works—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Defence, no later than Thursday, 12 May 2005, all briefings to the Minister and the Minister for Veterans' Affairs, on the matter of road works at Gallipoli over the past 4 years, and all internal minutes and file notes, including records of meetings between the Office of Australian War Graves and officials of the Government of Turkey on the same subject.

(Motion of Senator Bishop agreed to 11 May 2005.)

23 Family and Community Services—Housing Assistance agreements—Order for production of documents

(1) That the Senate:

- (a) notes that the Housing Assistance (Form of Agreement) Determination 2003 in Schedule 1, subsections 4(33) to 4(36) requires states to report on expenditure and progress towards their respective bilateral agreements to the Commonwealth within 6 months after the end of each grant year;
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table, no later than 3.30 pm on 12 May 2005, all reports provided by the states and territories to the Commonwealth under those provisions for the financial year 2003-04; and
- (c) orders that all reports provided by the states and territories to the Commonwealth under those provisions be tabled in the Senate within 5 sittings days, or one calendar month, after receipt (whichever is the later), and that the Senate be notified in writing by the Minister for Family and Community Services within 5 sitting days of the expiration of the 6 months if reports have not been provided within the required 6 months.

(2) That this order is of continuing effect.

(Motion of Senator Bartlett agreed to 12 May 2005.)

24 Environment—Tasmania—Proposed pulp mill—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, no later than 3.30 pm on 16 June 2005, all correspondence from January 2002 to the present between the Minister, his staff and department and Gunns Pty Ltd relating to the proposed pulp mill in Tasmania.

(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) agreed to 12 May 2005.)

25 Environment—Tasmania—Proposed pulp mill—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Prime Minister, no later than 3.30 pm on 22 June 2005, all correspondence from January 2002 to the present between the Prime Minister, his staff and department and Gunns Pty Ltd relating to the proposed pulp mill in Tasmania.

(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) agreed to 14 June 2005.)

26 Law and Justice—Airport security—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Justice and Customs, no later than 5 pm on Monday, 20 June 2005, copies of all reports prepared by the Australian Customs Service since 1 January 2004 which refer to issues of airport security, including the report completed in September 2004, referred to on page 1 of *The Australian* on 31 May 2005 ('Airport staff "smuggling drugs"'), other than material specifically relating to current ongoing investigations.

(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison) agreed to 20 June 2005.)

27 Taxation—Deductible gift recipient status—Environment groups—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, no later than 3.30 pm on Wednesday, 22 June 2005, all correspondence between the Minister and the Assistant Treasurer, the Australian Taxation Office, or the Institute of Public Affairs in 2004 and 2005 relating to the issue of deductible gift recipient status of environment groups.

(Motion of the Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown) agreed to 21 June 2005.)

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

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
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
19.06.2002	Mining—Christmas Island	
24.06.2002	Superannuation system	
25.06.2002	Finance—Retirement and income modelling	
20.08.2002	Animal Welfare—Cattle	
28.08.2002	Superannuation Working Group	
11.11.2002	Environment—Queensland—Nathan Dam	
14.11.2002	Trade—General Agreement on Trade in Services	Minister representing the Minister for Trade
18.11.2002	Environment—Oceans policy	
19.11.2002	Superannuation—Insurance and Superannuation Commission	Minister representing the Treasurer (Senator Minchin) and the Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer (Senator Coonan)
10.12.2002	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer	
11.12.2002	Environment—Tasmania—Logging	Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
12.12.2002	Science and Technology— Genetically-modified food	Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs and representing the Prime Minister (Senator Hill)
05.02.2003	Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository	
05.02.2003	Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository	
05.03.2003	Environment—National Radioactive Waste Repository	
25.03.2003	Immigration—Illegal migration	
14.05.2003	Environment—Radioactive waste—National store	Minister representing the Minister for Science
14.05.2003	Industry—Basslink	
19.06.2003	Energy Grants (Credits) Scheme—Draft regulations	
17.09.2003	Animal Welfare—Live sheep export	The Government
08.10.2003	Health—National Drug Research Strategy	Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
13.10.2003	Immigration—Management of detention centres	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
13.10.003	Finance—Calculation of the IBNR levy	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
14.10.2003	Animal Welfare—Live sheep export	
16.10.2003	Environment—Sepon Mine	Minister representing the Minister for Trade (Senator Hill)
28.10.2003	Science and Technology— Assisted reproductive technology	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)
28.10.2003	Education—Higher education—Regional impact statement	Minister representing the Minister for Education, Science and Training
25.11.2003	Finance—Deposit bonds	
01.12.2003	Taxation—First home owners, 'bracket creep' and Intergeneration Report	Minister representing the Treasurer
03.12.2003	Health—Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme	
03.12.2003	Environment—Sepon mine	
10.02.2003	Science and Technology— Assisted reproductive technology	Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Hill)

Date of order	Subject	Addressed to
24.03.2004	Superannuation—Departing temporary residents	Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer
24.03.2004	Australian Federal Police Commissioner—Statement	Leader of the Government in the Senate
01.04.2004	Immigration—Ministerial discretion	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
21.06.2004	Indigenous Australians—Lands Acquisition Amendment Regulations 2004 (No. 2)	Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs
22.06.2004	Defence—Iraq—Human rights abuses	Minister for Defence
23.06.2004	Science and Technology—Synthetic aperture radar	Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources
23.06.2004	Defence—Office of National Assessments report	Leader of the Government in the Senate
24.06.2004	Environment—Videophone facilities	
04.08.2004	Defence—Missile defence program	Minister for Defence
05.08.2004	Environment—Bushfire mitigation and management	Minister representing the Prime Minister
10.08.2004	Environment—Repulse Bay	Minister for the Environment and Heritage
11.08.2004	Environment—Nuclear waste storage	Minister for Finance and Administration

CONTINGENT NOTICES OF MOTION

Auditor-General's reports—Consideration

- 1 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
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 Minchin):** 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 Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
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 matter.

Government documents

4 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
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 Evans)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
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 Minchin):** 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 Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
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 Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
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*.

Questions without notice

- 11 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
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.

Statements

- 12 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
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.

Tabling of documents

- 13 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Evans)**
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Boswell)
Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
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 Barnett, Chapman, Crossin, Ferguson, Forshaw, Hutchins, Kirk, Lightfoot, Sandy Macdonald, Marshall, Moore, Murray, Troeth and Watson

CATEGORIES OF COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

- **Legislative and General Purpose†**
 - Community Affairs
 - Economics
 - Employment, Workplace Relations and Education
 - Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts
 - Finance and Public Administration
 - Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
 - Legal and Constitutional Affairs
 - Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport
- **Legislative Scrutiny**
 - Regulations and Ordinances
 - Scrutiny of Bills

- **Standing (Domestic)**

- Appropriations and Staffing
- House
- Library
- Privileges
- Procedure
- Publications
- Selection of Bills
- Senators' Interests

Select Committees

- Administration of Indigenous Affairs
- Lindeberg Grievance
- Mental Health
- Scrafton Evidence

Joint Committees

- **Standing**

- Electoral Matters
- Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade
- Migration
- National Capital and External Territories
- Parliamentary Library
- Treaties

- **Statutory**

- Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity
- Australian Crime Commission
- Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings
- Corporations and Financial Services
- Intelligence and Security
- Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Account
- Public Accounts and Audit
- Public Works

Details appear in the following section, with committees listed in alphabetical order.

† The restructure of legislative and general purpose standing committees, agreed to by the Senate on 14 August 2006, came into effect on 11 September 2006. Eight standing committees were established (combining the functions of the previous 16 legislation and references committees) with eight members instead of six.



COMMITTEES

Administration of Indigenous Affairs—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/indigenouaffairs_ctte/index.htm

(appointed 16 June 2004; reappointed 17 November 2004; final report tabled 8 March 2005)

Members

Senator Moore (*Chair*), Senator Johnston (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Carr, Crossin, Heffernan, Nettle, Ridgeway and Scullion

Reports presented

Interim report (*presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

After ATSIC – Life in the mainstream? (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

Appropriations and Staffing—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/APP_CTTE/index.htm

Members

The President (*Chairman*), the Leader of the Government in the Senate, the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate and Senators Bartlett, Boswell, Faulkner, Ferris, Heffernan and Ray

Reports presented

41st report—Security funding; Appropriation bills: Payments to international organisations (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

42nd report—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2005-06 (*tabled 11 May 2005*)

43rd report—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2006-07 (*tabled 11 May 2006*)

Annual report for 2005-06 (*tabled 16 August 2006*)

Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity—Joint Statutory Committee

Australian Crime Commission—Joint Statutory Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/acc_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Ian Macdonald (*Chair*), Mr Kerr (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Ferris, Ludwig and Polley and Mrs Gash, Mr Hayes, Mr Richardson and Mr Wood

Current inquiries

Amphetamines and other synthetic drugs (*adopted 5 December 2005*)

Future impact of serious and organised crime on Australian society (*adopted 5 December 2006*)

Reports presented

Examination of the annual report for 2002-03 of the National Crime Authority and the Australian Crime Commission (*presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Examination of the annual report for 2003-04 of the Australian Crime Commission (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Inquiry into the trafficking of women for sexual servitude—Supplementary report (*tabled 11 August 2005*)

Review of the *Australian Crime Commission Act 2002* (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

Examination of the annual report for 2004-05 of the Australian Crime Commission (*tabled 19 October 2006*)

Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings—Joint Statutory Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jcbpp/index.htm>

Members

The President, the Speaker and Senators Faulkner and Ferris and Mr Bartlett, Mr Cadman, Mr Hardgrave, Mr Murphy and Ms Vamvakinou

Community Affairs—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/clac_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs; Health and Ageing

Members

Senator Humphries (*Chair*), Senator Moore (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Adams, Allison, Carol Brown, Fierravanti-Wells, Patterson and Polley

Participating members

Senators Barnett, Bartlett, Bernardi, Bishop, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Forshaw, Heffernan, Hogg, Hurley, Hutchins, Joyce, Kemp, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Marshall, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Nash, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Siewert, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Watson, Webber, Wong and Wortley

Current inquiries

Private Health Insurance Bill 2006 [Provisions], Private Health Insurance (Transitional Provisions and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2006 [Provisions], Private Health Insurance (Prostheses Application and Listing Fees) Bill 2006 [Provisions], Private Health Insurance (Collapsed Organization Levy) Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions], Private Health Insurance Complaints Levy Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions], Private Health Insurance (Council Administration Levy) Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] and Private Health Insurance (Reinsurance Trust Fund Levy) Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date: 28 February 2007*)

Aged Care Amendment (Security and Protection) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*referred 8 February 2007; reporting date: 14 March 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Community Affairs Legislation Committee

Tobacco advertising prohibition (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 30 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)

Provisions of the Private Health Insurance Incentives Amendment Bill 2004 (tabled 8 February 2005)

Provisions of the National Health Amendment (Prostheses) Bill 2004 (tabled 10 February 2005)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (tabled 15 March 2005)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (tabled 16 March 2005)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (tabled 20 June 2005)

Provisions of the Health Insurance Amendment (Medicare Safety-nets) Bill 2005 (tabled 5 September 2005)

Provisions of the Therapeutic Goods Amendment Bill 2005 (tabled 7 November 2005)

Provisions of the Health Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (tabled 7 November 2005)

Provisions of the National Health Amendment (Budget Measures—Pharmaceutical Benefits Safety Net) Bill 2005 (tabled 7 November 2005)

Provisions of the Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work and Other Measures) Bill 2005 and the Family and Community Services Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work) Bill 2005 (tabled 28 November 2005)

Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Repeal of Ministerial responsibility for approval of RU486) Bill 2005 (tabled 8 February 2006)

Provisions of the Family Assistance, Social Security and Veterans' Affairs Legislation Amendment (2005 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2006 (presented to the Deputy President on 24 March 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 March 2006)

Provisions of Aged Care (Bond Security) Bill 2005, Aged Care (Bond Security) Levy Bill 2005 and Aged Care Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005 (tabled 27 March 2006)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (tabled 28 March 2006)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (tabled 29 March 2006)

National Health and Medical Research Council Amendment Bill 2006 (presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006)

Provisions of the Health and Other Services (Compensation) Amendment Bill 2006 (tabled 9 May 2006)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (tabled 20 June 2006)

Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Amendment Bill 2006 (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 1 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 8 August 2006)

Transparent Advertising and Notification of Pregnancy Counselling Services Bill 2005 (tabled 17 August 2006)

Reports presented by the former Community Affairs References Committee

Inquiry into aged care—Interim report (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 30 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (tabled 1 December 2004)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (tabled 7 March 2005)

Protecting vulnerable children: A national challenge—Second report on the inquiry into children in institutional or out-of-home care (*tabled 17 March 2005*)

The cancer journey: Informing choice—Report on the inquiry into services and treatment options for persons with cancer (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Quality and equity in aged care (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Response to the petition on gynaecological health issues (*tabled 30 March 2006*)

Workplace exposure to toxic dust (*presented to the Deputy President on 31 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 June 2006*)

Beyond petrol sniffing: Renewing hope for Indigenous communities (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

Reports presented by the Community Affairs Committee

Aged Care Amendment (Residential Care) Bill 2006 (*tabled 9 October 2006*)

Child Support Legislation Amendment (Reform of the Child Support Scheme—New Formula and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 10 October 2006*)

Breaking the silence: A national voice for gynaecological cancers (*tabled 19 October 2006*)

Inquiry into legislative responses to recommendations of the Lockhart Review—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 27 October 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 6 November 2006*)

Legislative responses to recommendations of the Lockhart review (*presented to the Deputy President on 30 October 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 6 November 2006*) and corrigendum (*tabled 6 November 2006*)

Funding and operation of the Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement (*tabled 8 February 2007*)

Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/corporations_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Chapman (*Chair*), Ms AE Burke (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Murray, Sherry and Wong and Mr Baker, Mr Bartlett, Mr Bowen and Mr McArthur

Current inquiries

Superannuation industry (*adopted 30 June 2006*)

Shareholder engagement (*adopted 30 June 2006*)

Continuing oversight of the operations of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*statutory responsibility*)

Exposure draft of the Corporations Amendment (Insolvency) Bill 2007 (*adopted 29 November 2006*)

Reports presented

Australian Accounting Standards tabled in compliance with the *Corporations Act 2001* on 30 August and 16 November 2004 (*tabled 10 February 2005*)

Statutory oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*tabled 12 May 2005*)

Inquiry into the exposure draft of the Corporations Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2005 (*tabled 16 June 2005*) and erratum (*tabled 16 June 2005*)

Property investment advice – Safe as houses? (*tabled 23 June 2005*) and erratum (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Timeshare: The price of leisure (*tabled 5 September 2005*)

Statutory oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*presented to the Deputy President on 19 December 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 February 2006*)

Corporate responsibility: Managing risk and creating value (*tabled 21 June 2006*)

Statutory oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*tabled 16 August 2006*)

Corporations Amendment (Takeovers) Bill 2006 [Exposure draft] (*presented to the Deputy President on 23 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*)

Economics—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/economics_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Treasury; Industry, Tourism and Resources

Members

Senator Ronaldson (*Chair*), Senator Stephens (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bernardi, Chapman, Joyce, Lundy, Murray and Webber

Participating members

Senators Adams, Allison, Barnett, Bartlett, Boswell, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Conroy, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fifield, Forshaw, Hogg, Kemp, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Marshall, Ian Macdonald, McGauran, Mason, Milne, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Watson and Wong

Reports presented by the former Economics Legislation Committee

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Superannuation Reporting) Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2004 Measures No. 7) Bill 2005 (*tabled 9 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Superannuation Bill 2005, Superannuation (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2005 and Superannuation Legislation Amendment (Choice of Superannuation Funds) Bill 2005 (*tabled 21 June 2005*)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Improvements to Self Assessment) Bill (No. 1) 2005 and the Shortfall Interest Charge (Imposition) Bill 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Tax Laws Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005 (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Provisions of the Trade Practices Amendment (National Access Regime) Bill 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Loss Recoupment Rules and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

Provisions of the Energy Efficiency Opportunities Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), November 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)
 Provisions of the Future Fund Bill 2005 (*tabled 27 February 2006*)
 Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 30 March 2006*)
 Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 30 March 2006*)
 Provisions of the Petroleum Retail Legislation Repeal Bill 2006—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)
 Provisions of the Petroleum Retail Legislation Repeal Bill 2006 (*tabled 11 May 2006*)
 Provisions of the Fuel Tax Bill 2006 and the Fuel Tax (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2006—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 7 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 June 2006*)
 Provisions of the Customs Amendment (Fuel Tax Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2006 and three related bills—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 7 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 June 2006*)
 Provisions of the Fuel Tax Bill 2006 and the Fuel Tax (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2006 (*presented to the President on 14 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 15 June 2006*) and erratum (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Forshaw, on 14 July 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 8 August 2006*)
 Provisions of the Customs Amendment (Fuel Tax Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2006, the Customs Tariff Amendment (Fuel Tax Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2006, the Excise Laws Amendment (Fuel Tax Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2006 and the Excise Tariff Amendment (Fuel Tax Reform and Other Measures) Bill 2006 (*presented to the President on 14 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 15 June 2006*)
 Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)
 Provisions of the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax Assessment Amendment Bill 2006 and the Petroleum Resource Rent Tax (Instalment Transfer Interest Charge Imposition) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 21 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 22 June 2006*)
 Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 3) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 21 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 22 June 2006*)
 Provisions of the Intellectual Property Laws Amendment Bill 2006 (*tabled 17 August 2006*)
 Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 4) Bill 2006—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 31 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 4 September 2006*)
 Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

Report presented by the former Economics References Committee

Consenting adults deficits and household debt: Links between Australia's current account deficit, the demand for imported goods and household debt (*tabled 13 October 2005*)

Reports presented by the Economics Committee

Provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 4) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 4 October 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 October 2006*)

Petrol prices in Australia—Interim report (*tabled 9 October 2006*)

Petrol prices in Australia (*tabled 7 December 2006*)

Tax Laws Amendment (Simplified Superannuation) Bill 2006 [Provisions] and related bills [Provisions] (*tabled 7 February 2007*)

- * Tax Laws Amendment (2006 Measures No. 7) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 27 February 2007*)

Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/em/index.htm>

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Mrs Mirabella (*Chair*), Senator Sterle (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Adams, Carr, Fierravanti-Wells and Murray and Mr Ciobo, Mr Danby, Mr Forrest and Mr Griffin

Current inquiry

Civics and electoral education (*referred 24 March 2006*)

Reports presented

The 2004 federal election—Report of the inquiry into the conduct of the 2004 federal election and matters related thereto (*tabled 10 October 2005*) and corrigendum (*tabled 9 November 2005*)

Funding and disclosure: Inquiry into disclosure of donations to political parties and candidates (*presented to the President on 31 March 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

Employment, Workplace Relations and Education—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Employment and Workplace Relations; Education, Science and Training

Members

Senator Troeth (*Chair*), Senator Marshall (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Barnett, George Campbell, Fifield, Lightfoot, McEwen and Stott Despoja

Participating members

Senators Allison, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carr, Chapman, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Forshaw, Hogg, Humphries, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kemp, Ludwig, Lundy, McLucas, Ian Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, Milne, Moore, Murray, Nash, Nettle, O'Brien, Patterson, Payne, Polley, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Trood, Watson, Webber, Wong and Wortley

Current inquiries

Workforce challenges in the Australian transport sector (*referred 6 September 2006; reporting date: last sitting day in June 2007*)

The current level of academic standards of school education (*referred 8 February 2007; reporting date: 15 August 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Legislation Committee

Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 3) 2004 (*presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*) and a supplementary report from the Australian Democrats (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Protecting Small Business Employment) Bill 2004—Interim report (*presented to the President on 14 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Inquiry into the proposed amendment in the form of Schedule 1B to the Workplace Relations Amendment (Codifying Contempt Offences) Bill 2004—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator McLucas, on 27 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Workplace Relations Amendment (Agreement Validation) Bill 2004 (*tabled 29 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Small Business Employment Protection) Bill 2004 (*tabled 14 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Right of Entry) Bill 2004 (*tabled 14 March 2005*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Building and Construction Industry Improvement Bill 2005 and the Building and Construction Industry Improvement (Consequential and Transitional) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)

Provisions of the Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employment) Amendment (Promoting Safer Workplaces) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)

Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 1) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Provisions of Skilling Australia's Workforce Bill 2005 and Skilling Australia's Workforce (Repeal and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2005 (*tabled 9 August 2005*)

Provisions of the Higher Education Support Amendment (Abolition of Compulsory Up-front Student Union Fees) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 August 2005*)

Indigenous Education (Targeted Assistance) Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Provisions of the Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Bill 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (Workplace Relations Requirements) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 October 2005*)

Provisions of the Student Assistance Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 13 October 2005*)

Bills relating to the establishment of Carnegie Mellon University 2005: Provisions of the Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2005 Measures No. 4) Bill 2005 and the Education Services for Overseas Students Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Provisions of the Workplace Relations Amendment (Work Choices) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 22 November 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 28 November 2005*)

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Bill 2005 and Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Related Amendments) Bill 2005 (*tabled 29 November 2005*)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 28 March 2006*)
 Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)
 Provisions of the OHS and SRC Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 9 May 2006*)
 Provisions of the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation Amendment Bill 2006 (*tabled 10 May 2006*)
 Provisions of the Australian Research Council Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 June 2006*)
 Provisions of the Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 6 June 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 June 2006*)
 Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)
 Provisions of the Independent Contractors Bill 2006 and the Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Independent Contractors) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 25 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 4 September 2006*)
 Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

Reports presented by the former Employment, Workplace Relations and Education References Committee

Inquiry into lifelong learning—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 20 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)
 Inquiry into Indigenous training and employment—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 20 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)
 Inquiry into student income support—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 20 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)
 Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 8 December 2004*)
 Indigenous education funding—Interim report (*tabled 16 March 2005*)
 Unfair dismissal and small business employment (*tabled 21 June 2005*)
 Indigenous education funding—Final report (*tabled 22 June 2005*) and corrigendum (*tabled 23 June 2004*)
 Student income support (*tabled 23 June 2005*)
 Workplace agreements (*presented to the President on 31 October 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 November 2005*)

Reports presented by the Employment, Workplace Relations and Education Committee

Higher Education Legislation Amendment (2006 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 9 October 2006*)
 Perspectives on the future of the harvest labour force (*tabled 19 October 2006*)
 Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 30 November 2006*)
 Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 20 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*)
 Australian Technical Colleges (Flexibility in Achieving Australia's Skills Needs) Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 20 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*)

Employment and Workplace Relations Legislation Amendment (Welfare to Work and Vocational Rehabilitation Services) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 20 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*)

Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/ecita_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Environment and Water Resources; Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

Members

Senator Eggleston (*Chair*), Senator Bartlett (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Kemp, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Ronaldson, Webber and Wortley

Substitute member

Australia's Indigenous visual arts and craft sector—Senator Crossin to replace Senator Lundy

Participating members

Senators Adams, Allison, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Crossin, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Forshaw, Heffernan, Hogg, Humphries, Joyce, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Moore, Nash, Nettle, O'Brien, Payne, Ray, Scullion, Siewert, Stott Despoja, Watson and Wong

Current inquiries

Australia's national parks (*referred 7 December 2005; reporting date: 29 March 2007*)

Australia's Indigenous visual arts and craft sector (*referred 15 August 2006; reporting date: 12 June 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Legislation Committee

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the National Water Commission Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Provisions of the Broadcasting Services Amendment (Anti-Siphoning) Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 14 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Regular Reviews and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 11 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 May 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Telstra (Transition to Full Private Ownership) Bill 2005 and related bills (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

Provisions of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority Bill 2005 and the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 February 2006*)

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Amendment Bill 2005 [2006] (*tabled 8 February 2006*)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 28 March 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

Australian Broadcasting Corporation Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

Provisions of the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment Bill 2006 (*tabled 9 May 2006*)

Provisions of the Do Not Call Register Bill 2006 and the Do Not Call Register (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2006 (*tabled 19 June 2006*)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

Reports presented by the former Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee

Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's energy white paper—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 1 December 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Turning back the tide – the invasive species challenge: Report on the regulation, control and management of invasive species and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Invasive Species) Bill 2002 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

A lost opportunity? Inquiry into the provisions of the Australian Communications and Media Authority Bill 2004 and related bills and matters (*tabled 10 March 2005*)

Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's energy white paper—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 18 April 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 11 May 2005*)

Lurching forward, looking back: Budgetary and environmental implications of the Government's Energy White Paper (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Crossin, on 16 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 June 2005*)

The performance of the Australian telecommunications regulatory regime (*tabled 10 August 2005*)

Living with salinity – a report on progress: The extent and economic impact of salinity in Australia (*tabled 28 March 2006*)

About time! Women in sport and recreation in Australia (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

Reports presented by the Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts Committee

Broadcasting Services Amendment (Media Ownership) Bill 2006, Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television) Bill 2006, Communications Legislation Amendment (Enforcement Powers) Bill 2006 [Provisions], Television Licence Fees Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] and a background paper by the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts on the two channels of spectrum for new digital services (*presented to the Deputy President on 6 October 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 October 2006*)

Environment and Heritage Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 1) 2006 [Provisions] (presented to the Deputy President on 21 November 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 November 2006)

Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee

http://www.apf.gov.au/senate/committee/fapa_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Parliament; Prime Minister and Cabinet; Finance and Administration; Human Services

Members

Senator Mason (*Chair*), Senator Forshaw (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Carol Brown, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Moore, Murray and Watson

Substitute member

Human Services (Enhanced Service Delivery) Bill 2007 [Provisions]—Senator Stott Despoja to replace Senator Murray

Participating members

Senators Barnett, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Heffernan, Hogg, Joyce, Kemp, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Marshall, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Murray, Nettle, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Ray, Ronaldson, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Trood, Webber and Wong

Current inquiries

Operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (*ordered 18 June 2003*)

The transparency and accountability of Commonwealth public funding and expenditure (*referred 20 June 2006; reporting date: 1 March 2007*)

Human Services (Enhanced Service Delivery) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*referred 8 February 2007; reporting date: 15 March 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*) and corrigendum (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator McLucas, on 7 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), May 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Provisions of the Electoral and Referendum Amendment (Electoral Integrity and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*tabled 28 March 2006*) and corrigendum (*tabled 9 May 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 30 March 2006*)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

Reports presented by the former Finance and Public Administration References Committee

Inquiry into government advertising and accountability—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 3 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Regional Partnerships and Sustainable Regions programs (*tabled 6 October 2005*)

Matters relating to the Gallipoli Peninsula (*tabled 13 October 2005*)

Government advertising and accountability (*tabled 6 December 2005*)

Reports presented by the Finance and Public Administration Committee

Medibank Private Sale Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 27 November 2006*)

Electoral and Referendum Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 20 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007*)

- * Departmental and agency contracts: Second report on the operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (2003-06) (*tabled 27 February 2007*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfadit/index.htm>

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Senator Ferguson (*Chair*), Mr Edwards (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Crossin, Eggleston, Hutchins, Johnston, Kirk, Sandy Macdonald, Moore, Payne, Stott Despoja and Webber and Mr Baird, Mr Barresi, Mr Danby, Mrs Draper, Mrs Gash, Mr Gibbons, Mr Haase, Mr Hatton, Mr Jull, Mrs Moylan, Mr Prosser, Mr Scott, Mr Sercombe, Dr Southcott, Mr Snowdon, Mr CP Thompson, Ms Vamvakinou, Mr Wakelin and Mr Wilkie

Current inquiries

Australian Defence Force regional air superiority (*referred 14 June 2005*)

Australia's relationship with Malaysia (*adopted 14 June 2006*)

Australia's trade with Mexico and the region (*adopted 11 October 2006*)

Review of the Defence annual report 2005-06 (*adopted 7 February 2007*)

Reports presented

Expanding Australia's trade and investment relations with the Gulf States (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Australia's human rights dialogue process (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

Reform of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

Review of the Defence Annual Report 2003-04 (*tabled 11 October 2005*)

Australia's defence relations with the United States—Report of the delegation to the United States, 28 June to 13 July 2005 (*tabled 11 October 2005*)

Australia's free trade agreements with Singapore, Thailand and the United States: progress to date and lessons for the future (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Visit to Australian Defence Forces deployed to support the rehabilitation of Iraq – Report of the delegation, 22 to 28 October 2005 (*tabled 13 June 2006*)

Australia's defence relations with the United States (*tabled 13 June 2006*)

Expanding Australia's trade and investment relations with North America (*tabled 13 June 2006*)

Australia's relationship with the Republic of Korea; and developments on the Korean peninsula (*tabled 22 June 2006*)
Australia's response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami (*tabled 22 June 2006*)
Review of the Defence Annual Report 2004-05 (*tabled 18 October 2006*)
Review of Australia-New Zealand trade and investment relations (*tabled 7 December 2006*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/FADT_CTTE/index.htm

Portfolios

Foreign Affairs and Trade; Defence (including Veterans' Affairs)

Members

Senator Johnston (*Chair*), Senator Hutchins (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bishop, Ferguson, Hogg, Payne and Trood

Participating members

Senators Adams, Allison, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferris, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Forshaw, Heffernan, Hurley, Joyce, Kemp, Kirk, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Marshall, McGauran, Mason, Milne, Nash, Nettle, Polley, Ray, Scullion, Siewert, Sterle, Stott Despoja, Watson, Webber and Wortley

Current inquiries

Australia's public diplomacy (*referred 7 November 2006; reporting date: 12 June 2007*)

Australia's involvement in international peacekeeping operations (*referred 8 November 2006; reporting date: 16 August 2007*)

Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006 (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date: 29 March 2007*)

Review of reforms to Australia's military justice system by the Australian Defence Force (*adopted under standing order 25(2)(b), 22 June 2006*)

Reports presented by the former Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 14 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 28 March 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

Provisions of the Australian Trade Commission Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

Provisions of the Export Market Development Grants Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

Reforms to Australia's military justice system—First progress report (*tabled 17 August 2006*) and correction (*tabled 17 August 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

Export Finance and Insurance Corporation Amendment Bill 2006 (*tabled 7 September 2006*)

Reports presented by the former Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee

Inquiry into the effectiveness of Australia's military justice system—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator McLucas, on 8 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 6 December 2004*)

The effectiveness of Australia's military justice system (*tabled 16 June 2005*)

Duties of Australian personnel in Iraq (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Mr Chen Yonglin's request for political asylum (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

The removal, search for and discovery of Ms Vivian Solon—Interim report (*tabled 15 September 2005*)

Opportunities and challenges: Australia's relationship with China (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

The removal, search for and discovery of Ms Vivian Solon—Final report (*tabled 8 December 2005*)

China's emergence: Implications for Australia (*tabled 30 March 2006*)

Reports presented by the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee

Customs Amendment (2007 Harmonized System Changes) Bill 2006 [Provisions] and Customs Tariff Amendment (2007 Harmonized System Changes) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 11 October 2006*)

Defence Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 27 October 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 6 November 2006*)

Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) Bill 2006 [Provisions] and Australian Participants in British Nuclear Tests (Treatment) (Consequential Amendments and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*tabled 8 November 2006*)

Blue water ships: Consolidating past achievements (*tabled 7 December 2006*)

Non-Proliferation Legislation Amendment Bill 2006 (*tabled 8 February 2007*)

House—Standing Committee

Members

The President (*Chair*), the Deputy President and Senators Carr, Crossin, Ferris, Lightfoot and Stephens

Intelligence and Security—Joint Statutory Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/pjcis/index.htm>

(formerly the Parliamentary Joint Committee on ASIO, ASIS and DSD; name amended 2 December 2005 pursuant to item 39 in Part 4 of Schedule 1 of the Intelligence Services Legislation Amendment Act 2005)

Members

Mr Jull (*Chair*), Mr Byrne (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Faulkner, Ferguson, Nash and Ray and Mr Ciobo, Mr Kerr and Mr McArthur

Current inquiries

Review of listings of certain terrorist organisations under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (*statutory responsibility*)

Terrorist organisation provisions of the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (*statutory responsibility*)

Review of administration and expenditure: Australian intelligence organisations – No. 5 (*statutory responsibility*)

Reports presented

Review of the listing of six terrorist organisations (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Review of administration and expenditure for ASIO, ASIS and DSD (*tabled 14 March 2005*)

Annual report of committee activities 2004-05 (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Review of the listing of Tanzim Qa'idat al-jihad fi Bilad al-Rafidayn (the al-Zarqawi network) as a terrorist organisation (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Review of the listing of seven terrorist organisations (*tabled 9 August 2005*)

Review of the listing of four terrorist organisations (*tabled 5 September 2005*)

Intelligence Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

ASIO's questioning and detention powers: Review of the operation, effectiveness and implications of Division 3 of Part III in the *Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Act 1979* (*tabled 30 November 2005*)

Review of the listing of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 26 April 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

Review of administration and expenditure: Australian intelligence organisations: Number 4 – recruitment and training (*tabled 14 August 2006*)

Annual report of committee activities 2005-06 (*tabled 11 September 2006*)

Review of the re-listing of Al-Qa'ida and Jemaah Islamiyah as terrorist organisations (*tabled 16 October 2006*)

Review of security and counter terrorism legislation (*tabled 4 December 2006*)

Review of the re-listing of ASG, JuA, GIA and GSPC (*tabled 26 February 2007*)

Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/legcon_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Attorney-General; Immigration and Citizenship

Members

Senator Payne (*Chair*), Senator Crossin (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Kirk, Ludwig, Sandy Macdonald, Parry and Trood

Participating members

Senators Allison, Barnett, Bernardi, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Conroy, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Ferris, Fielding, Fifield, Fierravanti-Wells, Heffernan, Hogg, Humphries, Hurley, Johnston, Joyce, Kemp, Lightfoot, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Murray, Nettle, Patterson, Ray, Sherry, Siewert, Stephens, Stott Despoja, Watson and Webber

Current inquiry

AusCheck Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*referred 8 February 2007; reporting date: 14 March 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Legal and Constitutional Legislation Committee

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Marriage Amendment Bill 2004 (*presented to the President on 6 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Criminal Code Amendment (Suicide Related Material Offences) Bill 2004 (*presented to the President on 6 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Copyright Legislation Amendment Bill 2004 (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Disability Discrimination Amendment (Education Standards) Bill 2004 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Administrative Appeals Tribunal Amendment Bill 2004 [2005] (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

Criminal Code Amendment (Trafficking in Persons Offences) Bill 2004 [2005] (*tabled 10 March 2005*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Migration Litigation Reform Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 11 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 May 2005*)

Provisions of the National Security Information Legislation Amendment Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 11 May 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 May 2005*)

Provisions of the Criminal Code Amendment (Suicide Related Material Offences) Bill 2005 (*tabled 12 May 2005*)

Crimes Legislation Amendment (Telecommunications Interception and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 17 June 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 20 June 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Provisions of the Copyright Amendment (Film Directors' Rights) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 August 2005*)

Provisions of the Law and Justice Legislation Amendment (Serious Drug Offences and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Kirk, on 15 August 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 August 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Provisions of the Law and Justice Legislation Amendment (Video Link Evidence and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 1 November 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 November 2005*)

Provisions of the Anti-Terrorism Bill (No. 2) 2005 (*tabled 28 November 2005*)

Defence Legislation Amendment (Aid to Civilian Authorities) Bill 2005 (*tabled 7 February 2006*)

- Provisions of the Australian Citizenship Bill 2005 and the Australian Citizenship (Transitionals and Consequentials) Bill 2005 (*tabled 27 February 2006*)
- Provisions of the Family Law Amendment (Shared Parental Responsibility) Bill 2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 24 March 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 March 2006*)
- Provisions of the Telecommunications (Interception) Amendment Bill 2006 (*tabled 27 March 2006*)
- Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 28 March 2006*)
- Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)
- Exposure draft of the Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Bill 2005 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 13 April 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)
- Provisions of the Customs Legislation Amendment (Border Compliance and Other Measures) Bill 2006—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)
- Provisions of the Federal Magistrates Amendment (Disability and Death Benefits) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)
- Migration Amendment (Employer Sanctions) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)
- Provisions of the Customs Legislation Amendment (Border Compliance and Other Measures) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Deputy President on 4 May 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)
- Provisions of the Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner Bill 2006, the Law Enforcement Integrity Commissioner (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2006 and the Law Enforcement (AFP Professional Standards and Related Measures) Bill 2006 (*tabled 11 May 2006*)
- Provisions of the Migration Amendment (Designated Unauthorised Arrivals) Bill 2006 (*tabled 13 June 2006*)
- Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)
- Crimes Act Amendment (Forensic Procedures) Bill (No. 1) 2006 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 1 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 8 August 2006*)
- Customs Legislation Amendment (Modernising Import Controls and Other Measures) Bill 2006 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 1 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 8 August 2006*)
- Financial Transaction Reports Amendment Bill 2006 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 1 August 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 8 August 2006*)
- Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 7 September 2006*)
- Reports presented by the former Legal and Constitutional References Committee*
- The road to a republic (*presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)
- Inquiry into Australian expatriates—Interim report (*presented to the President on 1 October 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)
- Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 6 December 2004*)
- They still call Australia home: Inquiry into Australian expatriates (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

The real Big Brother: Inquiry into the *Privacy Act 1988* (tabled 23 June 2005)
 Administration and operation of the *Migration Act 1958* (Cth)—Interim report
 (presented to the Deputy President on 21 December 2005, pursuant to standing
 order 38(7); tabled 7 February 2006)
 Administration and operation of the *Migration Act 1958* (tabled 2 March 2006)

Reports presented by the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee

Migration Amendment (Visa Integrity) Bill 2006 (tabled 11 September 2006)
 Provisions of the Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005—
 Interim report (tabled 14 September 2006)
 Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) Bill 2005 [Provisions],
 Corporations Amendment (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporations) Bill
 2006 [Provisions] and Corporations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander)
 Consequential, Transitional and Other Measures Bill 2006 [Provisions] (tabled
 9 October 2006)
 Privacy Legislation Amendment (Emergencies and Disasters) Bill 2006 (tabled
 12 October 2006)
 Crimes Amendment (Bail and Sentencing) Bill 2006 (tabled 16 October 2006)
 Inquiry into the provisions of the Copyright Amendment Bill 2006—Interim report
 (presented to the Deputy President on 10 November 2006, pursuant to standing
 order 38(7); tabled 27 November 2006)
 Copyright Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (presented to the Deputy President on
 13 November 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 November 2006)
 Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Veterans' Affairs
 Legislation Amendment (2006 Budget Measures) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (presented to
 the Deputy President on 22 November 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled
 27 November 2006)
 Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Bill 2006 [Provisions] and
 Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (Transitional Provisions
 and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (tabled 28 November 2006)
 Unfinished business: Indigenous stolen wages (tabled 7 December 2006)
 Crimes Legislation Amendment (National Investigative Powers and Witness
 Protection) Bill 2006 (tabled 7 February 2007)
 Bankruptcy Legislation Amendment (Superannuation Contributions) Bill 2006 (tabled
 8 February 2007)
 Customs Legislation Amendment (Augmenting Offshore Powers and Other Measures)
 Bill 2006 [Provisions] (tabled 8 February 2007)
 Migration Amendment (Review Provisions) Bill 2006 (presented to the Deputy
 President on 20 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February
 2007)
 Native Title Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (presented to the Deputy President on
 23 February 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 February 2007)

Library—Standing Committee

Members

The President (*Chair*) and Senators Allison, Brandis, Hutchins, Nash, Trood and
 Webber

Lindeberg Grievance—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/lindeberg_ctte/index.htm

(appointed 1 April 2004; final report tabled 16 November 2004)

Report presented

Report (presented to the Deputy President on 15 November 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)

Mental Health—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/mentalhealth_ctte/index.htm

(appointed 8 March 2005; terms of appointment varied 18 August 2005; final report tabled 9 May 2006)

Members

Leader of the Australian Democrats (*Chair*), Senator Humphries (*Deputy Chair*) and Senators Forshaw, Moore, Scullion, Troeth and Webber

Reports presented

A national approach to mental health – from crisis to community—First report (tabled 30 March 2006)

A national approach to mental health – from crisis to community—Final report (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 28 April 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006)

Migration—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/mig/index.htm>

(appointed 18 November 2004)

Members

Mr Randall (*Chair*), Senator Polley (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Eggleston and Parry and Mr L Ferguson, Mrs Irwin, Mr Keenan, Dr Lawrence and Dr Southcott

Current inquiry

Eligibility requirements and monitoring, enforcement and reporting arrangements for temporary business visas (adopted 6 December 2006)

Reports presented

Inspections of Baxter Immigration Detention Facility and Port Augusta Residential Housing Project, April 2005 (tabled 22 June 2005)

Review of Audit Report no. 1, 2005-06, Management of the detention centre contracts—Part B (tabled 6 December 2005)

Negotiating the maze: Review of arrangements for overseas skills recognition, upgrading and licensing (tabled 11 September 2006)

Australia-New Zealand Committee Exchange Program—Report of the parliamentary delegation to New Zealand, 27 to 31 August 2006 (tabled 4 December 2006)

National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ncet/index.htm>

(appointed 18 November 2004)

Members

Senator Lightfoot (*Chair*), Senator Lundy (*Deputy Chair*), the Deputy President and Chairman of Committees, the Deputy Speaker, and Senators Crossin, Joyce and Stott Despoja and Mrs AL Ellis, Mrs Mirabella, Mr Neville, Mr Snowdon and Mr Secker

Reports presented

Indian Ocean territories: Review of the annual reports of the Department of Transport and Regional Services and the Department of the Environment and Heritage (presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)

Difficult choices: Inquiry into the role of the National Capital Authority in determining the extent of redevelopment of the Pierces Creek Settlement in the ACT (presented to the President on 31 August 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004)

Antarctica: Australia's pristine frontier—Report on the adequacy of funding for Australia's Antarctic Program (tabled 23 June 2005)

Norfolk Island financial sustainability: The challenge – sink or swim (tabled 1 December 2005)

Current and future governance arrangements for the Indian Ocean Territories (tabled 13 June 2006)

Visit to Norfolk Island: 2-5 August 2006 (tabled 9 October 2006)

Native Title and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Account—Joint Statutory Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/ntlf_ctte/index.htm

(in accordance with the Extension of Sunset of Parliamentary Joint Committee on Native Title Act 2004, the committee ceased operation on 23 March 2006; name amended 22 February 2005 pursuant to items 208 and 210 in Part 2 of Schedule 1 of the Financial Framework Legislation Amendment Act 2005)

Members

Senator Scullion (*Chair*), Mr McMullan (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Crossin, Evans, Johnston and Siewert and Mr Melham, Mr Randall, Mr Slipper and Mr Tollner

Reports presented

Examination of annual reports in fulfilment of the committee's duties pursuant to s.206(c) of the Native Title Act 1993—

2003-04 (tabled 23 June 2005)

2004-05 (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 21 March 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 March 2006)

Report on the operation of Native Title Representative Bodies (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 21 March 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 27 March 2006)

Parliamentary Library—Joint Standing Committee

(appointed 7 December 2005)

Members

Senator Trood and Mr Adams (*Joint Chairs*), Senators Allison, Brandis, Hutchins, Nash and Webber and Mr Broadbent, Mr Georgiou, Mr Hatton, Mr BP O'Connor, Mr Wakelin and Mr Anderson

Privileges—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/priv_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Faulkner (*Chair*), Senator Ronaldson (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Humphries, Johnston, Payne, Ray and Sherry

Current inquiry

Having regard to the material presented to the Senate by the President on 6 February 2007, whether any false or misleading evidence was given to a Senate committee, whether there was any improper refusal to provide information to a committee, and whether any contempt was committed in that regard (*referred 7 February 2007*)

Reports presented

120th report—Possible unauthorised disclosure of private deliberations or draft report of Select Committee on the Free Trade Agreement between Australia and the United States of America (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

121st report—Possible unauthorised disclosure of draft reports of Community Affairs References Committee (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

122nd report—Parliamentary privilege – unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings (*tabled 21 June 2005*)

123rd report—Possible failure by a senator to comply with the Senate's resolution relating to registration of interests (*tabled 5 October 2005*)

124th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Professor David Peetz) (*tabled 6 December 2005*)

125th report—Parliamentary privilege: Precedents, procedures and practice in the Australian Senate 1966-2005 (*presented to the Deputy President on 19 December 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 February 2006*)

126th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Professor Barbara Pocock) (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

127th report—Persons referred to in the Senate (Certain persons on behalf of the Exclusive Brethren) (*tabled 21 June 2006*)

128th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Mr Karl J O'Callaghan, APM, Commissioner of Police, Western Australia) (*tabled 16 August 2006*)

129th report—Person referred to in the Senate (Dr Clive Hamilton) (*tabled 8 November 2006*)

Procedure—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/proc_ctte/index.htm

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 Bartlett, Eggleston, Ellison, Faulkner, Ferguson and Ray

Current inquiry

Adequacy and appropriateness of the Register of Senators' Interests (*referred 20 June 2005*)

Reports presented

First report of 2005—Storage of Senate documents; Unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings (*presented to the President on 20 September 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 5 October 2005*)

Second report of 2005—Declaration of interests: registration of Senators' share tradings; Unanswered questions and orders for documents: proposed amendments of standing orders 74(5) and 164; Repeated motions for suspension of standing orders: ruling of the President of 14 September 2005 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Moore, on 28 October 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 7 November 2005*)

First report of 2006—Restructuring the committee system (*tabled 10 August 2006*)

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Statutory Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jpaa/index.htm>

Members

Mr Barresi (*Chairman*), Ms Grierson (*Vice Chairman*), Senators Bishop[†], Hogg, Humphries, Murray, Nash and Watson and Mrs BK Bishop, Mr Broadbent, Mr Emerson, Dr Jensen, Ms JM Kelly, Ms King, Dr Laming and Mr Tanner

[†]Senator Bishop to be discharged at the completion of the committee's inquiry into the financial reporting and equipment acquisition at the Department of Defence and Defence Materiel Organisation with Senator Moore to be reappointed in his place

Current inquiries

Certain taxation matters (*adopted 7 December 2005*)

Financial reporting and equipment acquisition at the Department of Defence and Defence Materiel Organisation (*adopted 1 March 2006*)

Reports presented

Nomination of a new Commonwealth Auditor-General, pursuant to subsection 8A(7) of the *Public Accounts and Audit Committee Act 1951* (*statement made, by way of a report, 10 March 2005*)

Report 403—Access of Indigenous Australians to law and justice services (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Report 404—Review of Auditor-General's reports 2003-04: Third and fourth quarters; and first and second quarters of 2004-05 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Report 405—Annual report 2004-05 (*tabled 28 November 2005*)

Report 406—Developments in aviation security since the committee's June 2004 Report 400: *Review of aviation security in Australia* – An interim report (*tabled 8 December 2005*)

Report 407—Review of Auditor-General's reports tabled between 18 January and 18 April 2005 (*tabled 4 September 2006*)

Report 408—Annual report 2005-06 (*tabled 6 November 2006*)

Report 409—Developments in aviation security since the committee's June 2004 Report 400: *Review of Aviation Security in Australia* (*tabled 4 December 2006*)

Committee documents presented

Statement on the Australian National Audit Office budget estimates for 2005-06 (*tabled 11 May 2005*)

Statement on the Australian National Audit Office budget estimates for 2006-07 (*tabled 11 May 2005*)

Public Works—Joint Statutory Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/pwc/index.htm>

Members

Mrs Moylan (*Chairman*), Mr BP O'Connor (*Deputy Chairman*), Senators Forshaw, Parry and Troeth and Mr Forrest, Mr Jenkins, Mr Ripoll and Mr Wakelin

Reports presented

Development of land at Lee Point, Darwin, for defence and private housing (Fifth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet at 1 National Circuit, Barton, ACT (Sixth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Attorney-General's Department at 3-5 National Circuit, Barton, ACT (Seventh report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

New east building for the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, ACT (Eighth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Development of a new collection storage facility for the National Library of Australia at Hume, ACT (Ninth report of 2004) (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Sixty-eighth annual report, March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources in Civic, ACT (First report of 2005) (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

New housing for Defence Housing Authority at McDowall, Brisbane, Queensland (Second report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Provision of facilities for Maribyrnong Immigration Detention Centre additional accommodation and related works, Maribyrnong, Victoria (Third report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Development of on-base housing for Defence at Puckapunyal, Victoria (Fourth report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Defence Science and Technology Organisation Ordnance Breakdown Facility, Port Wakefield, South Australia (Fifth report of 2005) (*tabled 14 June 2005*)

Australia House Defence and lightwells refurbishment, Australian High Commission, London (Sixth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Mid-life upgrade of existing chancery at the Australian High Commission, Singapore (Seventh report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

New Consulate-General building, Bali, Indonesia (Eighth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Construction of Chancery, Vientiane, Laos (Ninth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Reserve Bank of Australia business resumption site (Tenth report of 2005) (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Holsworthy program – Special operations working accommodation and base redevelopment stage 1 (Eleventh report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

CSIRO entomology bioscience laboratory at Black Mountain, Canberra, ACT (Twelfth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Operational upgrade, Darwin Detention Facility, Berrimah, NT (Thirteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Upgrade patrol boat facilities, HMAS *Coonawarra*, Darwin, NT (Fourteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Redevelopment of Kokoda Barracks, Canungra, Queensland (Fifteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Redevelopment of Willis Island meteorological office, Coral Sea (Sixteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 14 September 2005*)

Refurbishment of the Royal Australian Mint, Canberra, ACT (Seventeenth report of 2005) (*tabled 12 October 2005*)

RAAF Base Amberley redevelopment stage 2, Queensland (Eighteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Relocation of RAAF College; RAAF Base East Sale, Victoria and RAAF Base Wagga, New South Wales (Nineteenth report of 2005) (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

CSIRO minerals laboratory extensions at Waterford, Perth, WA (Twentieth report of 2005) (*tabled 9 November 2005*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for AusAID at London Circuit, City, ACT (Twenty-first report of 2005) (*tabled 9 November 2005*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Australian Customs Service at 1010 Latrobe Street, Melbourne Docklands (Twenty-second report of 2005) (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

Construction of Chancery, Phnom Penh, Cambodia (First report of 2006) (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

Construction of Chancery, Rangoon, Burma (Second report of 2006) (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

171st Aviation Squadron relocation, Holsworthy Barracks, NSW (Third report of 2006) (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

Fit-out of an extension to leased premises for IP Australia in Woden, ACT (Fourth report of 2006) (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

Redevelopment of Post 1945 Conflicts Galleries and Discovery Room for the Australian War Memorial, Canberra, ACT (Fifth report of 2006) (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

Sixty-ninth annual report, March 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry in Civic, ACT (Sixth report of 2006) (*tabled 10 May 2006*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Australian Taxation Office at the site known as Section 84, Precincts B and C, Canberra City, ACT (Seventh report of 2006) (*tabled 10 May 2006*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for Centrelink at Greenway, ACT (Eighth report of 2006) (*tabled 13 June 2006*)

HMAS *Cairns* redevelopment, Cairns, Queensland (Ninth report of 2006) (*tabled 14 June 2006*)

Construction of housing for Defence at Fairview Rise, Ipswich, Queensland (Tenth report of 2006) (*tabled 14 June 2006*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Australian Securities and Investments Commission at 120 Collins Street, Melbourne (Eleventh report of 2006) (*tabled 21 June 2006*)

Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Facilities Project, Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera, Queensland (Twelfth report of 2006) (*tabled 16 August 2006*)

Australian Institute of Police Management redevelopment, North Head, Manly, NSW (Thirteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

Facilities upgrade to the Shoalwater Bay Training Area, Rockhampton, Queensland (Fourteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 13 September 2006*)

Facilities for troop lift helicopter, RAAF Base Townsville, Queensland (Fifteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 13 September 2006*)

Provision of facilities for Project Single Living Environment and Accommodation Precinct – Phase one (Sixteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 18 October 2006*)

Development of canine kennelling and training facilities for the Australian Federal Police at Majura, ACT (Seventeenth report of 2006) (*tabled 18 October 2006*)

Fit-out of new leased premises for the Department of Employment and Workplace Relation at 29-31 Brindabella Business Park, ACT (Eighteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 18 October 2006*)

Extension and accommodation upgrade to the existing Chancery of the Australian Embassy in Beijing, China (Nineteenth report of 2006) (*tabled 6 December 2006*)

Publications—Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/publ/index.htm>

Members

Senator Barnett (*Chair*), Senators Johnston, Marshall, Nash, Polley, Sterle and Wortley

Reports presented

1st report (*tabled 9 December 2004*)

2nd report (*tabled 17 March 2005*)

3rd report (*tabled 12 May 2005*)

4th report (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

5th report (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

6th report (*tabled 15 September 2005*)

7th report (*tabled 13 October 2005*)

8th report (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

9th report (*tabled 8 December 2005*)

10th report (*tabled 2 March 2006*)

11th report (*tabled 30 March 2006*)

12th report (*tabled 11 May 2006*)

Distribution of the Parliamentary Papers series (*tabled 13 June 2006*)

13th report (*tabled 22 June 2006*)

14th report (*tabled 17 August 2006*)

15th report (*tabled 14 September 2006*)

16th report (*tabled 19 October 2006*)

17th report (*tabled 9 November 2006*)

18th report (*tabled 7 December 2006*)

Regulations and Ordinances—Legislative Scrutiny Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/regord_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Watson (*Chairman*), Senators Bartlett, Carol Brown, Fierravanti-Wells, Mason and Wortley

Report presented

112th report—40th Parliament report (*tabled 23 June 2005*)

Documents presented

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, February to December 2004 (*tabled 9 March 2005*)

Delegated legislation monitor—Regulations and disallowable instruments tabled in the Senate in 2004, dated February 2005 (*tabled 9 March 2005*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, December 2004 to June 2005 (*tabled 10 November 2005*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, May to December 2005 (*tabled 2 March 2006*)

Delegated legislation monitor—Disallowable legislative instruments tabled in the Senate in 2005, dated March 2006 (*tabled 30 March 2006*)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, December 2005 to June 2006 (*tabled 7 September 2006*)

Delegated legislation monitor—Disallowable legislative instruments tabled in the Senate in 2006, dated February 2007 (*tabled 8 February 2007*)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/rrat_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Transport and Regional Services; Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Members

Senator Heffernan (*Chair*), Senator Siewert (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Ferris, McEwen, McGauran, Nash, O'Brien and Sterle

Participating members

Senators Adams, Allison, Barnett, Bartlett, Bernardi, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, George Campbell, Carr, Chapman, Crossin, Eggleston, Evans, Faulkner, Ferguson, Fielding, Hogg, Hutchins, Joyce, Kemp, Lightfoot, Ludwig, Lundy, Ian Macdonald, Mason, McLucas, Milne, Nettle, Payne, Polley, Ray, Stephens, Trood, Watson and Webber

Current inquiries

Airspace Bill 2006 [Provisions] and Airspace (Consequential and Other Measures) Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date: 28 February 2007*)

Airports Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date: 28 February 2007*)

Murray-Darling Basin Amendment Bill 2006 [Provisions] (*referred 7 December 2006; reporting date: 2 March 2007*)

Options for additional water supplies for South East Queensland (*referred 26 February 2007*)

Reports presented by the former Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2004), including final report on the administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, September 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 1 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2004 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Provisions of the National Animal Welfare Bill 2003—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Watson, on 8 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 1 December 2004*)

Additional estimates 2004-05, March 2005 (*tabled 15 March 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2005), March 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)

Administration of Biosecurity Australia – Revised draft import risk analysis for bananas from the Philippines (*tabled 17 March 2005*)

Administration of Biosecurity Australia – Revised draft import risk analysis for apples from New Zealand (*tabled 17 March 2005*)

Provisions of the Border Protection Legislation Amendment (Deterrence of Illegal Foreign Fishing) Bill 2005 (*tabled 10 May 2005*)

Provisions of the AusLink (National Land Transport) Bill 2004 and the AusLink (National Land Transport—Consequential and Transitional Provisions) Bill 2004 (*tabled 12 May 2005*)

Budget estimates 2005-06, June 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Regulatory framework under the *Maritime Transport Security Amendment Act 2005* (*tabled 10 August 2005*)

Civil Aviation Legislation Amendment (Mutual Recognition with New Zealand) Bill 2005 (*tabled 5 September 2005*)

Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Amendment (Maritime Security Guards and Other Measures) Bill 2005 (*tabled 5 September 2005*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2005), September 2005 (*tabled 8 September 2005*)

Additional estimates 2005-06, March 2006 (*tabled 30 March 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2006), May 2006 (*tabled 10 May 2006*)

Provisions of the Maritime Transport and Offshore Facilities Security Amendment (Security Plans and Other Measures) Bill 2006 (*tabled 15 June 2006*)

The administration by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry of the citrus canker outbreak (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

Budget estimates 2006-07, June 2006 (*tabled 20 June 2006*)

National Animal Welfare Bill 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2006*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2006), September 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)

Reports presented by the former Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee

Australian forest plantations: A review of Plantations for Australia: The 2020 Vision (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Ferguson, on 2 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004) and corrigendum (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Brandis, on 3 September 2004, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 November 2004) and further corrigenda (tabled 8 December 2004)

Iraqi wheat debt – repayments for wheat growers (tabled 16 June 2005)

The operation of the wine-making industry (tabled 13 October 2005)

Australia's future oil supply and alternative transport fuels—Interim report (tabled 7 September 2006)

Water policy initiatives—Interim report (tabled 7 September 2006)

Reports presented by the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

Water policy initiatives—Final report (tabled 5 December 2006) and erratum (tabled 7 February 2007)

Australia's future oil supply and alternative transport fuels—Final report (tabled 7 February 2007)

Scrafton Evidence—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/scrafton_ctte/index.htm

(appointed 30 August 2004; reappointed 18 November 2004; final report tabled 9 December 2004)

Members

Senator Collins (*Chair*), Senator Brandis (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Faulkner and Ferguson

Report presented

Report (tabled 9 December 2004)

Scrutiny of Bills—Legislative Scrutiny Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/scrutiny/index.htm>

Members

Senator Ray (*Chairman*), Senator Mason (*Deputy Chairman*), Senators Barnett, Johnston, McEwen and Murray

Alert Digests presented

No. 11 of 2004 (tabled 1 December 2004)

No. 12 of 2004 (tabled 8 December 2004)

No. 1 of 2005 (tabled 9 February 2005)

No. 2 of 2005 (tabled 9 March 2005)

No. 3 of 2005 (tabled 16 March 2005)

No. 4 of 2005 (tabled 12 May 2005)

No. 5 of 2005 (presented to the Deputy President on 1 June 2005, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 14 June 2005)

No. 6 of 2005 (tabled 15 June 2005)

No. 7 of 2005 (tabled 22 June 2005)

No. 8 of 2005 (tabled 10 August 2005)

No. 9 of 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)
No. 10 of 2005 (*tabled 7 September 2005*)
No. 11 of 2005 (*tabled 14 September 2005*)
No. 12 of 2005 (*tabled 5 October 2005*)
No. 13 of 2005 (*tabled 9 November 2005*)
No. 14 of 2005 (*tabled 30 November 2005*)
No. 15 of 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)
No. 1 of 2006 (*tabled 8 February 2006*)
No. 2 of 2006 (*tabled 1 March 2006*)
No. 3 of 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)
No. 4 of 2006 (*tabled 10 May 2006*)
No. 5 of 2006 (*tabled 14 June 2006*)
No. 6 of 2006 (*tabled 21 June 2006*)
No. 7 of 2006 (*tabled 9 August 2006*)
No. 8 of 2006 (*tabled 16 August 2006*)
No. 9 of 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)
No. 10 of 2006 (*tabled 13 September 2006*)
No. 11 of 2006 (*tabled 11 October 2006*)
No. 12 of 2006 (*tabled 18 October 2006*)
No. 13 of 2006 (*tabled 8 November 2006*)
No. 14 of 2006 (*tabled 29 November 2006*)
No. 15 of 2006 (*tabled 6 December 2006*)
No. 1 of 2007 (*tabled 7 February 2007*)

Reports presented

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 40th Parliament (*tabled 29 November 2004*)
Eleventh report of 2004 (*tabled 1 December 2004*)
Twelfth report of 2004 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)
First report of 2005 (*tabled 9 February 2005*)
Second report of 2005: Legislative Instruments Acts—Determinations (*tabled 9 March 2005*)
Third report of 2005 (*tabled 16 March 2005*)
Fourth report of 2005 (*tabled 12 May 2005*)
Fifth report of 2005 (*tabled 15 June 2005*)
Sixth report of 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)
Seventh report of 2005 (*tabled 10 August 2005*)
Eighth report of 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)
Ninth report of 2005 (*tabled 7 September 2005*)
Tenth report of 2005: [including: Retrospectivity—Scrutiny of Bills Committee Practice] (*tabled 14 September 2005*)
Eleventh report of 2005 (*tabled 5 October 2005*)
Twelfth report of 2005 (*tabled 12 October 2005*)
Thirteenth report of 2005 (*tabled 30 November 2005*)
Fourteenth report of 2005: Accountability and Standing Appropriations (*tabled 30 November 2005*)
First report of 2006 (*tabled 1 March 2006*)
Second report of 2006 (*tabled 29 March 2006*)
Third report of 2006 (*tabled 14 June 2006*)

Fourth report of 2006 (*tabled 21 June 2006*)
 Fifth report of 2006 (*tabled 9 August 2006*)
 Sixth report of 2006 (*tabled 16 August 2006*)
 Seventh report of 2006 (*tabled 6 September 2006*)
 Eighth report of 2006 (*tabled 11 October 2006*)
 Ninth report of 2006 (*tabled 18 October 2006*)
 Tenth report of 2006 (*tabled 8 November 2006*)
 Eleventh report of 2006 (*tabled 29 November 2006*)
 Twelfth report of 2006: Entry, search and seizure provisions in Commonwealth legislation (*tabled 4 December 2006*)
 Thirteenth report of 2006 (*tabled 6 December 2006*)
 First report of 2007 (*tabled 7 February 2007*)

Selection of Bills—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/selectionbills_ctte/index.htm

Members

The Government Whip (*Chair*), the Opposition Whip, the Australian Democrats Whip, the Nationals Whip, the Australian Greens Whip and Senators Ellison, Ludwig, Parry and Webber

Reports presented

Report no. 12 of 2004 (*presented 1 December 2004*)
 Report no. 13 of 2004 (*presented 6 December 2004*)
 Report no. 14 of 2004 (*presented 8 December 2004*)
 Report no. 1 of 2005 (*presented 9 February 2005*)
 Report no. 2 of 2005 (*presented 9 March 2005*)
 Report no. 3 of 2005 (*presented 16 March 2005*)
 Report no. 4 of 2005 (*presented 11 May 2005*)
 Report no. 5 of 2005 (*presented 15 June 2005*)
 Report no. 6 of 2005 (*presented 22 June 2005*)
 Report no. 7 of 2005 (*presented 10 August 2005*)
 Report no. 8 of 2005 (*presented 17 August 2005*)
 Report no. 9 of 2005 (*presented 7 September 2005*)
 Report no. 10 of 2005 (*presented 14 September 2005*)
 Report no. 11 of 2005 (*presented 5 October 2005*)
 Report no. 12 of 2005 (*presented 12 October 2005*)
 Report no. 13 of 2005 (*presented 9 November 2005*)
 Report no. 14 of 2005 (*presented 30 November 2005*)
 Report no. 15 of 2005 (*presented 8 December 2005*)
 Report no. 1 of 2006 (*presented 8 February 2006*)
 Report no. 2 of 2006 (*presented 1 March 2006*)
 Report no. 3 of 2006 (*presented 30 March 2006*)
 Report no. 4 of 2006 (*presented 11 May 2006*)
 Report no. 5 of 2006 (*presented 14 June 2006*)
 Report no. 6 of 2006 (*presented 22 June 2006*)
 Report no. 7 of 2006 (*presented 9 August 2006*)
 Report no. 8 of 2006 (*presented 16 August 2006*)

Report no. 9 of 2006 (*presented 7 September 2006*)
Report no. 10 of 2006 (*presented 14 September 2006*)
Report no. 11 of 2006 (*presented 11 October 2006*)
Report no. 12 of 2006 (*presented 19 October 2006*)
Report no. 13 of 2006 (*presented 8 November 2006*)
Report no. 14 of 2006 (*presented 29 November 2006*)
Report no. 15 of 2006 (*presented 7 December 2006*)
Report no. 16 of 2006 (*presented 7 December 2006*)
Report no. 1 of 2007 (*tabled 8 February 2007*)
Report no. 2 of 2007 (*tabled 8 February 2007*)

Senators' Interests—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/interests_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Webber (*Chair*), Senator Lightfoot (*Deputy Chair*), Senators Allison, Forshaw, Humphries, Kirk, McEwen and Nash

Notifications of alterations of interests

Register of senators' interests, incorporating a statement of interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 19 June and 6 December 2004 (*tabled 8 December 2004*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 7 December 2004 and 20 June 2005 (*tabled 22 June 2005*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating registrable statements of interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 21 June and 12 September 2005—Volumes 1 (A–L) and 2 (M–Z) (*tabled 15 September 2005*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 13 September 2005 and 5 December 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 6 December 2005 and 19 June 2006 (*tabled 21 June 2006*)

Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 20 June and 4 December 2006 (*tabled 6 December 2006*)

Reports presented

Report 1/2005: Annual report 2004 (*tabled 8 March 2005*)

Report 1/2006: Annual report 2005 (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

Report 2/2006: Review of arrangements for registration of senators' interests (*presented to the Deputy President on 6 April 2006, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 9 May 2006*)

Document presented

Issues raised with the Committee of Senators' Interests by Senator the Hon. Eric Abetz about Senator Bob Brown's statements of interests and the unauthorised disclosure of correspondence from Senator the Hon. Eric Abetz to the Committee of Senators' Interests—Documents and minutes of proceedings, dated September 2006 (*tabled 13 September 2006*)

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/index.htm>

(*appointed 18 November 2004*)

Members

Dr Southcott (*Chair*), Senators Bartlett, Carol Brown, Mason, McGauran, Sterle, Trood and Wortley and Mr Adams, Mr Johnson, Mr Keenan, Mr Laming, Mrs May, Mr Ripoll, Mr Scott and Mr Wilkie

Current inquiries

Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter 1972 (CO₂ sequestration in sub sea-bed formations) (*adopted 5 September 2006*)

All treaties tabled in the Senate

Reports presented

Report 61—The Australia – United States Free Trade Agreement—Corrigenda (*tabled 7 December 2004*)

Report 63—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (*tabled 7 March 2005*)

Report 64—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (2) (*tabled 11 May 2005*)

Report 65—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (3) and 8 February 2005 (*tabled 20 June 2005*)

Proposed agreement between Australia and the United States of America (US) relating to the surrender of US nationals to the International Criminal Court (*statement made, by way of a report, 20 June 2005*)

Report 66—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (4), 15 March and 11 May 2005 (*tabled 18 August 2005*)

Report 67—Treaties tabled on 21 June 2005 (*tabled 12 September 2005*)

Report 68—Treaties tabled on 7 December 2004 (5) and 9 August 2005 (*tabled 7 November 2005*)

Report 69—Treaties tabled on 13 September and 11 October 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

Report 70—Treaty tabled on 9 November 2005 (*tabled 7 December 2005*)

Report 71—Treaty tabled on 29 November 2005 (*tabled 27 February 2006*)

Report 72—Treaties tabled on 29 November 2005 (2) (*tabled 28 March 2006*) and erratum (*tabled 30 March 2006*)

Report 73—Treaties tabled in February 2006 (*tabled 10 May 2006*)

Report 74—Treaty tabled on 28 March 2006 (*tabled 13 June 2006*)

Report 75—Treaties tabled on 11 October 2005 (2), 28 February and 28 March 2006 (2) (*tabled 14 August 2006*)

Report 76—Treaties tabled on 28 March (3) and 10 May 2006 (*tabled 16 August 2006*)

Report 77—Treaties tabled on 20 June and 8 August 2006 (*tabled 9 October 2006*)

Report 78—Treaty scrutiny: A ten year review (*tabled 9 October 2006*)

Report 79—Treaties tabled on 10 May (2), 5 and 6 September 2006 (*tabled 19 October 2006*)

Report 80—Treaties tabled on 28 March (4) and 5 September (2) 2006 (*tabled 19 October 2006*)

Report 81—Treaties tabled on 8 August 2006 (2) (*tabled 6 December 2006*)

Report 82—Treaty tabled on 28 November 2006 (*tabled 7 December 2006*)

SENATE APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

Advisory Council on Australian Archives

Senator Faulkner (*reappointed 20 June 2005, with effect from 27 June 2005, for a period of 3 years*).

Council of the National Library of Australia

Senator Brandis (*appointed 14 March 2005 for a period of 3 years*).

Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Trust

Senators Faulkner and Watson (*appointed 1 July 2005 and 10 February 1994, respectively*).

HARRY EVANS

Clerk of the Senate

MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION

Minister	Representing
Senator the Honourable Nicholas Minchin (<u>Nick</u>) <i>Minister for Finance and Administration</i> <i>Leader of the Government in the Senate</i> <i>Vice-President of the Executive Council</i>	Prime Minister Treasurer Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources Minister for Small Business and Tourism Special Minister of State
Senator the Honourable Helen Coonan <i>Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts</i> <i>Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate</i>	Minister for Foreign Affairs Minister for Trade Minister for Revenue and Assistant Treasurer Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for Women's Issues
Senator the Honourable Ian Campbell <i>Minister for Human Services</i>	Minister for Transport and Regional Services Minister for Immigration and Citizenship Minister for Local Government, Territories and Roads
Senator the Honourable Christopher Ellison (<u>Chris</u>) <i>Minister for Justice and Customs</i> <i>Manager of Government Business in the Senate</i>	Attorney-General Minister for Defence Minister for Veterans' Affairs
Senator the Honourable Eric Abetz <i>Minister for Fisheries, Forestry and Conservation</i>	Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Minister for Workforce Participation Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service
Senator the Honourable Santo Santoro <i>Minister for Ageing</i>	Minister for Health and Ageing
Senator the Honourable George Brandis, SC <i>Minister for the Arts and Sport</i>	Minister for Education, Science and Training Minister for Vocational and Further Education
Senator the Honourable Nigel Scullion <i>Minister for Community Services</i>	Minister for Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
Parliamentary Secretary	
Senator the Honourable Richard Colbeck <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration</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.