

2008

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

NOTICE PAPER

No. 38

WEDNESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2008

The Senate meets at 9.30 am

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

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Order of the Day

- *1 **Procedure—Standing Committee—Second report of 2008—Questions to chairs of committees and other senators**
Consideration (14 October 2008).

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Orders of the Day

- 1 **Family Law Amendment (De Facto Financial Matters and Other Measures) Bill 2008**—(Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, Senator Conroy)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion and the Voluntary Sector (Senator Stephens), 14 October 2008*).
- 2 **Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—Superannuation) Bill 2008**—(Special Minister of State, Senator Faulkner)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion and the Voluntary Sector (Senator Stephens), 14 October 2008*).
- 3 **Offshore Petroleum Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008**
Offshore Petroleum (Annual Fees) Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008
Offshore Petroleum (Registration Fees) Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008
Offshore Petroleum (Safety Levies) Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008—(Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law, Senator Sherry, and Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Farrell, in continuation, 24 September 2008*).
- 4 **National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) Bill 2008**
National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008—(Special Minister of State, Senator Faulkner)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Faulkner, 16 June 2008*).
- 5 **Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008**
In committee (1 September 2008).
- *6 **Tax Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy Surcharge Thresholds) Bill (No. 2) 2008**—(Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Senator Carr)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Carr, 14 October 2008*).
(*Bill exempted on 14 October 2008 from the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (8) of standing order 111—see Orders of the Senate—Legislation*)

- 7 **Evidence Amendment Bill 2008**—(Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ludwig, 19 June 2008*).

- 8 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Worker Protection) Bill 2008**—(*Senate bill*)—(Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*24 September 2008*).

- 9 **Budget statement and documents 2008-09**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law (Senator Sherry)—That the Senate take note of the Budget statement and documents (*adjourned, Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion and the Voluntary Sector (Senator Stephens), 15 May 2008*).

- 10 **Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Emergency Response Consolidation) Bill 2008**—(Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Senator Carr)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Crossin, in continuation, 17 September 2008*).

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 **Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee—Report—Water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes (including consideration of the Emergency Water (Murray-Darling Basin Rescue) Bill 2008)**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Sterle)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Heffernan, in continuation, 13 October 2008*).

- *2 **Legal and Constitutional Affairs—Standing Committee—Report—Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Laws Bill 2008 [No. 2]**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Ludlam—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Ludlam, in continuation, 14 October 2008*).

- 3 **Community Affairs—Standing Committee—Report—Towards recovery: Mental health services in Australia**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Moore)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Boyce, in continuation, 25 September 2008*).

- 4 **Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Standing Committee—Fourth progress report—Reforms to Australia's military justice system**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Bishop)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Parry, 25 September 2008*).

5 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee—Report—Implementation, operation and administration of the legislation underpinning Carbon Sink Forests

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Sterle)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Macdonald, 25 September 2008*).

6 State Government Financial Management—Select Committee—Report

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Macdonald)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Parry, 25 September 2008*).

7 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee—Report—Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and related matters

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Sterle)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Parry, 25 September 2008*).

8 Procedure—Standing Committee—First report of 2008—Restructuring question time; Reference of bills to committees; Questions to chairs of committees; Deputy chairs of committees; Leave to make statements

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Ferguson)—That the Senate take note of the report.

And on the amendment moved by the Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)—At the end of the motion, add “, but the Senate is of the opinion that, instead of restructuring question time in a manner that could reduce the accountability of ministers to the Senate, the rules relating to questions and answers, contained in past presidential rulings, which require, amongst other things, that questions actually be questions relating to ministerial responsibilities, and that answers be responsive and relevant to the questions, be written into the standing orders, and that the Procedure Committee, with the assistance of external expert advisers, review the effectiveness of question time and the application of those rules at the end of each period of sittings” (Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator McLucas), in continuation, 25 September 2008).

9 Environment, Communications and the Arts—Standing Committee—Report—Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Collins—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Parry, 25 September 2008*).

10 Environment, Communications and the Arts—Standing Committee—Report—Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008 [No. 2]

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator McEwen)—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Parry, in continuation, 25 September 2008*).

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

- 1 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 4 of 2008-09—Performance audit—The Business Partnership Agreement between the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) and Centrelink**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Parry—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Parry, in continuation, 25 September 2008*).

- 2 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 5 of 2008-09—Performance audit—The Senate order for departmental and agency contracts (calendar year 2007 compliance)**

Consideration (*25 September 2008*).

- 3 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 6 of 2008-09—Performance audit—Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the Southern Ocean—Australian Customs Service**

Consideration (*13 October 2008*).

GENERAL BUSINESS

Notices of Motion

Notice given 13 February 2008

- 18 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin):** To move—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

- (i) the contempt in which the Australian Labor Party (ALP) has historically held upper houses around the country, including a platform to abolish all upper houses until 1979, the abolition of the upper house in Queensland and a current policy to abolish the South Australian Legislative Council,
 - (ii) that the Prime Minister (Mr Rudd) has reduced the number of sitting weeks in the Senate in 2008, and
 - (iii) that the Deputy Prime Minister (Ms Gillard) has already demanded legislation be passed without adequate scrutiny in the Senate; and
- (b) given the above, condemns the Rudd Labor Government for continuing the ALP's legacy of inherent contempt for the Senate.

Notice given 19 March 2008

- 63 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That the Senate calls on the Minister for Foreign Affairs (Mr Smith) to seek the abandonment of the death sentence in China.

Notice given 24 September 2008

220 **Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin):** To move—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

- (i) the claims of both the Managers of Government Business in the Senate and the House of Representatives that the Government's legislative priority for the sitting week beginning 22 September 2008 is the passage of its budget-related bills, and
- (ii) that the Government has deferred consideration of its supposed priority bills on numerous occasions throughout the past three sitting weeks; and

(b) calls on the Government to give precedence to the following bills over other legislation:

Tax Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy Surcharge Thresholds) Bill 2008

Excise Legislation Amendment (Condensate) Bill 2008 and a related bill.

Notice given 25 September 2008

227 **Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown):** To move—That, in light of the \$US700 billion economic reform package to address the financial crisis in the United States of America (US) currently before the US Congress, which includes potential restrictions on chief executive officers' 'golden handshake', the Senate calls on the Australian Government to investigate similar measures for termination payouts for executives.

Notice given 13 October 2008

233 **Senator Xenophon:** To move—That there be laid on the table by 1 November 2009 a report by the Productivity Commission on:

- (a) the total number and proportion of privately insured patients, in the latest 6-month period for which data is available prior to the report being issued, who were fully informed of the cost of hospital and specialist services before providing consent for treatment, in both public and private hospitals;
- (b) the comparative hospital, and medical, costs for each defined group of clinically similar procedures, as per the classification of Australian Refined Diagnostic Related Groups, as performed by the public and private hospital sectors separately in the latest 6-month period for which data is available prior to the report being issued; and
- (c) the rate (i.e. the number and proportion of all admissions) of hospital-acquired infections, by type, reported by individual public and private hospitals in the latest 6-month period for which data is available prior to the report being issued.

234 **Senator Xenophon:** To move—That the Senate calls on the Prime Minister (Mr Rudd) and the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government (Mr Albanese) to take immediate action:

- (a) to secure from the Executive Council approval for Australia to enter into the 1999 Montreal Convention to ensure just compensation for Australian passengers injured on international flights; and

- (b) to lodge Australia's formal instrument of accession to the convention with the International Civil Aviation Organization.

237 **Senator Cormann:** To move—That the Senate—

(a) notes:

- (i) that in September 2007, the Howard Government provided \$502 700 in funding towards the establishment of a much-needed paediatric ward at the Peel Health Campus under the Regional Partnerships Program,
- (ii) the significant efforts made by the local community in raising \$2.4 million in funding through raffles, fund raising and other community events to raise the total project cost of \$3.8 million (including building and capital equipment),
- (iii) that the Western Australian Government committed to providing \$750 000 in funding towards this project,
- (iv) the Rudd Labor Government's shambolic approach to this very meritorious Regional Partnerships Project, having:
 - (A) initially halted funding for the Peel Health Campus paediatric ward as part of its blanket decision to end all funding under the Regional Partnerships Program,
 - (B) then, in the face of a major public outcry, agreed to re-examine projects that had already been approved,
 - (C) then, on 29 May 2008 reinstated funding to the Peel Health Campus subject to the project meeting certain conditions, and
 - (D) then, by letter dated 1 August, cruelly cancelled funding for the paediatric ward at Peel Health Campus again, claiming that the local project proponents had not complied with all the bureaucratic requirements, even though those had not been properly communicated,
- (v) that communications between the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government and the Peel Health Campus at no point revealed any obstacles that would stop the contracts being signed before the cut-off date of 31 July 2008,
- (vi) that as of 31 July 2008 the contracts were not signed and the Peel Health Campus Trust was informed by letter, dated 1 August 2008, that their application had been rejected, and
- (vii) the Rudd Government's attempts to hide behind cold bureaucratic stone walling claiming that its outrageous decision was based on:
 - (A) concern over management of the building contract for the project, even though this issue had been resolved in early July, and
 - (B) concern that a funding commitment of \$330 000 from a third party (the Variety Club) was not finalised by 30 June 2008, even though the project had sufficient funding from other contributors and was never dependant on the Variety Club funding; and

- (b) calls on the Rudd Government immediately to reinstate its share of funding for the much needed paediatric ward at the Peel Health Campus to the agreed level of \$502 700, so that the children of the rapidly growing Mandurah region will not have to continue to be treated in adult wards.

242 **Senator Hutchins:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes and expresses its sadness at the recent assassination of the former Sri Lankan High Commissioner to Australia, retired Major General Janaka Perera and Mrs Perera, both dual Australian citizens;
- (b) notes the significant contribution that retired Major General Perera made to his country;
- (c) recognises retired Major General Perera's commitment to finding a peace solution for Sri Lanka;
- (d) expresses its condolences to their children; and
- (e) condemns the ongoing civil conflict in Sri Lanka and the use of terrorist tactics like suicide bombers and child soldiers.

Notice of motion altered on 14 October 2008 pursuant to standing order 77.

244 **Senator Hanson-Young:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) Friday, 31 October 2008 marks the 30th anniversary of the annual 'Reclaim the Night' day of action in Australia,
 - (ii) this day of action was established to highlight every woman's basic human right to live in freedom from discrimination and fear of violence, and
 - (iii) more than two-thirds of women experience some form of physical or sexual violence in their lives;
- (b) recognises that:
 - (i) Reclaim the Night represents a symbol of unity as well as an affirmation and celebration of women's strength, and has international, multi-partisan political support, and
 - (ii) these marches are an extremely powerful means by which women can raise the issue of sexual assault and sexual violence; and
- (c) calls on the Rudd Government, as part of the *National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children*, to work constructively to further develop and support national anti-violence public awareness and education campaigns as part of Australia's commitment as a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Notice given 14 October 2008

- *246 **Acting Chair of the Community Affairs Committee (Senator Siewert):** To move—That the Community Affairs Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 16 October 2008, from 3.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiries into the Poker Machine Harm Reduction Tax (Administration) Bill 2008, the Poker Machine Harm Minimisation Bill 2008 and the ATMs and Cash Facilities in Licensed Venues Bill 2008.

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

(a) notes the following statement of claims from the Fair Go for Pensioners Coalition:

- ‘1. That the Federal Government increases the pension rate from 25% of average weekly earnings to 35% of average weekly earnings until a more appropriate pension measure is developed.
2. That proper and improved healthcare measures for pensioners are prioritised, including medical, dental, optical, hearing, pharmaceutical and culturally appropriate services.
3. That the level of funding for aged care services, including culturally appropriate services, is significantly increased and extended to meet the growing demand in this area.
4. That our pensions are not restricted due to overseas travel to visit loved ones.
5. That legislation/regulations be enacted to protect older people considering taking out reverse mortgages.
6. That a thorough review of the means test and GST impact for pensioners and concessions should be undertaken to ensure that pensioners are not losing out.’; and

(b) asks the Government to consider it for inclusion in the 2008-09 Budget.

***248 Senator Hanson-Young:** To move—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) 19 October 2008 marks the 7th anniversary of a boat known as the Suspected Illegal Entry Vessel X (SIEV X), bound for Australia and carrying 421 passengers and crew,
- (ii) this boat sank with the tragic loss of 353 lives, including 146 children, and
- (iii) in Opposition, the Government repeatedly expressed its anger and frustration with the former Government’s inaction on establishing a full judicial inquiry into the SIEV X tragedy;

(b) expresses its regret and sympathy at the tragic loss of so many innocent lives; and

(c) calls on the Government immediately to establish an independent judicial inquiry into all aspects of the ‘People Smuggling Strike Team’ operated by the Commonwealth Government from 2000 to date, in particular the boat known as SIEV X.

Orders of the Day relating to Government Documents

1 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority—Report for 2006-07

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Nash—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Macdonald, in continuation, 25 September 2008*).

2 Regional Forest Agreement between the Commonwealth and Tasmania—Report—Inquiry on the progress with implementation of the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement (1997)—Second five yearly review, dated February 2008

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Barnett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Macdonald, in continuation, 25 September 2008*).

3 AusLink—Report for 2006-07

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Macdonald, in continuation, 25 September 2008*).

4 Indigenous Business Australia—Corporate plan 2008-2013

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Macdonald—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Macdonald, in continuation, 25 September 2008*).

5 Medibank Private Limited—Report for 2007-08

Consideration (*13 October 2008*).

6 Crimes Act 1914—Controlled operations—Report for 2007-08

Consideration (*13 October 2008*).

***7 Defence Housing Australia—Statement of corporate intent 2008-09**

Consideration (*14 October 2008*).

***8 Health Services Australia Limited (HSA Group)—Statement of corporate intent 2008-2011**

Consideration (*14 October 2008*).

***9 Customs Act 1901—Conduct of customs officers [Managed deliveries]—Report for 2007-08**

Consideration (*14 October 2008*).

***10 International Air Services Commission—Report for 2007-08**

Consideration (*14 October 2008*).

***11 Australian Public Service Commissioner—Report for 2007-08, incorporating report of the Merit Protection Commissioner**

Consideration (*14 October 2008*).

***12 Australian Competition and Consumer Commission—Report for 2007-08, incorporating the report of the Australian Energy Regulator (AER)**

Consideration (*14 October 2008*).

***13 Final Budget Outcome 2007-08—Report by the Treasurer (Mr Swan) and the Minister for Finance and Deregulation (Mr Tanner), dated September 2008**

Consideration (*14 October 2008*).

***14 Inspector-General of Taxation—Report for 2007-08**

Consideration (*14 October 2008*).

***15 Attorney-General's Department—Report for 2007-08**

Consideration (*14 October 2008*).

***16 Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security—Report for 2007-08**

Consideration (*14 October 2008*).

- *17 **Private Health Insurance Ombudsman—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (*14 October 2008*).
- *18 **Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (*14 October 2008*).
- *19 **Research Involving Human Embryos Act 2002—Statement pursuant to subsection 16(8)**
Consideration (*14 October 2008*).
- *20 **List of multilateral treaty actions under negotiation, consideration or review by the Australian Government as at September 2008**
Consideration (*14 October 2008*).

Orders of the Day

- 1 **Alcohol Toll Reduction Bill 2007 [2008]—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Family First Party, Senator Fielding)**
Second reading (*restored 13 February 2008*).
- 2 **Qantas Sale (Keep Jetstar Australian) Amendment Bill 2007 [2008]—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Family First Party, Senator Fielding)**
Second reading (*restored 13 February 2008*).
- 3 **Trade Practices (Creeping Acquisitions) Amendment Bill 2007 [2008]—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Family First Party, Senator Fielding)**
Second reading (*restored 13 February 2008*).
- 4 **Defence Amendment (Parliamentary Approval of Overseas Service) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*13 February 2008*).
- 5 **Rights of the Terminally Ill (Euthanasia Laws Repeal) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bob Brown, in continuation, 14 February 2008*).
- 6 **Australian Securities and Investments Commission (Fair Bank and Credit Card Fees) Amendment Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Family First Party, Senator Fielding)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Fielding, in continuation, 14 February 2008*).
- 8 **Stolen Generation Compensation Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Senator Bartlett)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*14 February 2008*).
- 9 **Renewable Energy Legislation Amendment (Renewable Power Percentage) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*14 February 2008*).
- 10 **Marriage (Relationships Equality) Amendment Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Senator Nettle)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*14 February 2008*).

- 11 **Cluster Munitions (Prohibition) Bill 2006 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison, Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown and Senators Bishop and Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 12 **Constitution Alteration (Appropriations for the Ordinary Annual Services of the Government) 2001 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senators Murray and Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 13 **Constitution Alteration (Electors' Initiative, Fixed Term Parliaments and Qualification of Members) 2000 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 14 **Electoral (Greater Fairness of Electoral Processes) Amendment Bill 2007 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 15 **Electoral Amendment (Political Honesty) Bill 2003 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 16 **Euthanasia Laws (Repeal) Bill 2004 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 17 **Genetic Privacy and Non-discrimination Bill 1998 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 18 **Ministers of State (Post-Retirement Employment Restrictions) Bill 2002 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senators Stott Despoja and Murray*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 19 **National Market Driven Energy Efficiency Target Bill 2007 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 20 **Parliamentary Charter of Rights and Freedoms Bill 2001 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 21 **Patents Amendment Bill 1996 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 22 **Peace and Non-Violence Commission Bill 2007 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 23 **Privacy (Data Security Breach Notification) Amendment Bill 2007 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).

- 24 **Privacy (Extension to Political Acts and Practices) Amendment Bill 2006 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 25 **Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising Bill 2006 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 26 **Public Interest Disclosures Bill 2007 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 27 **Repatriation of Citizens Bill 2007 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison, and Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 28 **Republic (Consultation of the People) Bill 2001 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 29 **Same-Sex Marriages Bill 2006 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senators Stott Despoja and Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 30 **Same-Sex: Same Entitlements Bill 2007 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison, and Senators Bartlett, Murray and Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 31 **State Elections (One Vote, One Value) Bill 2001 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Murray*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 32 **Taxation Laws Amendment (Scholarships) Bill 2005 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 33 **Textbook Subsidy Bill 2003 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 34 **Uranium Mining in or near Australian World Heritage Properties (Prohibition) Bill 1998 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 35 **Workplace Relations (Guaranteeing Paid Maternity Leave) Amendment Bill 2007 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Stott Despoja*)
Second reading (*restored 14 February 2008*).
- 36 **Rural and Regional Australia**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Nash—That the Senate—
 - (a) notes:
 - (i) the challenges facing Australia’s rural and regional communities, and

- (ii) that the Government is showing its contempt of rural and regional Australia, including through cuts to rural and regional funding programs; and
 - (b) calls on the Labor Government to continue the strong commitment of the former Coalition Government to rural and regional Australia (*Senator Heffernan, in continuation, 4 September 2008*).
- 37 **Special Broadcasting Service Amendment (Prohibition of Disruptive Advertising) Bill 2008**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Australian Democrats (Senator Allison)*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*12 March 2008*).
- 38 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Zone Excision Repeal) (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2006 [2008]**
Migration Legislation Amendment (Migration Zone Excision Repeal) Bill 2006 [2008]—(*Senate bills*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored 12 March 2008*).
- 39 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Temporary Protection Visas Repeal) Bill 2006 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored 12 March 2008*).
- 40 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Provisions Relating to Character and Conduct) Bill 2006 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored 12 March 2008*).
- 41 **Migration Legislation Amendment (End of Mandatory Detention) Bill 2006 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored 12 March 2008*).
- 43 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Access to Judicial Review of Migration Decisions) Bill 2007 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored 12 March 2008*).
- 44 **Migration Legislation Amendment (Restoration of Rights and Procedural Fairness) Bill 2007 [2008]**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Bartlett*)
Second reading (*restored 12 March 2008*).
- 45 **Drink Container Recycling Bill 2008**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Leader of the Family First Party, Senator Fielding*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Fielding, in continuation, 13 March 2008*).
- 46 **Budget and the economy**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Eggleston—That the Senate—
 - (a) notes:
 - (i) the concern of Australians given the impending budget cuts proposed by Labor’s razor gang, and
 - (ii) that Labor is showing with its backflips and ill-conceived proposals that it has no idea how to run our trillion dollar economy; and

- (b) calls on Labor's razor gang to ensure that no Australian will be worse off when the Budget is delivered in May 2008 (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator McLucas), in continuation, 13 March 2008*).
- 47 **Freedom of Information Amendment (Open Government) Bill 2003 [2008]—(Senate bill)**—(Senator Murray)
Second reading (*restored 18 March 2008*).
- 48 **National Commissioner for Children Bill 2008—(Senate bill)**—(Senator Bartlett)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*18 March 2008*).
- 49 **A New Tax System (Family Assistance) (Improved Access to Baby Bonus) Amendment Bill 2008—(Senate bill)**—(Senator Stott Despoja)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*20 March 2008*).
- 51 **Plastic Bag Levy (Assessment and Collection) Bill 2002 [2008]—(Senate bill)**—(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)
Second reading (*restored 14 May 2008*).
- 52 **Unit Pricing (Easy comparison of grocery prices) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)**—(Leader of the Family First Party, Senator Fielding)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Fielding, in continuation, 15 May 2008*).
- 54 **Parliamentary (Judicial Misbehaviour or Incapacity) Commission Bill 2007 [2008]—(Senate bill)**—(Senator Kirk)
Second reading (*restored 15 May 2008*).
- 55 **Budget 2008-09**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Parry—That the Senate acknowledges that the first Rudd-Gillard Government budget is a high taxing, high spending, old fashioned Labor budget that is not inflation fighting (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing (Senator McLucas), in continuation, 15 May 2008*).
- 56 **Crimes Legislation Amendment (Enhanced Child Protection from Predatory Tourism Offences) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)**—(Senator Bernardi)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bernardi, in continuation, 17 June 2008*).
- 58 **Pregnancy Counselling (Truth in Advertising) Bill 2006 [2008]—(Senate bill)**—(Senators Stott Despoja and Nettle)
Second reading (*restored 19 June 2008*).
- 59 **Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Amendment (Control of Power Station Emissions) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)**—(Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Allison)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*19 June 2008*).
- 60 **Indigenous Australians—The Northern Territory emergency response: One year on—Ministerial statement**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bartlett—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Siewert, in continuation, 19 June 2008*).

- 61 **Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Laws Bill 2008 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—**
(*Senators Troeth and Humphries*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Troeth, in continuation, 23 June 2008*).
- 62 **Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—**
(*Senator Johnston*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Parry, in continuation, 25 September 2008*).
- 64 **Emergency Water (Murray-Darling Basin Rescue) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—**
(*Senator Xenophon*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Xenophon, in continuation, 28 August 2008*).
- 65 **Family and Community Services—Cost of living pressures**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Bernardi—That the Senate notes:
 - (a) that many Australians are worse off today than they were in 2007;
 - (b) that many Australians are experiencing difficulties due to increasing cost of living pressures; and
 - (c) the Government's failure to address these difficulties (*Senator O'Brien, in continuation, 28 August 2008*).
- 66 **Flags (Protection of Australian Flags) Amendment Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—**
(*Senator Barnett*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Barnett, in continuation, 3 September 2008*).
- 69 **Emergency Assistance Fund for the Lower Lakes and Coorong Region of South Australia Bill 2008 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Opposition in the Senate, Senator Minchin)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Fisher, in continuation, 4 September 2008*).
- 70 **Defence Amendment (Parliamentary Approval of Overseas Service) Bill 2008 [No. 2]—(Senate bill)—(Senator Ludlam)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Ludlam, in continuation, 17 September 2008*).
- 71 **Restoring Territory Rights (Voluntary Euthanasia Legislation) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)**
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bob Brown, in continuation, 17 September 2008*).
- 72 **Economics—Management of the economy**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Fifield—That the Senate condemns the Rudd Government for its reckless management of the Australian economy in a time of global economic challenge, including:
 - (a) the Government's irresponsibility in talking down the Australian economy;
 - (b) the massive collapse in consumer and business confidence since the election of the Rudd Government;
 - (c) the delivery of a budget that forecasts an increase in unemployment;

- (d) the Government's raising of inflationary expectations and failure to honour its promise to address cost of living pressures; and
- (e) the absence of a coherent economic strategy and a focus on presentation rather than policy (*Senator Williams, in continuation, 18 September 2008*).

73 Stolen Generations Reparations Tribunal Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—
(*Senator Siewert*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Siewert, in continuation, 24 September 2008*).

75 Environment—Caring for our country—Ministerial statement

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Siewert—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Macdonald, in continuation, 25 September 2008*).

BUSINESS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Next day of sitting (16 October 2008)

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Agricultural and Related Industries—Select Committee

Report to be presented on the pricing and supply arrangements in the Australian and global fertiliser market.

2 Community Affairs—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on special disability trusts.

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 15 September 2008

184 Senator Ellison: To move—That the Senate—

(a) notes that:

- (i) in 2008, Deepavali will be celebrated on 28 October,
- (ii) Deepavali is of great significance to the Hindu, Sikh, Jain and Buddhist community,
- (iii) 'Diwali' is a shortened version of the Sanskrit term 'Deepavali', which means 'a row of lamps',
- (iv) Diwali is celebrated by lighting small oil lamps called Diyas; which symbolises the lifting of spiritual darkness and the renewal of life, a time to pray for health, knowledge and peace,
- (v) Diwali is an annual celebration, falling on the last day of the month in the lunar calendar and is celebrated as a day of thanksgiving and the beginning of a new year for many Hindus, and for Hindus is a celebration of the victory of good over evil,
- (vi) for Sikhs, Diwali is feted as the day that the sixth founding Sikh Guru, or revered teacher, Guru Hargobind ji, was released from the ruling Mughal Emperor, and

- (vii) for Jains, Diwali marks the anniversary of the attainment of moksha or liberation by Mahavira, the last of the Tirthankaras, who were the great teachers of Jain dharma, at the end of his life in 527 BC,
 - (viii) in 2008, Deepavali will be celebrated by many Australians including members of Australia's over 600 000 strong Hindu, Sikh, Jain and Buddhist community,
 - (ix) the Hindu, Sikh, Jain and Buddhist communities have a long and strong heritage in Australia, beginning in the 19th century, and
 - (x) today the Hindu, Sikh, Jain and Buddhist communities are strong and vibrant communities that continue to make a significant contribution to Australia's economic and social prosperity; and
- (b) sends its best wishes to all members of our Hindu, Sikh, Jain and Buddhist communities celebrating Deepavali in 2008.

On 5 November 2008

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Economics—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Political Contributions and Gifts) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On 10 November 2008

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Community Affairs—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the Poker Machine Harm Minimisation Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

2 Community Affairs—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the Poker Machine Harm Reduction Tax (Administration) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

3 Community Affairs—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the ATMs and Cash Facilities in Licensed Venues Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

4 Community Affairs—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Further 2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

5 Environment, Communications and the Arts—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

6 Economics—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the joint marketing arrangements on the North West Shelf project.

7 Economics—Standing Committee

Final report to be presented on the provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 5) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Order of the Day

1 Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Further 2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008—(Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Senator Carr)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (25 September 2008).

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 4 September 2008

- 183 **Senator Milne:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to amend the *Energy Efficiency Opportunities Act 2006* to require the implementation of identified energy efficiency opportunities, and for related purposes. ***Energy Efficiency Opportunities Amendment (Mandatory Implementation) Bill 2008.***

General Business—Orders of the Day

7 Poker Machine Harm Reduction Tax (Administration) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Family First Party, Senator Fielding)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (Senator Fielding, in continuation, 14 February 2008).

53 Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Senator Milne)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (Senator Milne, in continuation, 15 May 2008).

57 Poker Machine Harm Minimisation Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Family First Party, Senator Fielding)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (Senator Fielding, in continuation, 19 June 2008).

68 ATMs and Cash Facilities in Licensed Venues Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Senator Xenophon)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (Senator Xenophon, in continuation, 4 September 2008).

On the first day in the next period of sittings (10 November 2008)

Government Business—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Social Security and Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment (Schooling Requirements) Bill 2008**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator McLucas*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (15 September 2008).
- 2 **Archives Amendment Bill 2008**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Faulkner*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (17 September 2008).
- 3 **Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2008**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Special Minister of State, Senator Faulkner*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (17 September 2008).
- 4 **Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—General Law Reform) Bill 2008**—(*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing, Senator McLucas*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (24 September 2008).
- 5 **International Tax Agreements Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2008**—(*Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (25 September 2008).
- *6 **Tax Laws Amendment (Political Contributions and Gifts) Bill 2008**—(*Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Senator Carr*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (14 October 2008).
- *7 **Financial Transaction Reports Amendment (Transitional Arrangements) Bill 2008**—(*Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Senator Carr*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (14 October 2008).

On 12 November 2008

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

- 1 **Economics—Standing Committee**
Final report to be presented on Australia's space science and industry sector.

On 13 November 2008

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

- 1 **Community Affairs—Standing Committee**
Report to be presented on the provisions of the Social Security and Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment (Schooling Requirements) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)
- 2 **Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee**
Report to be presented on item 16525 in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Regulations 2007.

3 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee

Report to be presented on annual reports tabled by 30 April 2008.

4 Economics—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on matters relating to the gas explosion at Varanus Island, Western Australia.

5 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee

Final report to be presented on the Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008, Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008 and the Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008.

6 Economics—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on Australia's mandatory Last Resort Home Warranty Insurance scheme.

Government Business—Order of the Day**1 Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008****Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008****Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008—**
(*Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*adjourned, Senator Ludwig, 3 September 2008*).

On 20 November 2008**Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day****1 Community Affairs—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the National Rental Affordability Scheme Bill 2008 and the National Rental Affordability Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

2 Economics—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Temporary Residents' Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 and the Superannuation (Departing Australia Superannuation Payments Tax) Amendment Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Six sitting days after today (24 November 2008)**Business of the Senate—Notice of Motion**

Notice given 24 September 2008

- 1 Senator Milne:** To move—That the Environmental and Natural Resource Management Guidelines in relation to the establishment of trees for the purposes of carbon sequestration, made under subsection 40-1010(3) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*, be disallowed. [F2008L02397]

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

On 24 November 2008

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Education, Employment and Workplace Relations—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Social Security Legislation Amendment (Employment Services Reform) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On 25 November 2008

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 **Community Affairs—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising (Broadcasting Amendment) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

2 **Environment, Communications and the Arts—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television Switch-over) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Order of the Day

1 **Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television Switch-over) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (24 September 2008).

General Business—Order of the Day

67 **Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising (Broadcasting Amendment) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (Senator Bob Brown, in continuation, 4 September 2008).

On 26 November 2008

General Business—Notice of Motion

Notice given 26 August 2008

- 156 **Senator Siewert:** To move—That the following bill be introduced: A Bill for an Act to prohibit the addition of synthetic trans fatty acids to food, and for related purposes. *Food Safety (Trans Fats) Bill 2008.*

On 27 November 2008

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

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

Report to be presented on natural resource management and conservation challenges.

2 Education, Employment and Workplace Relations—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on academic freedom in school and higher education.

On 30 November 2008

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Education, Employment and Workplace Relations—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the Building and Construction Industry (Restoring Workplace Rights) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

General Business—Order of the Day

63 Building and Construction Industry (Restoring Workplace Rights) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Senator Siewert)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Siewert, in continuation, 28 August 2008*).

Eleven sitting days after today (2 December 2008)

Business of the Senate—Notice of Motion

Notice given 24 September 2008

- 1 Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wortley):** To move—That the Private Health Insurance (Benefit Requirements) Rules 2008 (No. 2), made under item 3A of the table in section 333-20 of the *Private Health Insurance Act 2007*, be disallowed. [F2008L02206]

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

Twelve sitting days after today (3 December 2008)

Business of the Senate—Notices of Motion

Notice given 25 September 2008

- 1 Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wortley):** To move—That the Determination of Fees for Water and Sewerage Services No. 1 of 2008, made under section 9 of the *Christmas Island Act 1958*, be disallowed. [F2008L02088]

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

- 2 Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wortley):** To move—That the Determination of Fees for Water and Sewerage Services No. 1 of 2008, made under section 12 of the *Cocos (Keeling) Islands Act 1955*, be disallowed. [F2008L02087]

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

On 3 December 2008

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Economics—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the definition of unconscionable conduct for the purposes of Part IVA of the *Trade Practices Act 1974*.

Thirteen sitting days after today (4 December 2008)

Business of the Senate—Notices of Motion

Notice given 13 October 2008

- 1 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wortley):** To move—That the Defence Force (Home Loans Assistance) Amendment Regulations 2008 (No. 1), as contained in Select Legislative Instrument 2008 No. 138 and made under the *Defence Force (Home Loans Assistance) Act 1990*, be disallowed. [F2008L02220]

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

- 2 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wortley):** To move—That the Livestock Export (Merino) Orders (Amendment) No. 1 of 2008, made under regulation 3 of the Export Control (Orders) Regulations 1982, be disallowed. [F2008L02442]

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

- 3 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wortley):** To move—That Instrument No. CASA 389/08, made under regulation 208 of the Civil Aviation Regulations 1988, be disallowed. [F2008L02712]

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

- 4 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wortley):** To move—That Instrument No. CASA 390/08, made under regulation 208 of the Civil Aviation Regulations 1988, be disallowed. [F2008L02713]

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

- 5 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wortley):** To move—That Instrument No. CASA 397/08, made under subregulation 38(1) of the Civil Aviation Regulations 1988, be disallowed. [F2008L02734]

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

- 6 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wortley):** To move—That Instrument No. CASA 414/08, made under subregulation 38(1) of the Civil Aviation Regulations 1988, be disallowed. [F2008L03001]

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

- 7 **Chairman of the Standing Committee on Regulations and Ordinances (Senator Wortley):** To move—That the Wool Services Privatisation (Research Body) Declaration 2008, made under subsection 30(1) of the *Wool Services Privatisation Act 2000*, be disallowed. [F2008L02725]

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

No later than 4 December 2008

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

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

Report to be presented on matters specified in part (2) of the inquiry into the management of the Murray-Darling Basin system.

On 4 December 2008

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

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

Final report to be presented on climate change and the Australian agricultural sector.

- 2 **Community Affairs—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on Government expenditure on Indigenous affairs and social services in the Northern Territory.

- 3 **Environment, Communications and the Arts—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

- 4 **Economics—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on disclosure regimes for charities and not-for-profit organisations.

General Business—Order of the Day

- 74 **Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Senator Ludlam)**

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Ludlam, in continuation, 25 September 2008*).

Last sitting day of February 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Environment, Communications and the Arts—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the effectiveness of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and other programs in protecting threatened species and ecological communities.

On the tenth sitting day of 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Standing Committees

Reports to be presented on annual reports tabled by 31 October 2008.

On 20 March 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Education, Employment and Workplace Relations—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on Australia's research and training capacity in the area of climate change.

On 30 March 2009

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities—Select Committee

Second report to be presented.

2 National Broadband Network—Select Committee

Report to be presented.

On the last sitting day of March 2009

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Community Affairs—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the implementation of recommendations of committee reports on child migration and Australians who experienced institutional or out-of-home care as children.

2 Community Affairs—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on petrol sniffing and substance abuse in central Australia.

On the first sitting day of April 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on residential and community aged care in Australia.

On 30 May 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on economic and security challenges facing Papua New Guinea and the island states of the southwest Pacific.

On 30 June 2009

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Political Donations and Other Measures) Bill 2008.

2 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the establishment of an Australian Football League team for Tasmania.

3 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee

Final report to be presented on meat marketing.

Government Business—Order of the Day

1 Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Political Donations and Other Measures) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (15 May 2008).

On 30 September 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities—Select Committee

Third report to be presented.

On 21 October 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Fuel and Energy—Select Committee

Report to be presented.

On 27 November 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Agricultural and Related Industries—Select Committee

Report to be presented on food production in Australia.

On 30 March 2010

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities—Select Committee

Fourth report to be presented.

On 30 September 2010

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities—Select Committee

Final report to be presented.

Date unspecified

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the 2007 Federal Election, including the Commonwealth Electoral (Above-the-Line Voting) Amendment Bill 2008.

General Business—Order of the Day

50 Commonwealth Electoral (Above-the-Line Voting) Amendment Bill 2008—*(Senate bill)*—(Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown)Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bob Brown, in continuation, 14 May 2008*).

BILLS REFERRED TO COMMITTEES
ATMs and Cash Facilities in Licensed Venues Bill 2008‡Referred to the Community Affairs Committee (*referred 4 September 2008; reporting date: 10 November 2008*).**Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television Switch-over) Bill 2008‡**Referred to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date: 25 November 2008*).**Building and Construction Industry (Restoring Workplace Rights) Bill 2008 ‡**Referred to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee (*referred 3 September 2008; reporting date: 30 November 2008*).**Commonwealth Electoral (Above-the-Line Voting) Amendment Bill 2008**Referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters (*referred 14 May 2008*).**Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Political Donations and Other Measures) Bill 2008**Referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters (*referred 18 June 2008; reporting date: 30 June 2009*).

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment) Bill 2008‡

Referred to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date varied 14 October 2008; reporting date: 4 December 2008*).

Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Further 2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Community Affairs Committee (*referred 18 September 2008; reporting date: 10 November 2008*).

Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008**Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008****Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008**

Referred to the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee (*referred 4 September 2008; interim report presented 3 October 2008; final reporting date: 13 November 2008*).

National Rental Affordability Scheme Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡**National Rental Affordability Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 [Provisions]**‡

Referred to the Community Affairs Committee (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date: 20 November 2008*).

Poker Machine Harm Minimisation Bill 2008‡

Referred to the Community Affairs Committee (*referred 25 June 2008; reporting date: 10 November 2008*).

Poker Machine Harm Reduction Tax (Administration) Bill 2008‡

Referred to the Community Affairs Committee (*referred 12 March 2008; reporting date varied 18 March and 26 June 2008; reporting date: 10 November 2008*).

Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising (Broadcasting Amendment) Bill 2008‡

Referred to the Community Affairs Committee (*referred 4 September 2008; reporting date: 25 November 2008*).

Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008‡

Referred to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee (*referred 18 June 2008; reporting date: 14 October 2008*).

Social Security and Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment (Schooling Requirements) Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Community Affairs Committee (*referred 3 September 2008; reporting date: 13 November 2008*).

Social Security Legislation Amendment (Employment Services Reform) Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date: 24 November 2008*).

Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 5) Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Economics Committee (*referred 25 September 2008; interim report tabled 13 October 2008; final reporting date: 10 November 2008*).

Tax Laws Amendment (Political Contributions and Gifts) Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Economics Committee (*referred 3 September 2008; reporting date: 5 November 2008*).

Temporary Residents' Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡**Superannuation (Departing Australia Superannuation Payments Tax) Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡**

Referred to the Economics Committee (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date: 20 November 2008*).

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 OR NEGATIVED

Government bills

Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill 2008**Road Transport Charges (Australian Capital Territory) Repeal Bill 2008**

Second reading negatived, 19 March 2008.

National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical and Other Benefits—Cost Recovery) Bill 2008

Second reading negatived, 28 August 2008.

Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 1) Bill 2008

Third reading negatived, 26 June 2008.

Tax Laws Amendment (Luxury Car Tax) Bill 2008**A New Tax System (Luxury Car Tax Imposition—General) Amendment Bill 2008****A New Tax System (Luxury Car Tax Imposition—Customs) Amendment Bill 2008****A New Tax System (Luxury Car Tax Imposition—Excise) Amendment Bill 2008**

Second reading negatived, 4 September 2008.

Second reading moved again, 17 September 2008, and agreed to, 22 September 2008.

Tax Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy Surcharge Thresholds) Bill 2008

Second reading negatived, 24 September 2008.

Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Communications Fund) Bill 2008

Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 17 June 2008.

Private senators' bills

Migration Legislation Amendment (Complementary Protection Visas) Bill 2006 [2008]

Second reading negatived, 20 March 2008.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions remaining unanswered

Question Nos, as shown, from 17 to 736 remain unanswered for 30 or more days (see standing order 74(5)).

Notice given 12 February 2008

Senator Minchin: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 13-48)—As at 26 November 2007, with reference to the department and all agencies in the Minister's portfolio:

- (1) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring.
- (2) What are the responsibilities of these staff.
- (3) What are the Australian Public Service classifications of these positions.
- (4) For each of the financial years 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10 and 2010-11, what is the current operating budget for these media-related sections within the department or agency.

17 Minister representing the Treasurer

30 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts

37 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 27 August 2008*)

38 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs

45 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 27 August 2008*)

Senator Minchin: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 117-152)—With reference to Senator Minchin's letter to the Minister representing the Prime Minister, dated 1 February 2008, can the following information be provided prior to each round of Estimates and for Additional Estimates by 13 February 2008:

- (1) (a) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and ministers) to statutory authorities, executive agencies and advisory boards within the Minister's portfolio; and (b) for each appointment, what are the respective appointee's credentials.
- (2) How many vacancies remain to be filled by ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments.
- (3) What grants have been approved by the Minister from within the Minister's portfolio.

- (4) What requests have been submitted to the Department of Finance and Deregulation to move funds within the Minister's portfolio.

121 Minister representing the Treasurer

141 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 27 August 2008*)

142 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs

149 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 27 August 2008*)

Senator Cormann: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 225-260)—

- (1) (a) Since 24 November 2007, what federal funding, programs and/or services to Western Australia have been cut and/or discontinued in any of the Minister's portfolio agencies; and (b) what savings have been made from these cuts.

- (2) (a) What plans does the Government have to cut and/or discontinue federal funding, programs and/or services to Western Australia in any of the Minister's portfolio agencies in the coming period; and (b) what estimated savings would be made from these cuts.

229 Minister representing the Treasurer

249 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 27 August 2008*)

250 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs

257 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 27 August 2008*)

Notice given 30 May 2008

Senator Minchin: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 441-476)—Since 1 July 2006: (a) has the department or any agency in the Minister's portfolio engaged: (i) CMAX Communications, (ii) Maximum Communications, (iii) Mr Christian Taubenschlag, (iv) Ms Tara Taubenschlag, or (v) any company operated by Mr Christian Taubenschlag or Ms Tara Taubenschlag; and (b) if so, in each case: (i) when was the engagement, (ii) what was the nature of the engagement, (iii) what was the value of the engagement, (iv) what was the term of the engagement, (v) was the engagement entered into after a competitive process; if not, why not, and (vi) did the Minister or any of his/her staff have a role in recommending this engagement.

465 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs

Notice given 26 June 2008

510 **Senator Birmingham:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship—In regard to Senator Birmingham's letter to the Minister of 7 December 2007, to which a response had not been received as at 26 June 2008:

- (1) Will the Minister consider the introduction of such transitional measures that would enable people who have committed significant funds and periods of their lives to building futures in Australia, to be assessed against the conditions that were in place at the time of their arrival.

- (2) Specifically, with reference to the changes on 1 September 2007 to the points test for General Skilled Migration visas, will the Minister consider applying the former points test to people granted a Student visa who had a clear intention of subsequently applying for permanent residency prior to the changes having been announced.

Notice given 14 July 2008

Senator Milne: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 519-554)—

- (1) Does the department have a policy regarding the use of remanufactured printer products as opposed to buying new ones; if so, does the department assess the cost and re-useability of the product as part of its decision-making in regard to the policy.
- (2) Does the department have a policy directive to use remanufactured printer products and, by doing so, lower the balance of payments through reducing imports.
- (3) What environmental standard has the department put in place in regard to the disposal of printer cartridges.
- (4) Is the Minister aware that several of the printer companies are now putting chips in printer cartridges so that they cannot be re-used.
- (5) Does the department have any contractual arrangements with Lexmark or Epson; if so, is the department party to any 'Prebate' program.
- (6) Does the department know what happens to the printer cartridges when they are empty.
- (7) With whom does the department hold a printer supply contract and what are the conditions of the contract.
- (8) How much does the department spend on printer cartridges each financial year.
- (9) Does the department use Planet Ark to recycle cartridges.
- (10) Does the department use foreign companies such as Corporate Express when purchasing printer cartridges.

544 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs

Notice given 18 July 2008

559 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government—

- (1) Has the Minister allocated funds for the construction of the water supply and effluent disposal pipeline, which will service the proposed Gunns Limited pulp mill in Tasmania; if so: (a) why; (b) how much funding has been allocated; and (c) when will the funds be made available.
- (2) Has the Minister allocated funds for the construction of the port facility on the Tamar River, which will service the proposed mill; if so: (a) why; (b) how much funding has been allocated; and (c) when will the funds be made available.
- (3) Has the Minister allocated funds for the railway system that may service the proposed mill; if so: (a) why; (b) how much funding has been allocated; and (c) when will the funds be made available.

- (4) Has the Minister allocated funds for the construction of the proposed log-sorting yard in Brighton, Tasmania; if so: (a) why; (b) how much funding has been allocated; and (c) when will the funds be made available.
- (5) Has the Minister allocated funds for the construction of the Brighton bypass in southern Tasmania; if so: (a) why; (b) how much funding has been allocated; and (c) when will the funds be made available.
- (6) Has the Minister allocated funds for the construction of the new major road intersection where the pulp mill entrance joins the East Tamar Highway; if so: (a) why; (b) how much funding has been allocated; and (c) when will the funds be made available.

Notice given 8 August 2008

570 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for Climate Change and Water—In regard to Appendix D of the report *Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme: Green Paper*, ‘Analysis of the emissions intensity of Australian industries’:

- (1) Why were the industry emission intensities calculated using ‘revenue’ and not ‘value added’.
- (2) Will the Government release a revised table of industry emission intensities calculated using emissions per unit of value added; if not, why not.
- (3) Do the statistics for pulp, paper and paperboard (industry code 2303), sawmill products (industry code 2301), other wood products (industry code 2302), and paper containers and products (industry code 2304) include both the plantation and native forest sectors: (a) if so: (i) why were they not disaggregated for the same reason given for disaggregation in other sectors, namely considerable variation of emissions in sectors within an industry, and (ii) will the Government release revised estimates for the above four industries showing the plantation sector separate from the native forest sector; and (b) if not: (i) why not, and (ii) what sectors are actually included in the calculations.
- (4) Do the statistics for forestry and logging (industry code 0300) include both the plantation and native forest sectors; if so, why were they not disaggregated for the same reason given for disaggregation in other sectors, namely considerable variation of emissions in sectors within an industry; if not, what sectors are actually included in the calculations.
- (5) The emissions intensities calculated for forestry and logging include emissions net of sequestration: (a) what is the actual emission intensity (excluding sequestration) of forestry and logging in the plantation sector; and (b) what is the actual emission intensity (excluding sequestration) of forestry and logging in the plantation sector.
- (6) Will the Government release revised data showing the emission intensity (excluding sequestration) for native-based forestry and logging calculated using emissions per unit of value added; if not, why not.
- (7) Can a copy be provided of the analysis conducted by the Centre for Integrated Sustainability Analysis, University of Sydney on which the appendix is based.

Notice given 25 August 2008

- 574 **Senator Minchin:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—
- (1) How many new Government websites (i.e. additional ‘.gov.au’ domain names) have been created since 18 December 2007.
 - (2) What are these websites.
 - (3) Who designed these websites.
 - (4) Who updates and maintains the content on each website.
 - (5) How many staff in each department are employed to maintain these websites.
 - (6) What was the total cost for the design of each website.
- 575 **Senator Minchin:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—
- (1) Since the Prime Minister was sworn in, how many Heads of Missions in Australia have met with the Prime Minister.
 - (2) How many times has each Head of Mission met with the Prime Minister.
- 576 **Senator Minchin:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Since the Minister was sworn in, which Heads of Mission have met with the Minister.
 - (2) How many times have each Head of Mission met with the Minister.
 - (3) In each calendar year since 2005, how many meetings occurred between the Minister (both current and former) and each Head of Mission in Australia.
- 577 **Senator Minchin:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the Prime Minister’s travel in August 2008 to China, the Republic of Korea and Singapore:
- (1) For each country visited, what was the total cost of the Prime Minister’s: (a) travel; (b) accommodation; and (c) any other expenses.
 - (2) How many personal staff accompanied the Prime Minister and Ms Rein.
 - (3) What was the role of each of the personal staff who travelled with the Prime Minister.
 - (4) In regard to staff and family accompanying the Prime Minister, what was the total cost of: (a) travel; (b) accommodation; and (c) any other expenses.
 - (5) (a) How many departmental officers accompanied the Prime Minister for all or part of the travel; and (b) for what period did they accompany the Prime Minister.
 - (6) In regard to the departmental officers, what was the total cost of: (a) travel; (b) accommodation; and (c) any other expenses.
 - (7) How many Olympic events did the Prime Minister, his family, staff and departmental officials attend.
 - (8) How many staff, family and departmental officials accompanied the Prime Minister to each individual Olympic sporting event attended in Beijing.
- 578 **Senator Minchin:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—
- (1) How many ministers and/or parliamentary secretaries travelled overseas during July and August 2008.

- (2) (a) Which ministers and parliamentary secretaries travelled overseas;
(b) where did they travel; and (c) what was the duration of this travel.

Senator Minchin: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 579-614)—

- (1) What are the department's guidelines on the purchasing of carbon offsets for air travel.
(2) In 2008, how many flights undertaken by departmental officials were carbon offsets purchased, and of these, how many were purchased for:
(a) business class fares; and (b) economy class fares.
(3) In the 2007-08 financial year, what was the additional cost to the department of purchasing carbon offsets for travel.

579 Minister representing the Prime Minister

583 Minister representing the Treasurer

584 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

585 Special Minister of State

586 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

587 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

589 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

590 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

591 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation

593 Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

594 Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

595 Minister for Climate Change and Water

596 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts

598 Minister for Human Services

603 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer

604 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs

606 Minister representing the Minister for Housing

607 Minister representing the Minister for the Status of Women

610 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy

611 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law

612 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing on 27 August 2008*)

614 Minister representing the Minister for Sport (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing on 27 August 2008*)

Senator Minchin: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 615-650)—

- (1) How many departmental officers are working in the office of the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary.
(2) How many of these staff are Departmental Liaison Officers.

- (3) How many departmental officers, on secondment from the department, are in the office of the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary in personal staff positions.

- 615 Minister representing the Prime Minister
- 616 Minister representing the Minister for Education
- 617 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
- 618 Minister representing the Minister for Social Inclusion
- 619 Minister representing the Treasurer
- 620 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- 621 Special Minister of State
- 622 Minister representing the Minister for Trade
- 623 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 625 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 626 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 627 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation
- 628 Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
- 629 Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
- 630 Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
- 631 Minister for Climate Change and Water
- 632 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts
- 633 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 634 Minister for Human Services
- 635 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 636 Minister representing the Minister for Resources and Energy
- 637 Minister representing the Minister for Tourism
- 638 Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs
- 639 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer
- 640 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs
- 641 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
- 642 Minister representing the Minister for Housing
- 643 Minister representing the Minister for the Status of Women
- 644 Minister representing the Minister for Employment Participation (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 27 August 2008*)
- 646 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy
- 647 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law
- 648 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing on 27 August 2008*)
- 649 Minister representing the Minister for Youth (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 27 August 2008*)
- 650 Minister representing the Minister for Sport (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing on 27 August 2008*)

Senator Minchin: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 651-686)—

- (1) Did the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary within the Minister's portfolio attend any event at the Beijing Olympic Games; if so, which events did the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary attend.
- (2) Was the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary accompanied by: (a) family; (b) personal staff; and (c) departmental officials; if so, how many.
- (3) Did any officials from the department attend the Beijing Olympic Games in their capacity as an employee of the Australian Government; if so, how many and in what capacity did they attend.
- (4) In regard to the attendance by the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary and/or departmental officials at the Beijing Olympic Games, what was the total cost of: (a) travel; (b) accommodation; and (c) any other expenses.

- 651 Minister representing the Prime Minister
- 652 Minister representing the Minister for Education
- 653 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
- 654 Minister representing the Minister for Social Inclusion
- 655 Minister representing the Treasurer
- 656 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- 657 Special Minister of State
- 658 Minister representing the Minister for Trade
- 659 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 660 Minister representing the Minister for Defence
- 661 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 662 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 663 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation
- 664 Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
- 665 Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
- 666 Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
- 667 Minister for Climate Change and Water
- 668 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts
- 669 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 670 Minister for Human Services
- 671 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 672 Minister representing the Minister for Resources and Energy
- 673 Minister representing the Minister for Tourism
- 674 Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs
- 675 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer
- 676 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs
- 677 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
- 678 Minister representing the Minister for Housing
- 679 Minister representing the Minister for the Status of Women

- 680 Minister representing the Minister for Employment Participation (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 27 August 2008*)
- 681 Minister representing the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 28 August 2008*)
- 682 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy
- 683 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law
- 684 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing on 27 August 2008*)
- 685 Minister representing the Minister for Youth (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 27 August 2008*)
- 686 Minister representing the Minister for Sport (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing on 27 August 2008*)

Senator Minchin: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 687-722)—Did the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary within the Minister's portfolio travel overseas during July or August 2008; if so:

- (1) Where did the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary travel.
 - (2) What was the duration of the travel.
 - (3) What was the purpose of the travel.
 - (4) For each country visited, what was the total cost to the taxpayer of: (a) travel; (b) accommodation; and (c) any other expenses.
 - (5) How many personal staff accompanied the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary.
 - (6) How many family members accompanied the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary.
 - (7) In regard to staff and family accompanying the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary, what was the total cost of: (a) travel; (b) accommodation; and (c) any other expenses.
 - (8) (a) How many departmental officers accompanied the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary; and (b) what was the total cost of their: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, and (iii) any other expenses.
- 687 Minister representing the Prime Minister
 - 688 Minister representing the Minister for Education
 - 689 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
 - 690 Minister representing the Minister for Social Inclusion
 - 691 Minister representing the Treasurer
 - 692 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
 - 693 Special Minister of State
 - 694 Minister representing the Minister for Trade
 - 695 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
 - 696 Minister representing the Minister for Defence
 - 697 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
 - 698 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
 - 699 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation

- 700 Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
- 701 Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
- 702 Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
- 703 Minister for Climate Change and Water
- 704 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts
- 705 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 706 Minister for Human Services
- 707 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 708 Minister representing the Minister for Resources and Energy
- 709 Minister representing the Minister for Tourism
- 710 Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs
- 711 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer
- 712 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs
- 713 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
- 714 Minister representing the Minister for Housing
- 715 Minister representing the Minister for the Status of Women
- 716 Minister representing the Minister for Employment Participation (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 27 August 2008*)
- 717 Minister representing the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 28 August 2008*)
- 718 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy
- 719 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law
- 720 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing on 27 August 2008*)
- 721 Minister representing the Minister for Youth (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 27 August 2008*)
- 722 Minister representing the Minister for Sport (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing on 27 August 2008*)
- 723 **Senator Minchin:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the answer (PM 41) provided on notice to Senator Fierravanti-Wells during the 2008-09 Budget estimates hearing of the Finance and Public Administration Committee:
 - (1) (a) How many family, personal staff and departmental officials accompanied the Prime Minister on his travel to: (i) Kuwait, Iraq, the United Arab Emirates and Afghanistan, (ii) East Timor, (iii) Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, and (iv) the United States of America, Belgium, Romania, the United Kingdom and China; and (b) what was the role of each personal staff member travelling with the Prime Minister.
 - (2) In regard to the Prime Minister's travel to Japan and Indonesia between 8 June and 14 June 2008: (a) what was the total cost to the taxpayer of the Prime Minister's: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, and (iii) any other expenses; (b) how many personal staff accompanied the Prime Minister and Ms Rein; (c) what was the role of each personal staff member; (d) what was the total cost for staff and family travelling with the Prime Minister in

relation to: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, and (iii) any other expenses; and (e) how many departmental officers accompanied the Prime Minister; and what was the total cost of their: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, and (iii) any other expenses.

Notice given 27 August 2008

Senator Minchin: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 724-725)—With reference to the Prime Minister's visit to New York in early 2008:

- (1) On what dates did the Prime Minister visit New York.
- (2) Where did the Prime Minister stay during his visit.
- (3) Who accompanied the Prime Minister.
- (4) Where did accompanying staff stay during the visit.
- (5) What was the total cost of the visit.
- (6) Have any alterations, refurbishments or décor changes been made to the Australian Mission to the United Nations residence in New York during 2008; if so: (a) what was the nature of these alterations, refurbishments or décor changes; (b) what was the itemised and total cost of these alterations, refurbishments or décor changes; and (c) at whose instigation were these alterations, refurbishments or décor changes made to the residence.

724 Minister representing the Prime Minister

725 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

Notice given 1 September 2008

728 **Senator Ellison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the following statement which appeared on the Trades Recognition Australia's website in July 2008, 'From 1 September 2008, it is Trades Recognition Australia's intention that the new Migration Assessment Policy (MAP) will replace the current Uniform Assessment Criteria (UAC). The MAP outlines the new standards and procedures used to process applications for skills assessment for the purposes of General Skilled Migration.': Can a detailed explanation be provided of: (a) what is being proposed; (b) what it will cost; (c) what it will achieve; and (d) how does it differ from the current system.

Notice given 2 September 2008

730 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Chair of the Economics Committee—

- (1) What was the urgency for releasing the committee's interim report *National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) Bill 2008 and National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008*.
- (2) Were there communications between the office of the Chair, or the Chair herself, and the office of the Assistant Treasurer or the office of the Prime Minister, on the issuing of this report; if so, what was the: (a) time; (b) duration; and (c) medium, of each of these communications.

Notice given 3 September 2008

- 731 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts—With reference to the findings of recent reports, such as the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation's *Water availability in the Murray: A report to the Australian Government from the CSIRO Murray-Darling Basin Sustainable Yields Project*, dated July 2008 and *Water availability in the Goulburn-Broken: A report to the Australian Government from the CSIRO Murray-Darling Basin Sustainable Yields Project*, dated May 2008 and the report by the Murray-Darling Basin Commission *Sustainable Rivers Audit: A report on the ecological health of rivers in the Murray-Darling Basin, 2004-2007*, dated June 2008, which suggest that the impacts on the Goulburn and Murray systems of sending water to Melbourne may be much greater than initially thought: Will the Sugarloaf Pipeline proposal be reconsidered under section 78A of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* to assess its impact on the Ramsar-listed wetlands further down the river system and the migratory bird species which are protected by international conventions; if not, why not.

Notice given 4 September 2008

- 733 **Senator Ludlam:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—With reference to the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) Open Pool Australian Lightwater (OPAL) research reactor, located 31 kilometres from Sydney at Lucas Heights:
- (1) Since its opening in April 2007, what is the total number of days the reactor functioned compared to when it has been inoperative.
 - (2) (a) How much has it cost Australia through the closure, the required attempted repairs and the limited function of the reactor since it was restarted; (b) can a breakdown be provided of this total costing; (c) how much of this cost may be expected to be recovered from the Argentinean company, INVAP; and (d) what measures is the Government pursuing in order to recover these costs.
 - (3) Given the ongoing problems with the reactor, does the Minister agree with the description on ANSTO's website describing the OPAL reactor as 'world-class'.
 - (4) What was the total cost for the construction of the reactor.
 - (5) What are the ongoing annual maintenance and running costs of the reactor.
 - (6) Can a breakdown be provided of the annual revenues which were: (a) projected to be derived from the operations of the reactor; and (b) actually derived from the operations of the reactor.
 - (7) Given that the reactor has been unable to deliver its promised four times the amount of radioisotopes for nuclear medicine than its predecessor and related expansion in the nation's capacity for nuclear medicine, from which countries and companies did Australia source its isotopes during the reactor's inactivity.
 - (8) What contingency measures is the Government putting in place to provide for long-term alternatives to the production of radioisotopes from the reactor.

Notice given 12 September 2008

735 **Senator Ellison:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—In regard to the Government's horticulture industry Pacific Seasonal Worker Pilot Scheme which was announced by the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry on 17 August 2008:

- (1) When will details of the scheme be released, including information for prospective employers and the requirements that employers will need to meet.
- (2) Have the labour market surveys of the Griffith and Swan Hill regions been completed; if so, when were they completed and what were the results; if not, when is it expected that they will be completed and will they be made public.
- (3) How many employers are anticipated to be approved to sponsor workers under this scheme.
- (4) What requirements will participating employers need to meet to demonstrate that they have made reasonable efforts to employ Australians.
- (5) What will be the total cost in administration fees or costs payable to the Government or its departments for participating employers to apply and/or be approved to participate in the scheme.
- (6) Does the Government have an estimate of the pastoral care costs that participating employers will be expected to pay.
- (7) Has the Government developed any guidelines on the pastoral care costs that participating employers will be expected to pay; if so, what are they; if not, when will these be developed.
- (8) What guidelines will apply for participating employers to commit to participate in programs for the training and career development of Australians.
- (9) Given there are half a million unemployed people in Australia already and a projection in the Government's own budget that there will be a further increase of another 134 000 unemployed people over the 2008-09 financial year, can the Government guarantee that Australians will not lose out on jobs.
- (10) What incentives will the Government introduce for Australians to undertake the work that will otherwise be done by employees brought to Australia under the scheme.
- (11) Will the Government exempt income of Australian pensioners or other income support benefit recipients from the income test for work undertaken that will otherwise be done by employees brought to Australia under the scheme.
- (12) What measures will be implemented to ensure that 'guest workers' return home at the conclusion of their employment.
- (13) What health checks will be undertaken prior to prospective employees travelling to Australia.

- (14) Has the Government undertaken any analysis of: (a) the availability of health screening facilities in the proposed participating countries; (b) the impact on the availability of health screening facilities for locals consequent to the increased demand for screening by participants in the proposed participating countries; and (c) the reliability of records in the source countries for the undertaking of character checks for participating applicants.
 - (15) How will the Government ensure that the workers selected are the most suitable and that the selection process has been free from political interference.
 - (16) What steps will be taken to make sure that smaller employers are not disadvantaged by the requirements that must be met to participate in the scheme.
 - (17) Will there be any restrictions placed on companies that can recruit and select participating employees.
 - (18) How will the Government ensure that participating employees are not required to pay migration agent or other recruitment costs.
 - (19) What compliance measures will be put in place to ensure that participating employees are not exploited by employers.
 - (20) What will be the consequences for: (a) participating employees who overstay or abscond; (b) employers of participating employees who overstay or abscond; and (c) local villages or source countries of participating employees who overstay or abscond.
 - (21) Will there be a role for the trade union movement in approving participating employers.
 - (22) What information and education on the Australian way of life will be supplied to applicants: (a) before they apply; and (b) after they are selected.
- 736 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government—
- (1) Was air traffic control inoperative in the Canberra, Sydney or any other capital city area on Sunday, 31 August 2008 or Monday, 1 September 2008; if so, can details be provided of reasons and durations, including an account of subsequent traffic delays, costs and safety factors.
 - (2) On which days in 2008 has air traffic control for Canberra International Airport failed.

Notice given 22 September 2008

- 738 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government—Will the \$1.2 million pledged in the 2008-09 Budget to improve Tasmania's road safety 'black spots' be used to improve the safety of the Huon Highway in the Kingborough Municipality which has recently been the site of a number of serious accidents and fatalities.

739 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—

- (1) Can details be provided of the reasons behind the proposal by the Radiation Health Committee of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency to increase the allowable Extremely Low Frequency Electric and Magnetic Fields (ELF-EMF) standard for acute exposure to three times that of the international standard.
- (2) If the ELF-EMF standard for acute exposure is increased, what guarantee can the Minister give that the operators and technicians of magnetic resonance imaging machines will not suffer adverse health consequences.

Notice given 24 September 2008

740 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy—

- (1) Has the Minister or the department received complaints about the practices of major telecommunication companies in relation to so-called 'premium mobile services', particularly in relation to third party billing.
- (2) Is the Minister aware that major telecommunication companies including Telstra: (a) include in customer accounts, without the authority of the customer, charges for so-called 'premium mobile services' when those services are alleged to have been provided by a third party; (b) refuse to deal with customer complaints about the accounts and simply refer the customer to the third party provider; (c) can charge penalties and interest on monies owing to third parties; and (d) are under no obligation to assist customers who are unable to contact or resolve complaints with the third party providers.
- (3) Has the Minister received legal advice about the practices referred to above.
- (4) Is the Minister satisfied that the voluntary code known as the Mobile Premium Services Industry Scheme, is placing adequate responsibility on the major telecommunication providers in relation to their billing and complaints handling procedures.
- (5) Has the Minister received advice from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission that legislative change is needed to protect consumers from predatory practices by telecommunication companies in relation to 'premium mobile services'.
- (6) What action is proposed by the Minister in regard to public concern about activities of telecommunication companies in relation to 'premium mobile services', and particularly their billing practices.

741 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Special Minister of State—Given that the Australian Federal Police have been investigating the legality of the disclosure and other matters relating to electoral donations made by the Exclusive Brethren during the 2004 federal election: Can the Minister advise whether this investigation has been completed; if so, what was the outcome.

742 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs on 7 October 2008*)—With reference to the shooting of 10 people at the school in Kauhajokki in south western Finland:

- (1) How many handguns similar to the one used in this shooting: (a) are registered in Australia; and (b) have been stolen in Australia.

(2) When will the Government ban handguns in Australia.

743 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts—With reference to the seminar at the University of Newcastle on 23 September 2008, ‘The koala: Future of an icon’, and in particular the associated paper by Dr Stephen Jackson:

- (1) What is the Government’s plan to ensure the prosperity of koalas and their survival in regions where they persist.
- (2) What are the chances of the koala becoming extinct, locally in such regions or nationally.
- (3) What review of the status of the koala has the Government undertaken, when and by whom.
- (4) What possible impact will imminently proposed logging of forests in south east New South Wales and East Gippsland have on koalas, and in particular logging near Bermagui.

Notice given 25 September 2008

744 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) What is the Government’s action plan to help or protect Australian home owners from economic circumstances, similar to those in the United States of America, arising.
- (2) Does the Government foresee the collapse of any Australian investment company in 2008.

745 **Senator Ronaldson:** To ask the Special Minister of State—

- (1) (a) How many ministerial staff does the Government currently employ; and (b) how many are employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (the MoPS Act).
- (2) What is the breakdown of the different classifications in the ministerial staffing positions, for example, senior adviser, adviser and Chief of Staff.
- (3) Are all government MoPS Act positions located in ministerial offices; if not, where are these positions within the government or bureaucracy.
- (4) How many Departmental Liaison Officer’s (DLOs) are working in ministerial offices, including those of parliamentary secretaries, on: (a) a temporary basis; and (b) a permanent basis.
- (5) How many departmental staff other than DLOs are working in ministerial offices, including those of parliamentary secretaries, on: (a) a temporary basis; and (b) a permanent basis.
- (6) How many consultants are employed in ministerial offices, including those of parliamentary secretaries, on: (a) a short-term (contract less than 6 months) basis; and (b) a long-term (contract more than 6 months) basis.
- (7) Are there any staff working in ministerial offices who are not employed under the MoPS Act or by a government department; if so: (a) how many are there; and (b) under what agreement are they employed.
- (8) How many government ministerial staff, including the staff of parliamentary secretaries, are based in Canberra.

Senator Ronaldson: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 746-748)—With reference to the department and all agencies in the Minister's portfolio:

- (1) How many contracts has the department or agency engaged in for the provision of media services since November 2007.
- (2) What was the total cost of these contracts.
- (3) What work have the contractors engaged in specifically or what work do they expect to undertake.
- (4) Was the contractor selected by tender; if so, was the tender select or open; if not, why not.

746 Minister representing the Prime Minister

747 Special Minister of State

748 Minister for Climate Change and Water

749 **Senator Ronaldson:** To ask the Minister for Climate Change and Water—With reference to the Government's 'think climate, think change' advertising campaign:

- (1) Since its launch, what has been the cost to the Commonwealth of this advertising campaign.
- (2) What are the breakdown of these costs for: (a) television placements; (b) radio placements; and (c) any other media used, including but not limited to newspaper placements, magazine placements, Internet advertising and mail outs.
- (3) Over what period will the advertisements run.
- (4) Can a list be provided of the names of any advertising or research agencies whose services have been engaged for the campaign.
- (5) How much will each of the agencies listed in (4) above, be paid for their services to the campaign.
- (6) What appropriations will the department use to authorise payments to be made as part of the campaign.

Senator Ronaldson: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 750-751)—Since the Minister took office on 3 December 2007:

- (1) (a) What overseas travel was undertaken by the Minister; (b) what was the purpose of the Minister's travel; (c) when did the Minister depart Australia; and (d) when did the Minister return to Australia.
- (2) (a) What staff travelled with the Minister; (b) what duties were they expected to perform while overseas; and (c) were they paid an allowance; if so, how much.
- (3) For each trip to the United States of America: (a) with whom did the Minister conduct official meetings; and (b) what was the purpose of those meetings.
- (4) (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.
- (5) Who met the cost of travel and other expenses associated with each trip.
- (6) What was the total of the travel and associated expenses that 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.

- (7) What was the total cost, including but not necessarily limited to, fares, allowances, accommodation, hospitality, insurance and other costs, of the visit for: (a) the Minister; (b) the Minister's family; and (c) the Minister's staff.
- (8) What was the total cost, including but not necessarily limited to, fares, allowances, accommodation, hospitality, insurance and other costs, of the visit for each departmental and/or agency officer.

750 Minister representing the Prime Minister

751 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

752 **Senator Ronaldson:** To ask the Special Minister of State—With reference to the Caucus Committee Support and Training Unit (CCSTU):

- (1) How many staff members comprise the CCSTU.
- (2) To whom do the staff report to.
- (3) What is the CCSTU annual budget, including staff salaries.
- (4) What was the total cost of the government franking stamps used to send invitations to the farewell dinner for Mr Robert Ray hosted by the Australian Labor Party on 2 August 2008.
- (5) How many hours did CCSTU staff dedicate to the organisation of the dinner.
- (6) Were the paper and envelopes used for the dinner invitations the resources of the CCSTU as allocated by the Federal Government.
- (7) Were the invitations and envelopes printed in the office of the CCSTU, using the resources of the CCSTU as allocated by the Federal Government.
- (8) What was the cost of hosting the dinner.
- (9) (a) How much revenue was collected as a result of the dinner; and (b) to whom was the revenue paid.
- (10) Did any of the CCSTU staff travel to Melbourne for the dinner.

Notice given 30 September 2008

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

- (1) On which occasions, involving representatives of BHP Billiton, have Australian Government officials in Indonesia: (a) visited Gag Island, Indonesia; (b) discussed Gag Island at the Australian Embassy in Jakarta; and (c) on each occasion, what was considered.
- (2) (a) What representations have been made by Australia to Indonesia in regard to Gag Island mining proposals; and (b) when and where were those proposals made.

Notice given 1 October 2008

754 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the control order imposed on Mr David Hicks on 21 December 2007:

- (1) Has the control order been effective.

- (2) Have there been any difficulties in regard to the control order.
- (3) Will the Government be seeking an extension for the control order when it expires in December 2008; if so: (a) what are the reasons for the extension; and (b) for how long.

ORDERS OF THE SENATE

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Amendment to an order of continuing effect

1 Departmental and agency contracts—Order for production of documents

That paragraph (7) of the order be amended to read as follows:

- (7) The Finance and Public Administration Committee consider the ongoing operation of the order and report on relevant developments from time to time.

(Agreed to 1 March 2007 upon adoption of recommendation 13 in the Finance and Public Administration Committee's second report on the operation of the Senate order for the production of lists of departmental and agency contracts (2003-06).)

Amendment to standing orders

2 Legislative and general purpose committees—Amendment to standing order 25(9)

That subparagraph (d) of standing order 25(9) be amended to read as follows:

- (d) The deputy chair shall act as the chair of the committee when the member elected as chair is absent from a meeting of the committee or the position of chair is temporarily vacant.

(Agreed to 18 September 2008 upon adoption of recommendation at page 3 in the Procedure Committee's first report of 2008.)

Committees

3 Amendment of committee names; Allocation of departments

- (1) That standing order 25(1) be amended as follows:
 Omit: 'Employment, Workplace Relations and Education'
 Substitute: 'Education, Employment and Workplace Relations'
 Omit: 'Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts'
 Substitute: 'Environment, Communications and the Arts'.
- (2) That departments and agencies be allocated to legislative and general purpose standing committees as follows:

Community Affairs

Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
 Health and Ageing

Economics

Treasury
 Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
 Resources, Energy and Tourism

Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

Environment, Communications and the Arts

Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
 Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

Finance and Public Administration

Parliament
 Prime Minister and Cabinet (including Climate Change)
 Finance and Deregulation
 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

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
 Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

(Agreed to 13 February 2008.)

*4 Education, Employment and Workplace Relations—Standing Committee— Authorisation to meet

That the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 16 October 2008, from 10 am, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into academic freedom in school and higher education.

(Agreed to 14 October 2008.)

***5 Environment, Communications and the Arts—Standing Committee—Authorisation to meet**

That the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Thursday, 16 October 2008, from 4.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008.

(Agreed to 14 October 2008.)

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 18 March 2008.)

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, from 11 am to 2 pm, to review reports of the Auditor-General, as follows:

Wednesday, 17 September 2008

Wednesday, 24 September 2008

Wednesday, 12 November 2008.

(Agreed to 1 September 2008.)

9 Unauthorised disclosure of committee proceedings

That the following order operate as an order of continuing effect:

- (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.

(Sessional order agreed to on 6 October 2005 adopted as an order of continuing effect on 17 September 2007.)

10 Substitute members of committees—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2008 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 13 February 2008 as part of a longer order—see also ‘Meeting of the Senate’ below.)

Estimates**11 2007-08 Additional estimates—2008-09 Budget estimates—Hearings**

- (1) That estimates hearings by standing committees for 2008 be scheduled as follows:

2007-08 additional estimates:

Monday, 18 February and Tuesday, 19 February and, if required, Friday, 22 February (*Group A*)
 Wednesday, 20 February and Thursday, 21 February and, if required, Friday, 22 February (*Group B*).

2008-09 Budget estimates:

Monday, 26 May to Thursday, 29 May and, if required, Friday, 30 May (*Group A*)
 Monday, 2 June to Thursday, 5 June and, if required, Friday, 6 June (*Group B*)
 Monday, 20 October and Tuesday, 21 October, and if required, 24 October (*supplementary hearings—Group A*)
 Wednesday, 22 October and Wednesday, 23 October and, if required, 24 October (*supplementary hearings—Group B*).

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

Group A:

Environment, Communications and the Arts
 Finance and Public Administration
 Legal and Constitutional Affairs
 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

Group B:

Community Affairs
 Economics
 Education, Employment and Workplace Relations
 Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade.

(4) That the committees report to the Senate on the following dates:

- (a) Tuesday, 18 March 2008 in respect of the 2007-08 additional estimates; and
- (b) Tuesday, 24 June 2008 in respect of the 2008-09 Budget estimates.

(Agreed to 13 February 2008.)

12 Community Affairs—Standing Committee—Estimates hearings—Consideration of Indigenous matters

That the Senate endorse the recommendation contained in paragraph 1.10 of the Community Affairs Committee report on the 2008-09 Budget estimates that:

Future estimates hearing programs include a separate time to conduct an estimates hearing on Indigenous matters that would include all the portfolios with budget expenditure or responsibility for Indigenous issues.

(Agreed to 26 August 2008.)

13 2007-08 Additional estimates—Answers to questions

The dates set by standing committees for answering questions taken on notice during the 2007-08 additional estimates are as follows:

Group A:

Environment, Communications, and the Arts	Thursday, 10 April 2008
Finance and Public Administration	Friday, 4 April 2008
Legal and Constitutional Affairs	Wednesday, 2 April 2008
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport	Wednesday, 9 April 2008

Group B:

Community Affairs	Friday, 11 April 2008
Economics	Friday, 11 April 2008
Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	Friday, 11 April 2008
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	Thursday, 10 April 2008

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

14 2008-09 Budget estimates—Answers to questions

The dates set by standing committees for answering questions taken on notice during the 2008-09 Budget estimates are as follows:

Group A:

Environment, Communications, and the Arts	Thursday, 31 July 2008
Finance and Public Administration	Friday, 11 July 2008
Legal and Constitutional Affairs	Thursday, 10 July 2008
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport	Friday, 18 July 2008

Group B:

Community Affairs	Friday, 1 August 2008
Economics	Friday, 1 August 2008
Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	Friday, 1 August 2008
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	Thursday, 31 July 2008

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

Legislation

*15 Senate consideration—Variation

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:

Migration Amendment (Notification Review) Bill 2008

Migration Legislation Amendment (Worker Protection) Bill 2008.

(Agreed to 14 October 2008.)

*16 Senate consideration—Variation

That the provisions of paragraphs (5) to (8) of standing order 111 not apply to the Tax Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy Surcharge Thresholds) Bill (No. 2) 2008, allowing it to be considered during this period of sittings.

(Agreed to 14 October 2008.)

Meeting of Senate

17 Meeting of Senate

That the days of meeting of the Senate for 2008 be as follows:

Autumn sittings:

Tuesday, 12 February to Thursday, 14 February

Autumn sittings (2):

Tuesday, 11 March to Thursday, 13 March

Monday, 17 March to Thursday, 20 March

Budget sittings:

Tuesday, 13 May to Thursday, 15 May

Winter sittings:

Monday, 16 June to Thursday, 19 June

Monday, 23 June to Thursday, 26 June

Spring sittings:

Tuesday, 26 August to Thursday, 28 August

Monday, 1 September to Thursday, 4 September

Monday, 15 September to Thursday, 18 September

Monday, 22 September to Thursday, 25 September

Monday, 13 October to Thursday, 16 October

Spring sittings (2):

Monday, 10 November to Thursday, 13 November

Monday, 24 November to Thursday, 27 November

Monday, 1 December to Thursday, 4 December.

(Agreed to 13 February 2008.)

18 Adjournment debate on Tuesday—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2008 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 13 February 2008 as part of a longer order—see also ‘Committees’ above.)

19 Divisions on Thursday—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order until the conclusion of the 2008 sittings:

If a division is called for on Thursday after 4.30 pm, the matter before the Senate shall be adjourned until the next day of sitting at a time fixed by the Senate.

(Agreed to 13 February 2008 as part of a longer order—see also ‘Committees’ above.)

Orders for production of documents

20 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.)

21 Defence—Procurement projects—Order for production of document

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Defence, no later than 4 pm on Thursday, 19 June 2008, the red folder brandished by the Minister which he claims contains details of ‘problematic’ defence procurement projects.

(Motion of the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin) agreed to 15 May 2008; document tabled 19 June 2008.)

22 Sport—Sports and recreation facilities—Grants—Order for production of document

That there be laid on the table, no later than 5 pm on 23 June 2008, a list of the commitments made by the Government during the election period to provide grants for sports and recreation facilities, which are being administered by the Department of Health and Ageing and the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government, showing the recipients, locations and amounts of the grants.

(Motion of Senator Bernardi agreed to 17 June 2008; document tabled 23 June 2008.)

23 Administration—Departmental and agency appointments—Order for production of documents

That—

- (1) There be laid on the table, by each minister in the Senate, in respect of each department or agency administered by that minister, or by a minister in the House of Representatives represented by that minister, by not later than 7 days before the commencement of the budget estimates, supplementary budget estimates and additional estimates hearings:
 - (a) a list of all appointments made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and ministers) to statutory authorities, executive agencies, advisory boards, government business enterprises and all other Commonwealth bodies including the term of the appointment and remuneration for the position; and
 - (b) a list of existing vacancies to be filled by government appointment to statutory authorities, executive agencies, advisory boards, government business enterprises and all other Commonwealth bodies.
- (2) If the Senate is not sitting when a statement is ready for presentation, the statement is to be presented to the President under standing order 166.
- (3) This order is of continuing effect.

(Motion of the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin) agreed to 24 June 2008.)

24 Administration—Departmental and agency grants—Order for production of documents

That—

- (1) There be laid on the table, by each minister in the Senate, in respect of each department or agency administered by that minister, or by a minister in the House of Representatives represented by that minister, by not later than 7 days before the commencement of the budget estimates, supplementary budget estimates and additional estimates hearings:

A list of all grants approved in each portfolio or agency, including the value of the grant, recipient of the grant and the program from which the grant was made.
- (2) If the Senate is not sitting when a statement is ready for presentation, the statement is to be presented to the President under standing order 166.
- (3) This order is of continuing effect.

(Motion of the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin) agreed to 24 June 2008.)

25 Environment—Coorong and Lower Lakes—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than noon on Thursday, 28 August 2008, the ‘urgent advice’ prepared for the Minister for Climate Change and Water by her department as requested on 18 June 2008 on ‘what we can do in the short-term’ to address the dire situation confronting the Coorong and Lower Lakes in South Australia.

(Motion of Senators Bernardi, Birmingham, Ferguson and Fisher and the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin) agreed to 27 August 2008.)

26 Environment—Strategic Review of Climate Change Policies—Order for production of documents

That there be laid on the table, no later than 4 pm on 4 September 2008, the report of the Strategic Review of Climate Change Policies recently completed by Mr Roger Wilkins, AO, with the support by a secretariat located in the Department of Finance and Deregulation.

(Motion of Senator Milne agreed to 3 September 2008.)

CONTINGENT NOTICES OF MOTION

Auditor-General’s reports—Consideration

- 1 Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Minchin)**
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)
Senator Xenophon

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 Evans):** 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 Minchin)

Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)

Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)

Senator Xenophon

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 Minchin)

Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)

Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)

Senator Xenophon

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 Minchin)

Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)

Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)

Senator Xenophon

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 Evans):** 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 Minchin)**
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)
Senator Xenophon

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 Minchin)**
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)
Senator Xenophon

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 Minchin)**
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)
Senator Xenophon

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 Minchin)**
Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)
Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)
Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)
Senator Xenophon

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 Minchin)

Leader of the Australian Greens (Senator Bob Brown)

Leader of the Family First Party (Senator Fielding)

Leader of The Nationals in the Senate (Senator Joyce)

Senator Xenophon

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, Bishop, Carol Brown, Crossin, Ellison, Forshaw, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Marshall, Moore, Parry, Troeth and Trood

CATEGORIES OF COMMITTEES

Standing Committees

▪ Legislative and General Purpose

Community Affairs

Economics

Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

Environment, Communications 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

Agricultural and Related Industries
 Fuel and Energy
 Housing Affordability in Australia (final report—16 June 2008)
 National Broadband Network
 Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities
 State Government Financial Management (final report—18 September 2008)

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
 - Public Accounts and Audit
 - Public Works

Details appear in the following section, with committees listed in alphabetical order.

COMMITTEES

Agricultural and Related Industries—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/agric_ctte/index.htm

(appointed 14 February 2008; resolution of appointment varied 15 May 2008; reporting date varied 15 May 2008; reporting date: 16 October 2008)

Members

Senator Heffernan (*Chair*), and Senators Farrell†, Fisher, Milne, Nash and Sterle

†Senator Farrell to be discharged from 12 December 2008 with Senator O’Brien to be reappointed in his place

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Arbib, Barnett, Bernardi, Bilyk, Birmingham, Bishop, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cameron, Cash, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Cormann, Crossin, Eggleston, Ellison, Feeney, Ferguson, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Forshaw, Furner, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Lundy, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Minchin, Moore, Parry, Payne, Polley, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Troeth, Trood, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

Current inquiries

Pricing and supply arrangements in the Australian and global fertiliser market (*referred 14 February 2008; reporting date: 16 October 2008*)

Food production in Australia (*referred 25 June 2008; reporting date: 27 November 2009*)

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 Faulkner, Lundy, Nash, Parry and Sherry

Reports presented

45th report—Department of the Senate's budget; Ordinary annual services of the government; Parliamentary computer network (*tabled 20 March 2008*)

46th report—Estimates for the Department of the Senate 2008-09 (*tabled 14 May 2008*)

Annual report 2007-08 (*tabled 4 September 2008*)

Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity—Joint Statutory Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/aclei_ctte/index.htm

Members

Ms Parke (*Chair*), Senator Fierravanti-Wells (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Carol Brown, Cameron and Parry and Mr Chester, Mr Clare, Mr Hayes and Mr Pyne

Current inquiry

Law enforcement integrity models (*adopted 15 May 2008*)

Report presented

Examination of the annual report of the Integrity Commissioner 2006-07 (*tabled 18 June 2008*)

Australian Crime Commission—Joint Statutory Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/acc_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Hutchins (*Chair*), Mr Wood (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Barnett, Fielding, Parry and Polley and Mr Champion, Mr Gibbons, Mr Hayes and Mr Pyne

Current inquiry

Legislative arrangement to outlaw serious and organised crime groups (*adopted 17 March 2008*)

Reports presented

Examination of the Australian Crime Commission annual report 2006-07 (*tabled 18 June 2008*)

Inquiry into the *Australian Crime Commission Amendment Act 2007* (*tabled 4 September 2008*)

Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings—Joint Statutory Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jcbpp/index.htm>

Members

The President, the Speaker, and Senators O'Brien and Parry and Mr Hale, Mr Hawker, Mr Hayes, Mr Lindsay and Mr Price

Community Affairs—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/clac_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs; Health and Ageing

Members

Senator Moore (*Chair*), Senator Siewert (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Adams, Bilyk, Boyce, Carol Brown, Furner and Humphries

Substitute member

Petrol sniffing and substance abuse in central Australia—Senator Crossin to replace Senator Carol Brown

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Arbib, Barnett, Bernardi, Birmingham, Bishop, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cameron, Cash, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Cormann, Crossin, Eggleston, Ellison, Farrell, Feeney, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Fisher, Forshaw, Hanson-Young, Heffernan, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Ludlam, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Nash, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Polley, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

Current inquiries

Poker Machine Harm Reduction Tax (Administration) Bill 2008 (*referred 12 March 2008; reporting date: 10 November 2008*)

Special disability trusts (*referred 15 May 2008; reporting date: 16 October 2008*)

Petrol sniffing and substance abuse in central Australia (*referred 17 June 2008; reporting date: last sitting day in March 2009*)

Poker Machine Harm Minimisation Bill 2008 (*referred 25 June 2008; reporting date: 10 November 2008*)

Social Security and Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment (Schooling Requirements) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 3 September 2008; reporting date: 13 November 2008*)

ATMs and Cash Facilities in Licensed Venues Bill 2008 (*referred 4 September 2008; reporting date: 10 November 2008*)

Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising (Broadcasting Amendment) Bill 2008 (*referred 4 September 2008; reporting date: 25 November 2008*)

Government expenditure on Indigenous affairs and social services in the Northern Territory (*referred 15 September 2008; reporting date: 4 December 2008*)

Implementation of recommendations of committee reports on child migration and Australians who experienced institutional or out-of-home care as children (*referred 18 September 2008; reporting date: last sitting day in March 2009*)

Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Further 2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 18 September 2008; reporting date: 10 November 2008*)

National Rental Affordability Scheme Bill 2008 [Provisions] and National Rental Affordability Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date: 20 November 2008*)

Reports presented

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 41st Parliament (*tabled 14 February 2008*)
 Additional estimates 2007-08, dated March 2008 (*tabled 18 March 2008*)
 A decent quality of life: Inquiry into the cost of living pressures on older Australians (*tabled 20 March 2008*)
 Annual reports (No. 1 of 2008), dated March 2008 (*tabled 20 March 2008*)
 Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Emergency Response Consolidation) Bill 2008 [Provisions]—Interim report (*presented to the President on 7 May 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2008*)
 Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Emergency Response Consolidation) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 15 May 2008*)
 Alcohol Toll Reduction Bill 2007 [2008] (*tabled 18 June 2008*)
 Mental health services in Australia—Interim report (*tabled 19 June 2008*)
 Budget estimates 2008-09, dated June 2008 (*tabled 24 June 2008*)
 Ready-to-drink alcohol beverages (*tabled 24 June 2008*)
 A matter relating to the PET review of 2000 (*tabled 26 June 2008*)
 National Health Amendment (Pharmaceutical and Other Benefits—Cost Recovery) Bill 2008 (*presented to the Deputy President on 22 August 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 August 2008*)
 Annual reports (No. 2 of 2008), dated September 2008 (*tabled 17 September 2008*)
 Towards recovery: Mental health services in Australia (*tabled 25 September 2008*)
 Draft National Health (Pharmaceutical Benefits — Charges) Regulations 2008 (*presented to the Deputy President on 2 October 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 October 2008*)

Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/corporations_ctte/index.htm

Members

Mr Ripoll (*Chair*), and Senators Arbib, Boyce and Marshall and Ms Grierson, Mr Keenan, Ms Owens, and Mr Robert

Current inquiries

Continuing oversight of the operations of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*statutory responsibility*)
 Franchising Code of Conduct (*adopted 25 June 2008*)

Reports presented

Better shareholders – better company: Shareholder engagement and participation in Australia (*tabled 24 June 2008*)
 Statutory oversight of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*tabled 2 September 2008*)

Economics—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/economics_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Treasury; Innovation, Industry, Science and Research; Resources, Energy and Tourism

Members

Senator Hurley (*Chair*), Senator Eggleston (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Bushby, Cameron, Furner, Joyce, Pratt and Xenophon

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Arbib, Barnett, Bernardi, Bilyk, Birmingham, Bishop, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Cash, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Cormann, Crossin, Ellison, Farrell, Feeney, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Fisher, Forshaw, Hanson-Young, Heffernan, Humphries, Hutchins, Johnston, Kroger, Ludlam, Lundy, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Moore, Nash, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Polley, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood, Williams and Wortley

Current inquiries

Australia's space science and industry sector (*referred 19 March 2008; interim report tabled 23 June 2008; final reporting date: 12 November 2008*)

Australia's mandatory Last Resort Home Warranty Insurance scheme (*referred 19 March 2008; reporting date: 13 November 2008*)

Disclosure regimes for charities and not-for-profit organisations (*referred 18 June 2008; reporting date: 4 December 2008*)

Matters relating to the gas explosion at Varanus Island, Western Australia (*referred 28 August 2008; reporting date: 13 November 2008*)

Tax Laws Amendment (Political Contributions and Gifts) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 3 September 2008; reporting date: 5 November 2008*)

Definition of unconscionable conduct for the purposes of Part IVA of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (*referred 16 September 2008; reporting date: 3 December 2008*)

Joint marketing arrangements on the North West Shelf project (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date: 10 November 2008*)

Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 5) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 25 September 2008; interim report tabled 13 October 2008; reporting date: 10 November 2008*)

Temporary Residents' Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] and Superannuation (Departing Australia Superannuation Payments Tax) Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date: 20 November 2008*)

Reports presented

Australian Securities and Investments Commission (Fair Bank and Credit Card Fees) Amendment Bill 2007 and National Market Driven Energy Efficiency Target Bill 2007—Interim report (*presented to the President on 11 February 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2008*)

Additional estimates 2007-08, dated March 2008 (*tabled 18 March 2008*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2008), dated March 2008 (*tabled 20 March 2008*)

Tax Laws Amendment (Personal Income Tax Reduction) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 1 May 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2008*)

Australia's mandatory last resort home warranty insurance schemes—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 1 May 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2008*)

Reserve Bank Amendment (Enhanced Independence) Bill 2008 [Provisions]—Interim report (*presented to the President on 30 May 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2008*)

National Market Driven Energy Efficiency Target Bill 2007 [2008] and Renewable Energy Legislation Amendment (Renewable Power Percentage) Bill 2008 (*presented to the President on 30 May 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2008*)

Reserve Bank Amendment (Enhanced Independence) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 11 June 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2008*)

Australia's space science and industry sector—Interim report (*tabled 23 June 2008*)

Budget estimates 2008-09, dated June 2008 (*tabled 24 June 2008*)

Tax Laws Amendment (Budget Measures) Bill 2008 (*tabled 24 June 2008*)

Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 4) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 26 August 2008*)

Trade Practices (Creeping Acquisitions) Amendment Bill 2007 [2008] (*tabled 26 August 2008*)

Trade Practices Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 26 August 2008*)

Excise Legislation Amendment (Condensate) Bill 2008 and Excise Tariff Amendment (Condensate) Bill 2008 (*tabled 27 August 2008*)

Tax Laws Amendment (Medicare Levy Surcharge Thresholds) Bill 2008 (*tabled 27 August 2008*)

National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) Bill 2008 and National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008—Interim report (*tabled 27 August 2008*)

Provisions of Schedules 1 and 2 of the Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 3) Bill 2008 (*tabled 28 August 2008*)

Tax Laws Amendment (Luxury Car Tax) Bill 2008, A New Tax System (Luxury Car Tax Imposition—General) Amendment Bill 2008, A New Tax System (Luxury Car Tax Imposition—Customs) Amendment Bill 2008 and A New Tax System (Luxury Car Tax Imposition—Excise) Amendment Bill 2008 (*tabled 28 August 2008*)

Unit Pricing (Easy comparison of grocery prices) Bill 2008 (*tabled 1 September 2008*)

Australian Securities and Investments Commission (Fair Bank and Credit Card Fees) Amendment Bill 2008 (*tabled 16 September 2008*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2008), dated September 2008 (*tabled 17 September 2008*)

Offshore Petroleum Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008 [Provisions], Offshore Petroleum (Annual Fees) Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008 [Provisions], Offshore Petroleum (Registration Fees) Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008 [Provisions] and Offshore Petroleum (Safety Levies) Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 23 September 2008*)

Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 5) Bill 2008 [Provisions]—Interim report (*tabled 13 October 2008*)

Tax Laws Amendment (Education Refund) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 13 October 2008*)

- * National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) Bill 2008 and National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 (*tabled 14 October 2008*)

Education, Employment and Workplace Relations—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eet_ctte/index.htm

(formerly *Employment, Workplace Relations and Education*; name amended 13 February 2008)

Portfolio

Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

Members

Senator Marshall (*Chair*), Senator Humphries (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Arbib, Cash, Collins, Crossin, Fisher and Siewert

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Barnett, Bernardi, Bilyk, Birmingham, Bishop, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cameron, Colbeck, Coonan, Cormann, Eggleston, Ellison, Farrell, Feeney, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Forshaw, Furner, Hanson-Young, Heffernan, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Ludlam, Lundy, Macdonald, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Moore, Nash, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Polley, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

Current inquiries

Academic freedom in school and higher education (*referred 24 June 2008; reporting date: 27 November 2008*)

Australia's research and training capacity in the area of climate change (*referred 26 June 2008; reporting date: 20 March 2009*)

Building and Construction Industry (Restoring Workplace Rights) Bill 2008 (*referred 3 September 2008; reporting date: 30 November 2008*)

Social Security Legislation Amendment (Employment Services Reform) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date: 24 November 2008*)

Reports presented

Workplace Relations Amendment (Transition to Forward with Fairness) Bill 2008 (*tabled 17 March 2008*)

Additional estimates 2007-08, dated March 2008 (*tabled 18 March 2008*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2008), dated March 2008 (*tabled 20 March 2008*)

Budget estimates 2008-09, dated June 2008 (*tabled 24 June 2008*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2008), dated September 2008 (*tabled 17 September 2008*)

Electoral Matters—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/em/index.htm>

(appointed 14 February 2008)

Members

Mr Melham (*Chair*), Mr Morrison (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Birmingham, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Hutchins and Ronaldson and Mr Danby, Mr Scott and Mr Sullivan

Current inquiries

2007 Federal Election, including the Commonwealth Electoral (Above-the-Line Voting) Amendment Bill 2008 (*referred 12 March 2008*)

Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Political Donations and Other Measures) Bill 2008 (*referred 18 June 2008 for inquiry in conjunction with the committee's 2007 Federal Election inquiry; reporting date: 30 June 2009*)

Report presented

Schedule 1 of the Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 1) Bill 2008—Advisory report (*tabled 17 June 2008*)

Environment, Communications and the Arts—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/eca_ctte/index.htm

(formerly *Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts*; name amended 13 February 2008)

Portfolios

Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts; Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

Members

Senator McEwen (*Chair*), Senator Birmingham (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Ludlam, Lundy, Parry, Pratt, Williams and Wortley

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Arbib, Barnett, Bernardi, Bilyk, Bishop, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cameron, Cash, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Cormann, Crossin, Eggleston, Ellison, Farrell, Feeney, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Fisher, Forshaw, Furner, Hanson-Young, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Moore, Nash, O'Brien, Payne, Polley, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood and Xenophon

Current inquiries

Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008 (*referred 18 June 2008; reporting date: 10 November 2008*)

Effectiveness of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and other programs in protecting threatened species and ecological communities (*referred 18 June 2008; reporting date: last sitting day of February 2009*)

Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television Switch-over) Bill 2008 (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date: 25 November 2008*)

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment) Bill 2008 (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date: 4 December 2008*)

Reports presented

Additional estimates 2007-08, dated March 2008 (*tabled 18 March 2008*)
 Annual reports (No. 1 of 2008), dated March 2008 (*tabled 20 March 2008*)
 Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Communications Fund) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Bishop, on 30 April 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2008*)
 Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network) Bill 2008—Interim report (*presented to the President on 7 May 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2008*)
 Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network) Bill 2008 (*presented to the President on 9 May 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2008*)
 Effectiveness of the broadcasting codes of practice—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 6 June 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2008*)
 The effectiveness of the broadcasting codes of practice (*tabled 19 June 2008*)
 Budget estimates 2008-09, dated June 2008 (*tabled 24 June 2008*)
 Sexualisation of children in the contemporary media (*tabled 26 June 2008*)
 Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008 [No. 2] and related matters—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Marshall, on 15 August 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 August 2008*)
 Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008 [No. 2] (*presented to the President on 25 August 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 August 2008*)
 Waste management in Australia (including consideration of the Drink Container Recycling Bill 2008) (*tabled 3 September 2008*)
 Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 (*tabled 15 September 2008*) and additional comments by Senator Joyce (*tabled 18 September 2008*)
 Annual reports (No. 2 of 2008), dated September 2008 (*tabled 17 September 2008*)
 Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2008 (*tabled 13 October 2008*)

Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/fapa_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Parliament; Prime Minister and Cabinet (including Climate Change); Finance and Deregulation; Human Services

Members

Senator Polley (*Chair*), Senator Fifield (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Cameron, Collins, Fierravanti-Wells, Hanson-Young, Moore and Ryan

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Arbib, Barnett, Bernardi, Bilyk, Birmingham, Bishop, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cash, Colbeck, Coonan, Cormann, Crossin, Eggleston, Ellison, Farrell, Feeney, Fielding, Fisher, Forshaw, Furner, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Ludlam, Lundy, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Nash, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Pratt, Ronaldson, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

Current inquiries

Item 16525 in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Regulations 2007 (*referred 16 September 2008; reporting date: 13 November 2008*)

Residential and community aged care in Australia (*referred to the Economics Committee 25 September 2008; transferred 14 October 2008; reporting date: first sitting day of April 2009*)

Reports presented

Additional estimates 2007-08, dated March 2008 (*tabled 18 March 2008*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2008), dated March 2008 (*tabled 20 March 2008*)

Budget estimates 2008-09, dated June 2008 (*tabled 24 June 2008*)

Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008 (*tabled 24 June 2008*)

Knock, knock...who's there? The Lobbying Code of Conduct (*tabled 3 September 2008*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2008), dated September 2008 (*tabled 17 September 2008*)

Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jfadt/index.htm>

(*appointed 14 February 2008*)

Members

Senator Forshaw (*Chair*), Mr Hawker (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Arbib, Bishop, Ferguson, Fifield, Johnston, Moore, O'Brien, Payne and Trood and Mr Baldwin, Mr Bevis, Mr Danby, Ms AL Ellis, Mr Gibbons, Ms Grierson, Mr Hale, Mr Macfarlane, Mrs Mirabella, Ms Parke, Ms Rea, Mr Ripoll, Mr Robb, Mr Robert, Mr Ruddock, Ms Saffin, Mr Scott, Mr KJ Thomson and Ms Vamvakinou

Current inquiries

RAAF F-111 Deseal-Reseal workers and their families (*referred 21 May 2008*)

Australia's trade and investment relations with Asia, the Pacific and Latin America (*referred 4 June 2008*)

Australia's relationship with ASEAN (*referred 25 June 2008*)

Human rights mechanisms and the Asia-Pacific (*referred 3 September 2008*)

Australia's relationship with India as an emerging world power (*referred 2 March 2006; recommenced 27 August 2008*)

Review of the Defence annual report 2006-07 (*adopted 4 April 2008*)

Report presented

Review of the Defence annual report 2005-06 (*tabled 16 June 2008*)

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 Bishop (*Chair*), Senator Trood (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Cormann, Feeney, Forshaw, Kroger, Ludlam and McEwen

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Arbib, Barnett, Bernardi, Birmingham, Bilyk, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cameron, Cash, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Ellison, Farrell, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Fisher, Furner, Hanson-Young, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Lundy, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Moore, Nash, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Polley, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

Current inquiries

Review of reforms to Australia's military justice system by the Australian Defence Force (*adopted under standing order 25(2)(b), 22 June 2006; readopted 14 February 2008*)

Economic and security challenges facing Papua New Guinea and the island states of the southwest Pacific (*referred 24 June 2008; reporting date: 30 May 2009*)

Reports presented

The changing nature of Australia's involvement in peacekeeping operations—Interim report (*presented to the President on 19 October 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2008*)

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 41st Parliament (*tabled 14 February 2008*)

Additional estimates 2007-08, dated March 2008 (*tabled 18 March 2008*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2008), dated March 2008 (*tabled 20 March 2008*)

Budget estimates 2008-09, dated June 2008 (*tabled 24 June 2008*)

Australia's involvement in peacekeeping operations—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Barnett, on 31 July 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 August 2008*)

Australia's involvement in peacekeeping operations (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Barnett, on 1 August 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 August 2008*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2008), dated September 2008 (*tabled 17 September 2008*)

Reforms to Australia's military justice system—Fourth progress report (*tabled 24 September 2008*)

Fuel and Energy—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/fuelenergy_ctte/index.htm

(*appointed 25 June 2008; reporting date: 21 October 2009*)

Members

Senator Cormann (*Chair*), Senator Hutchins (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Bushby, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Joyce and McEwen

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Arbib, Barnett, Bernardi, Bilyk, Birmingham, Bishop, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Carol Brown, Cameron, Cash, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Crossin, Eggleston, Ellison, Farrell, Feeney, Ferguson, Fifield, Fisher, Forshaw, Furner, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Johnston, Kroger, Lundy, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Moore, Nash, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Polley, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

House—Standing Committee*Members*

The President (*Chair*), the Deputy President, and Senators Crossin, Heffernan, Parry, Stephens and Wortley

Housing Affordability in Australia—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/hsaf_ctte/index.htm

(appointed 14 February 2008; final report tabled 16 June 2008)

Members

Senator Payne (*Chair*), and Senators Colbeck, Fifield, Lundy and Moore

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Barnett, Bernardi, Birmingham, Bishop, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Bushby, Collins, Coonan, Cormann, Crossin, Eggleston, Ellison, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fisher, Forshaw, Heffernan, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Nash, O'Brien, Parry, Polley, Ronaldson, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood and Wortley

Report presented

A good house is hard to find: Housing affordability in Australia (tabled 16 June 2008)

Intelligence and Security—Joint Statutory Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/pjcis/index.htm>

Members

Mr Bevis (*Chair*), Mr Ruddock (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Forshaw, Marshall, McGauran and Nash and Mr Downer, Mr Dreyfus, Mr Melham and Mr Robb

Current inquiries

Review of listings of certain terrorist organisations under the *Criminal Code Act 1995* (*statutory responsibility*)

Review of administration and expenditure no. 6 – Australian intelligence agencies (*statutory responsibility*)

Reports presented

Review of the re-listing of three terrorist organisations (*presented to the Deputy President on 27 September 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2008*)

Review of the re-listing of the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) (*tabled 25 June 2008*)

* Annual report of committee activities 2007-08 (*tabled 14 October 2008*)

* Review of the re-listing of Al-Qa'ida, Jemaah Islamiyah and Al-Qa'ida in the Lands of the Islamic Maghreb (*tabled 14 October 2008*)

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 Crossin (*Chair*), Senator Barnett (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Farrell, Feeney, Fisher, Hanson-Young, Marshall and Trood

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Arbib, Bernardi, Birmingham, Bilyk, Bishop, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cameron, Cash, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Cormann, Eggleston, Ellison, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Forshaw, Furner, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Ludlam, Lundy, Macdonald, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Moore, Nash, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Polley, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

Current inquiry

Effectiveness of the *Sex Discrimination Act 1984* in eliminating discrimination and promoting gender equality (*referred 26 June 2008*)

Reports presented

Crimes Legislation Amendment (Child Sex Tourism Offences and Related Measures) Bill 2007 [Provisions] (*presented to the Deputy President on 10 October 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2008*)

Additional estimates 2007-08, dated March 2008 (*tabled 18 March 2008*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2008), dated March 2008 (*tabled 20 March 2008*)

Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment Bill 2008—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 1 May 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2008*)

Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment Bill 2008 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Murray, on 6 May 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2008*)

Stolen Generation Compensation Bill 2008 (*tabled 16 June 2008*)

Budget estimates 2008-09, dated June 2008 (*tabled 24 June 2008*)

Passenger Movement Charge Amendment Bill 2008 (*tabled 24 June 2008*)

Rights of the Terminally Ill (Euthanasia Laws Repeal) Bill 2008 (*tabled 26 June 2008*)

Family Law Amendment (De Facto Financial Matters and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 28 August 2008*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2008), dated September 2008 (*tabled 17 September 2008*)

Evidence Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 25 September 2008*)

* Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Laws Bill 2008 [No. 2] (*tabled 14 October 2008*)

* Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—Superannuation) Bill 2008 (*tabled 14 October 2008*)

* Same-Sex Relationships (Equal Treatment in Commonwealth Laws—General Law Reform) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 14 October 2008*)

Library—Standing Committee

Members

The President (*Chair*), and Senators Barnett, Bilyk, Cameron, Fielding, Hutchins and Trood

Migration—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/mig/index.htm>

(appointed 14 February 2008)

Members

Mr Danby (*Chair*), Mrs DS Vale (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Bilyk, Eggleston, Hanson-Young and McEwen and Ms D' Ath, Mr Georgiou, Mr Randall and Mr Zappia

Current inquiry

Immigration detention (*adopted 29 May 2008; replaces the inquiry into the Villawood Immigration Detention Centre adopted on 13 March 2008*)

National Broadband Network—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/broadband_ctte/index.htm

(appointed 25 June 2008; reporting date: 30 March 2009)

Members

Senator Fisher (*Chair*), Senator Birmingham (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Lundy, Macdonald, Nash and Sterle

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Arbib, Barnett, Bernardi, Bilyk, Bishop, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cameron, Cash, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Cormann, Crossin, Eggleston, Ellison, Farrell, Feeney, Ferguson, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Forshaw, Furner, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Ludlam, Marshall, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Minchin, Moore, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Polley, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Stephens, Troeth, Trood, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

National Capital and External Territories—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ncet/index.htm>

(appointed 14 February 2008)

Members

Senator Lundy (*Chair*), Mr Secker (*Deputy Chair*), and the Deputy President and Chairman of Committees, the Deputy Speaker, and Senators Crossin, Humphries and Joyce and Mr Adams, Ms AL Ellis, Mr Neville and Mr Turnour

Report presented

The way forward: Inquiry into the role of the National Capital Authority (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Fierravanti-Wells, on 16 July 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 August 2008*)

Parliamentary Library—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jscpl/index.htm>

(appointed 14 February 2008)

Members

Senators Barnett, Bilyk, Cameron, Fielding, Hutchins and Trood and Mr Adams, Mr Broadbent, Mr Butler, Mr Hawker, Ms Jackson, Mrs Mirabella and Mr Perrett

Privileges—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/priv_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Brandis (*Chair*), Senator Collins (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Hurley, Lundy†, McGauran, McLucas and Payne

†Senator Lundy to be discharged from 12 December 2008 with Senator O'Brien to be reappointed in her place

Reports presented

133rd report—Possible false or misleading evidence before the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee (*tabled 15 May 2008*)

134th report—Effective repetition (*tabled 18 June 2008*)

135th report—Persons referred to in the Senate (Certain persons on behalf of the Exclusive Brethren Christian Fellowship) (*tabled 24 September 2008*)

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 Ellison, Faulkner, Hurley, Ludwig, Parry and Siewert

Current inquiry

The amendment to standing order 72(2) contained in attachment 3 of the Procedure Committee's first report of 2008 (*referred 18 September 2008*)

Reports presented

First report of 2008—Restructuring question time; Reference of bills to committees; Questions to chairs of committees; Deputy chairs of committees; Leave to make statements (*tabled 17 September 2008*)

* Second report of 2008—Questions to chairs of committees and other senators (*tabled 14 October 2008*)

Publications—Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/publ/index.htm>

Members

Senator Carol Brown (*Chair*), and Senators Bernardi, Feeney, Marshall, Mason, Parry and Sterle

Reports presented

- 1st report (*tabled 20 March 2008*)
 - 2nd report (*tabled 15 May 2008*)
 - 3rd report (*tabled 26 June 2008*)
 - 4th report (*tabled 4 September 2008*)
 - 5th report (*tabled 25 September 2008*)
-

Public Accounts and Audit—Joint Statutory Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jpaa/index.htm>

Members

Ms Grierson (*Chair*), Mr Georgiou (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Bishop, Boyce, Bushby, Feeney and Lundy and Mr Baldwin, Mr Bevis, Mr Bradbury, Mr Butler, Ms King, Mr Morrison, Mr Neumann and Mr Robert

Current inquiries

- Review of Auditor-General's reports (*statutory responsibility*)
- Effects of the ongoing efficiency dividend on smaller public sector agencies (*adopted 4 June 2008*)

Reports presented

- Report 410—Tax administration (*tabled 26 June 2008*)
- Report 411—Progress on equipment acquisition and financial reporting in Defence (*tabled 1 September 2008*)
- Report 412—Audit reports reviewed during the 41st Parliament (*tabled 1 September 2008*)

Committee document presented

- Statement on the draft budget estimates for the Australian National Audit Office for 2008-09 (*tabled 14 May 2008*)
-

Public Works—Joint Statutory Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/pwc/index.htm>

Members

Mr Butler (*Chairman*), Senator Troeth (*Vice-Chairman*), and Senators Bishop and Forshaw and Mr Champion, Mr Forrest, Mr Lindsay, Mr Price and Mr Slipper

Reports presented

- Seventy-first annual report (First report of 2008) (*tabled 19 March 2008*)
 - HMAS *Creswell* redevelopment, Jervis Bay Territory (Second report of 2008) (*tabled 19 March 2008*)
 - Land Engineering Agency test services relocation, Monegeetta, Victoria (Third report of 2008) (*tabled 19 March 2008*)
 - Refurbishment of staff apartments, Australian Embassy complex, Tokyo, Japan (Fourth report of 2008) (*tabled 19 March 2008*)
 - Referrals tabled March 2008 (Fifth report of 2008) (*tabled 25 June 2008*)
 - Referrals tabled March-June 2008 (Sixth report of 2008) (*tabled 2 September 2008*)
 - Update report: The Christmas Island Immigration Detention Centre Project (Seventh report of 2008) (*tabled 23 September 2008*)
-

Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/indig_ctte/index.htm

(appointed 19 March 2008; reporting dates: 30 March 2009, 30 September 2009, 30 March 2010 and 30 September 2010)

Members

Senator Johnston (*Chair*), Senator Crossin (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Adams, Moore, Scullion and Siewert

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Arbib, Barnett, Bernardi, Bilyk, Birmingham, Bishop, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cameron, Cash, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Cormann, Eggleston, Ellison, Farrell, Feeney, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Fisher, Forshaw, Furner, Hanson-Young, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Joyce, Kroger, Ludlam, Lundy, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Nash, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Polley, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

Report presented

First report 2008 (presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Troeth, on 30 September 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 October 2008)

Regulations and Ordinances—Legislative Scrutiny Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/regord_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Wortley (*Chairman*), Senator Ronaldson (*Deputy Chairman*), and Senators Carol Brown, Cormann and Moore

Documents presented

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, February 2007 to March 2008 (tabled 20 March 2008)

Delegated legislation monitor—Disallowable legislative instruments tabled in the Senate in 2007, dated March 2008 (tabled 20 March 2008)

Ministerial correspondence relating to the scrutiny of delegated legislation, March 2007 to June 2008 (tabled 18 September 2008)

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/rrat_ctte/index.htm

Portfolios

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government; Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Members

Senator Sterle (*Chair*), Senator Milne (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Heffernan, Hurley, Hutchins, McGauran, O'Brien and Williams

Substitute members

Senator Farrell to replace Senator O'Brien from 15 September to 12 December 2008

Management of the Murray-Darling Basin system—Senator Siewert to replace Senator Milne

Natural resource management and conservation challenges—Senator Siewert to replace Senator Milne

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Arbib, Barnett, Bernardi, Birmingham, Bilyk, Bishop, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cameron, Cash, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Cormann, Crossin, Eggleston, Ellison, Farrell, Feeney, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Fisher, Forshaw, Furner, Hanson-Young, Humphries, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Ludlam, Lundy, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McEwen, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Moore, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Polley, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Troeth, Trood, Wortley and Xenophon

Current inquiries

Climate change and the Australian agricultural sector (*referred 19 September 2007; readopted 14 February 2008; interim report tabled 4 September 2008; final reporting date: 4 December 2008*)

Meat marketing (*referred 19 March 2008; interim report tabled 4 September 2008; final reporting date: 30 June 2009*)

Natural resource management and conservation challenges (*referred 26 June 2008; reporting date: 27 November 2008*)

Management of the Murray-Darling Basin system (*referred 27 August 2008; report on matters specified in part (1) presented 10 October 2008; reporting date for matters specified in part (2): no later than 4 December 2008*)

Establishment of an Australian Football League team for Tasmania (*referred 28 August 2008; reporting date: 30 June 2009*)

Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008, Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008 and Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 (*referred 4 September 2008; interim report presented 3 October 2008; final reporting date: 13 November 2008*)

Reports presented

Matters not disposed of at the end of the 41st Parliament (*tabled 14 February 2008*)

Additional estimates 2007-08, dated March 2008 (*tabled 18 March 2008*)

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2008), dated March 2008 (*tabled 20 March 2008*)

Exposure drafts of the Wheat Export Marketing Bill 2008 and the Wheat Export Marketing (Repeal and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 24 April 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2008*)

Exposure drafts of the Wheat Export Marketing Bill 2008 and the Wheat Export Marketing (Repeal and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Bishop, on 30 April 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 May 2008*)

Budget estimates 2008-09, dated June 2008 (*tabled 25 June 2008*)

Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and related matters—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Fierravanti-Wells, on 9 July 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 August 2008*)

Implementation, operation and administration of the legislation underpinning Carbon Sink Forests—Interim report (*presented to the Deputy President on 22 August 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 26 August 2008*)

Climate change and the Australian agricultural sector—Interim report (*tabled 4 September 2008*)

Meat marketing—Interim report (*tabled 4 September 2008*)

Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and related matters (*tabled 18 September 2008*)

Implementation, operation and administration of the legislation underpinning Carbon Sink Forests (*tabled 23 September 2008*)

Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008, Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008 and Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Humphries, on 3 October 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 October 2008*)

Inquiry into water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes (including consideration of the Emergency Water (Murray-Darling Basin Rescue) Bill 2008)—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Humphries, on 3 October 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 October 2008*)

Water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes (including consideration of the Emergency Water (Murray-Darling Basin Rescue) Bill 2008) (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Bishop, on 10 October 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 October 2008*)

Scrutiny of Bills—Legislative Scrutiny Committee

<http://www.apf.gov.au/Senate/committee/scrutiny/index.htm>

Members

Senator Bishop (*Deputy Chairman*), and Senators Cameron, Collins, Coonan, Siewert and Troeth

Alert Digests presented

No. 1 of 2008 (*tabled 12 March 2008*)

No. 2 of 2008 (*tabled 19 March 2008*)

No. 3 of 2008 (*tabled 14 May 2008*)

No. 4 of 2008 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Forshaw, on 5 June 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2008*)

No. 5 of 2008 (*tabled 18 June 2008*)

No. 6 of 2008 (*tabled 25 June 2008*)

No. 7 of 2008 (*tabled 27 August 2008*)

No. 8 of 2008 (*tabled 3 September 2008*)

No. 9 of 2008 (*tabled 17 September 2008*)

No. 10 of 2008 (*tabled 24 September 2008*)

Reports presented

First report of 2008 (*tabled 12 March 2008*)

Second report of 2008 (*tabled 19 March 2008*)

Third report of 2008 (*tabled 14 May 2008*)

Fourth report of 2008 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Forshaw, on 5 June 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 16 June 2008*)

Fifth report of 2008 (*tabled 18 June 2008*)

The work of the committee during the 40th Parliament: February 2002 – August 2004 (*tabled 18 June 2008*)

Sixth report of 2008 (*tabled 25 June 2008*)

Seventh report of 2008 (*tabled 27 August 2008*)

Eighth report of 2008 (*tabled 3 September 2008*)

Ninth report of 2008 (*tabled 17 September 2008*)

Tenth report of 2008 (*tabled 24 September 2008*)

The work of the committee during the 41st Parliament: November 2004 – October 2007 (*tabled 24 September 2008*)

Selection of Bills—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/selectionbills_ctte/index.htm

Members

The Acting Government Whip (*Chair*), the Opposition Whip, the Nationals Whip, the Australian Greens Whip, the Family First Party Whip, and Senators Adams, Coonan, Ludwig and McEwen

Reports presented

Report no. 1 of 2008 (*presented 14 February 2008*)
 Report no. 2 of 2008 (*presented 12 March 2008*)
 Report no. 3 of 2008 (*presented 19 March 2008*)
 Report no. 4 of 2008 (*presented 14 May 2008*)
 Report no. 5 of 2008 (*presented 18 June 2008*)
 Report no. 6 of 2008 (*presented 25 June 2008*)
 Report no. 7 of 2008 (*presented 26 June 2008*)
 Report no. 8 of 2008 (*presented 27 August 2008*)
 Report no. 9 of 2008 (*presented 3 September 2008*)
 Report no. 10 of 2008 (*presented 4 September 2008*)
 Report no. 11 of 2008 (*presented 18 September 2008*)
 Report no. 12 of 2008 (*presented 25 September 2008*)

Senators' Interests—Standing Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/interests_ctte/index.htm

Members

Senator Johnston (*Chair*), and Senators Adams, Bilyk, Bob Brown, Fifield, Forshaw, Humphries and Pratt

Notifications of alterations of interests

Register of senators' interests, incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 19 June 2007 and 7 December 2007 (*presented to the Deputy President on 11 December 2007, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 12 February 2008*)

Register of senators' interests incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 8 December 2007 and 23 June 2008 (*tabled 25 June 2008*)

Register of senators' interests incorporating statements of registrable interests and notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 24 June and 22 September 2008 (*tabled 25 September 2008*)

Register of senators' interests incorporating statements of registrable interests of senators lodged by 23 September 2008—Volumes 1 (A–F) and 2 (G–Z) (*tabled 25 September 2008*)

Declaration of gifts lodged

Register of gifts to the Senate and to the Parliament, incorporating declarations of gifts lodged between 19 June 2007 and 23 September 2008 (*tabled 25 September 2008*)

Report presented

Report 1/2008: Annual report 2007 (*tabled 17 March 2008*)

Document presented

Registration of Senators' Interests: A handbook for senators, also incorporating related information on registering gifts to the Senate and the Parliament, 2008 edition (*tabled 17 March 2008*)

State Government Financial Management—Select Committee

http://www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/sgfm_ctte/index.htm

(*appointed 14 February 2008; reporting date varied 12 March, 20 March, 27 August and 17 September 2008; final report tabled 18 September 2008*)

Members

Senator Macdonald (*Chair*), and Senators Boyce, Bushby, Forshaw and Polley

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Arbib, Barnett, Bernardi, Bilyk, Birmingham, Bishop, Boswell, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Cameron, Cash, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Cormann, Crossin, Eggleston, Ellison, Farrell, Feeney, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Fisher, Furner, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Lundy, Marshall, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Moore, Nash, O'Brien, Parry, Payne, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

Treaties—Joint Standing Committee

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/index.htm>

(*appointed 14 February 2008*)

Members

Mr KJ Thomson (*Chair*), Senator McGauran (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Birmingham, Cash, Farrell, Ludlam, Pratt and Wortley and Mr Andrews, Mr Forrest, Ms Hall, Ms Neal, Ms Parke, Mr Simpkins, Mr Trevor and Ms Vamvakinou

Current inquiry

All treaties tabled in the Senate

Reports presented

Report 90—Treaties tabled on 12 March 2008 (*tabled 15 May 2008*)

Report 92—Treaty tabled on 4 June 2008 (*tabled 19 June 2008*)

Report 91—Treaties tabled on 12 March 2008 (*tabled 26 June 2008*)

Report 93—Treaties tabled on 12 March and 14 May 2008 (*tabled 4 September 2008*)

Report 94—Treaties tabled on 14 May 2008 (*tabled 18 September 2008*)

SENATE APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY AUTHORITIES

Advisory Council on Australian Archives

Senator Lundy (*appointed 12 March 2008, for a period of 3 years*).

Council of the National Library of Australia

Senator Trood (*appointed 13 June 2007, for a period of 3 years*).

Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Trust

Senators O'Brien and Ferguson (*appointed 12 March 2008 and 1 July 2008, respectively*).

HARRY EVANS

Clerk of the Senate

MINISTERIAL REPRESENTATION

Ministers	Representing
Senator the Honourable Christopher Evans (<u>Chris</u>) <i>Minister for Immigration and Citizenship</i> <i>Leader of the Government in the Senate</i>	Prime Minister Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs Minister for Housing Minister for Youth Minister for Sport
Senator the Honourable John Faulkner <i>Special Minister of State</i> <i>Cabinet Secretary</i> <i>Vice-President of the Executive Council</i>	Minister for Foreign Affairs Minister for Defence Minister for Veterans' Affairs Minister for Defence Science and Personnel
Senator the Honourable Stephen Conroy <i>Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy</i> <i>Deputy Leader of the Government in the Senate</i>	Treasurer Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Assistant Treasurer
Senator the Honourable Kim Carr <i>Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research</i>	Minister for Education Minister for Trade Minister for Resources and Energy Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy
Senator the Honourable Penelope Wong (<u>Penny</u>) <i>Minister for Climate Change and Water</i>	Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts Attorney-General Minister for Home Affairs Minister for the Status of Women
Senator the Honourable Joseph Ludwig (<u>Joe</u>) <i>Minister for Human Services</i> <i>Manager of Government Business in the Senate</i>	Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations Minister for Social Inclusion Minister for Health and Ageing Minister for Employment Participation Minister for Ageing
Senator the Honourable Nicholas Sherry (<u>Nick</u>) <i>Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law</i>	Minister for Finance and Deregulation Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Minister for Tourism Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs
Parliamentary Secretaries	
Senator the Honourable Ursula Stephens <i>Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion and the Voluntary Sector</i> <i>Parliamentary Secretary Assisting the Prime Minister for Social Inclusion</i>	
Senator the Honourable Jan McLucas <i>Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health and Ageing</i>	

In those instances where Senators prefer to be known by other than their first name, the preferred name is underlined.

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 adjourned 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 including the consideration of government legislation. 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 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 all business of the Senate and government business items, 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—adjourned debates on motions to consider or adopt committee reports and government responses. These orders may be considered for one hour on Thursdays at the conclusion of general business. New items appear on the following day's *Notice Paper*. The section is printed in full on Thursdays.

Orders of the day relating to government documents—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 up to 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 the autumn and spring 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 at: www.aph.gov.au/senate/work/notice/index.htm

Inquiries concerning the *Notice Paper* or business listed in it may be directed to the Senate Table Office on (02) 6277 3018.