

2008-09

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

THE SENATE

NOTICE PAPER

No. 53

WEDNESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2009

The Senate meets at 9.30 am

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

BUSINESS OF THE SENATE

Notice of Motion

Notice given 3 February 2009

- *1 **Senator Milne:** To move—That the following matter be referred to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee for inquiry and report by 29 May 2009:

Australia's climate change response, with particular reference to:

- (a) the adequacy or otherwise of the Government's greenhouse gas emission reduction target of 5 per cent by 2020 and 60 per cent by 2050 below 2000 levels in avoiding dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate, defined as a global temperature rise of more than 2 degrees;
- (b) whether or not, if the global community pursues a 550 ppm target until 2020, there is any prospect of achieving a 450 ppm target, i.e. is an 'overshoot' emission trajectory realistic and what are the risks involved;
- (c) whether or not, if the global community pursues a 550 ppm target, the Government's greenhouse emission reduction targets of 5 per cent by 2020 and 60 per cent by 2050 below 2000 levels constitutes a fair and proportionate contribution to the global abatement task;
- (d) what emission targets would be consistent with achieving a 300 ppm, 350 ppm and a 400 ppm atmospheric concentration target, equitably shared between industrial and developing nations, and between industrialised nations; and
- (e) the debate into global negotiations to date on per capita emission targets and whether or not the Government's arguments on per capita emissions are consistent with globally understood principles of equity underpinning burden sharing arrangements.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Notice of Motion

Notice given 3 February 2009

- *1 **Minister for Human Services (Senator Ludwig):** To move—That the Social Security Legislation Amendment (Employment Services Reform) Bill 2008, be now read a second time.

Orders of the Day

- 1 **Corporations Amendment (No. 1) Bill 2008 [2009]—(Senate bill)**
In committee (3 February 2009).

- 2 **Migration Legislation Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2008 [2009]**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig)*
Second reading—Adjourned debate (3 December 2008).
- 3 **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*).
- 4 **Auditor-General Amendment Bill 2008 [2009]**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig)*
Second reading—Adjourned debate (3 December 2008).
- 5 **Therapeutic Goods Amendment (Medical Devices and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [2009]**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig)*
Second reading—Adjourned debate (3 December 2008).
- 6 **Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Political Donations and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [2009]**—(*Senate bill*)—*(Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig)*
Second reading—Adjourned debate (15 May 2008).
- 7 **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*).

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 **Education, Employment and Workplace Relations—Standing Committee—Report—Allegations of academic bias in universities and schools**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Crossin—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Humphries, in continuation, 4 December 2008*).
- 2 **Economics—Standing Committee—Report—Disclosure regimes for charities and not-for-profit organisations**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Crossin—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Crossin, in continuation, 4 December 2008*).

3 Community Affairs—Standing Committee—Report—Government expenditure on Indigenous affairs and social services in the Northern Territory

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Crossin—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Crossin, in continuation, 4 December 2008*).

4 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee—Report—Climate change and the Australian agricultural sector

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Crossin—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Crossin, in continuation, 4 December 2008*).

5 Economics—Standing Committee—Report—Matters relating to the gas explosion at Varanus Island, Western Australia

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Cameron—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Pratt, in continuation, 3 December 2008*).

6 Economics—Standing Committee—Report—Joint marketing arrangements on the North West Shelf project

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator McEwen—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Hurley, 2 December 2008*).

7 Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee—Report—Opportunity not opportunism: Improving conduct in Australian franchising

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator McEwen, 2 December 2008*).

8 National Broadband Network—Select Committee—Interim report

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Parry—That the Senate take note of the report (*Senator Nash, in continuation, 2 December 2008*).

9 Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee—Report—Item 16525 in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Regulations 2007

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

10 Community Affairs—Standing Committee—Report—Poker Machine Harm Reduction Tax (Administration) Bill 2008, Poker Machine Harm Minimisation Bill 2008 and ATMs and Cash Facilities in Licensed Venues Bill 2008

Adjourned debate on the motion of the chair of the committee (Senator Moore)—That the Senate take note of the report (*adjourned, Senator Boyce, 13 November 2008*).

11 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, 13 November 2008*).

12 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, 13 November 2008).

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

1 Auditor-General—Australian National Audit Office—Report for 2007-08

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Boyce—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Boyce, in continuation, 13 November 2008*).

2 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 9 of 2008-09—Assurance report—Defence Materiel Organisation major projects report 2007-08

Consideration (*27 November 2008*).

3 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 10 of 2008-09—Performance audit—Administration of the Textile, Clothing and Footwear Post-2005 (SIP) Scheme—Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

Consideration (*2 December 2008*).

4 Australian National Audit Office—Independent Auditor (KPMG)—Performance audit—Human resource management, dated December 2008

Consideration (*3 December 2008*).

5 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 11 of 2008-09—Performance audit—Disability employment services—Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs; Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

Consideration (*4 December 2008*).

***6 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 13 of 2008-09—Performance audit—Government agencies’ management of their websites—Australian Bureau of Statistics; Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**

Consideration (*3 February 2009*).

***7 Auditor-General—Audit report no. 14 of 2008-09—Financial statement audit—Audits of the financial statements of Australian Government entities for the period ended 30 June 2008**

Consideration (*3 February 2009*).

- *8 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 15 of 2008-09—Performance audit—The Australian Institute of Marine Science’s management of its Co-investment Research Program—Australian Institute of Marine Science**
Consideration (3 February 2009).
- *9 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 16 of 2008-09—Performance audit—The Australian Taxation Office’s administration of business continuity management—Australian Taxation Office**
Consideration (3 February 2009).
- *10 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 17 of 2008-09—Performance audit—Administration of Job Network outcome payments—Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations**
Consideration (3 February 2009).
- *11 **Auditor-General—Audit report no. 18 of 2008-09—Performance audit—The administration of grants under the Australian Political Parties for Democracy Program—Department of Finance and Deregulation**
Consideration (3 February 2009).

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 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.

Notice given 4 December 2008

332 **Senator Abetz:** To move—That—

- (a) there be laid on the table by the Chair of the Economics Committee (Senator Hurley), no later than 3 February 2009, an answer to question on notice no. 730, asked by Senator Abetz of the Chair of the Economics Committee on 2 September 2008 (*Senate Notice Paper*, 3 September 2008, p. 18), which reads:

- (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; and
- (b) the Senate notes that it has been 93 days since the question was placed on notice.

Notice given 3 February 2009

*333 **Chair of the Economics Committee (Senator Hurley):** To move—That the time for the presentation of the following reports of the Economics Committee be extended to 26 February 2009:

- (a) provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Taxation of Financial Arrangements) Bill 2008; and
- (b) provisions of the Trade Practices Amendment (Cartel Conduct and Other Measures) Bill 2008.

*334 **Chair of the Select Committee on Fuel and Energy (Senator Cormann):** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the Select Committee on Fuel and Energy contracted Dr Brian Fisher from Concept Economics to conduct an independent peer review of the Department of the Treasury modelling of the impact of the Government's proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme,
 - (ii) the committee wrote to the Treasurer (Mr Swan) on 9 December 2008 requesting that Dr Fisher, be given 'full access to the government's complete documentation of the government's models together with the model codes and databases and any other model simulations undertaken relevant to the policy scenarios, but not publicly released' by 17 December 2008,
 - (iii) to date the Treasurer has not responded to the above request, despite Dr Fisher's report being due to the committee on 30 January 2009, and
 - (iv) Dr Fisher has reported that he was impeded in carrying out the work requested by the committee because the information requested from the Treasurer was not made available to him; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Treasurer, no later than noon on 5 February 2009, the following information relating to the Department of the Treasury modelling, *Australia's low pollution future: The economics of climate change mitigation*:
 - (i) the model documentation and codes together with all databases for both the global trade and environment model and the Monash multi-regional forecasting model that were employed in the department's modelling of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme scenarios in a form that would allow the reproduction of the department's results, and
 - (ii) any other model simulations undertaken relevant to the abovementioned policy scenarios but not publicly released.

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

(a) notes:

- (i) the response from the Department of the Treasury to straightforward questions regarding the amount of revenue collected as a result of the increase in the excise on ‘alcopops’ effective 27 April 2008 and other excise measures [question no. sbt 3, parts (1), (18), (19) and (20)] placed on notice at hearings of the Economics Committee in October 2008, that ‘This information is not publicly available’, and
 - (ii) that there has never been any suggestion, nor would it be accepted by the Senate, that answers to questions asked by senators at estimates hearings should be limited to publicly available material;
- (b) considers that this response amounts to a refusal to answer the questions;
- (c) orders that there be laid on the table by 5 February 2009 meaningful answers to parts (1), (18), (19) and (20) of question no. sbt 3, previously placed on notice at hearings of the Economics Committee in October 2008; and
- (d) orders that there be laid on the table by 23 February 2009, meaningful answers to the following additional questions:
- (i) what tax revenue has been collected in each of the following categories of alcohol since 27 April 2008:
 - (A) beer,
 - (B) cask wine,
 - (C) bottled wine,
 - (D) cider,
 - (E) spirits, and
 - (F) other excisable beverages, i.e. ready-to-drink (RTD) beverages (alcopops),
 - (ii) for each of the categories in question (d)(i), what volumes of alcohol (measured in litres of alcohol) were either:
 - (A) cleared for home consumption, or
 - (B) subject to tax under the *A New Tax System (Wine Equalisation Tax) Act 1999*,
 - (iii) what is the measured price elasticity of RTD beverages, given the data collected since 27 April 2008,
 - (iv) is the measured elasticity since 27 April 2008 consistent with the Department of the Treasury modelling underlying the revenue impacts of the tax increase measure published in the 2008-09 Budget,
 - (v) what were the Department of the Treasury’s estimates of RTD own-price and cross-price elasticity with other alcohol beverages used to calculate the revenue estimates from different alcohol products included in the *Mid-year economic and fiscal outlook 2008-09*,
 - (vi) what volume growth rates have been assumed by the Department of the Treasury for different alcohol beverages for the financial years included in the *Mid-year economic and fiscal outlook 2008-09*,
 - (vii) what advice was produced by the Department of the Treasury or the Department of Health and Ageing regarding likely substitution effects prior to or following the introduction of the alcopops tax,

- (viii) what evidence has the Government collected regarding reduction in risky or high risk drinking and/or at risk behaviour among:
 - (A) all drinkers,
 - (B) the following age groups – under 18, 18 to 24, 25 to 40 and over 40,
 - (C) men, and
 - (D) women, and
- (ix) what evidence has the Government, including the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, collected regarding those alcohol products most likely to be associated with low risk, risky and high risk drinking among different age and gender categories.

*336 **Senator Minchin:** To move—That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy, no later than 10 am on Thursday, 5 February 2009:

- (a) the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission's formal report on the National Broadband Network (NBN) proposals to the NBN Panel of Experts; and
- (b) the final report provided to the Government from the NBN Panel of Experts on submissions to the NBN process.

*337 **Senator Abetz:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the comments made by the Deputy Prime Minister (Ms Gillard) and reported in the *Australian Financial Review* on 20 January 2009, regarding the Senate's 2008 amendments to the Safe Work legislation; and
- (b) condemns the Deputy Prime Minister for seeking to circumvent the Senate on the issue of uniform occupational health and safety laws, rather than meet with non-government senators to discuss their concerns about the Safe Work legislation.

*338 **Senator Nash:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes the sad passing of Mrs Nancy Bird-Walton who died at the age of 93 on 13 January 2009;
- (b) notes and commends her significant and inspirational achievements as an aviation pioneer in Australia;
- (c) pays tribute to her service to Australian aviation including through the foundation of the Australian Women Pilots' Association and her longstanding support for the Royal Flying Doctor Service; and
- (d) expresses its sincere condolences and profound sympathy to her family and loved ones.

*339 **Senators Siewert and Hanson-Young:** To move—That the Senate—

- (a) notes that 2 February was World Wetlands Day, a date that marks the anniversary of the signing of the Convention of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention) in Ramsar, Iran, on 2 February 1971;
- (b) welcomes the release on World Wetlands Day of the 2007 *Ramsar Snapshot Study* noting the significant delay since its completion in December 2007;
- (c) calls on the Government to implement its recommendations, and in particular to establish regular systematic reporting on wetland health and management;

- (d) notes that the *National report on the implementation of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands* to the 10th meeting of the Conference of the Contracting Parties in Korea, during October 2008, identified that the greatest challenges Australia faces in delivering on our international wetlands commitments are:
 - (i) providing adequate volumes of water to Ramsar sites, and
 - (ii) securing sufficient human and financial resources to implement the convention consistently and effectively;
- (e) calls on the Government to act immediately to address these challenges, by providing sufficient resources for planning, management, monitoring and enforcement and by ensuring sufficient volumes of water are set aside to maintain wetland health and ecosystem resilience;
- (f) expresses concern at the dire state of wetlands in the Murray-Darling Basin, noting that with up to 90 per cent of the systems original wetlands are already lost and the majority of those remaining are highly stressed, their ability to maintain the health of the river, protect water quality and deliver ecosystem services is severely threatened (Inland Rivers Network, *Wetlands for Our Future* 2008 report); and
- (g) calls on the Government to act to secure sufficient water within the Murray-Darling system to maintain its health and resilience, to prioritise ecological flows to threatened and degraded wetlands in the basin, and to ensure in particular that the ecological character of the Coorong and Lower Lakes is not changed irretrievably by their flooding with salt water.

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

- (a) notes:
 - (i) the recent decision by the President of the United States of America, Barack Obama, to overturn the global gag rule for family planning guidelines that effectively prohibits the use of aid funding for some contraceptives, and for abortion advice and services, and
 - (ii) that Australia is now the only country that continues to enforce these harsh restrictions on our aid program, limiting its ability to provide an effective and essential family planning service;
- (b) recognises:
 - (i) the essential role mothers play in developing communities, with both maternal and child health considered crucial Millennium Development Goals, and
 - (ii) that an estimated 34 000 mothers die in our region each year, due to the lack of maternal health supports available, with more than half of the 29 developing countries not on track to achieve either goal; and
- (c) calls on the Rudd Government to stand up for women's rights and immediately abolish the family planning guidelines that prevent Australian aid money from being spent on contraception and family planning advice.

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

- (a) notes:
 - (i) the release in January 2009, of the Australian Human Rights Commission's *2008 Immigration detention report*, and

- (ii) this report highlights, among other things, that asylum seekers, including children, continue to be held indefinitely, despite assurances by the Rudd Government that detention is only being used as a last resort, and for the shortest possible time;
- (b) recognises that the lack of available merits and judicial review for people detained in immigration detention has resulted in people being held wrongfully, unlawfully and for a period of years; and
- (c) calls on the Government to translate its 'new directions' for Australia's immigration detention system into policy, practice and legislative change as soon as possible.

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

- (a) notes with regret the number of people who have been killed in the recent hostilities in Gaza;
- (b) expresses deep concern regarding the 437 Palestinian children killed; and
- (c) calls on the Government to:
 - (i) provide urgent additional funding to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East in addition to the \$5 million already committed, and
 - (ii) investigate options for the immediate relocation of injured Palestinian children and their families to receive medical treatment in Australia.

Orders of the Day relating to Government Documents

1 **Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO)—Report for 2007-08**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).

2 **Land and Water Resources Research and Development Corporation (Land & Water Australia)—Report for 2007-08**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).

3 **Bureau of Meteorology—Report for 2007-08**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).

4 **Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research—Report for 2007-08**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).

5 **Australian Communications and Media Authority—Report for 2007-08**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).

6 **Airservices Australia—Report for 2007-08**

Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).

- 7 **Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).
- 8 **Wet Tropics Management Authority—Report for 2007-08, including State of the Wet Tropics report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).
- 9 **Australian Trade Commission (Austrade)—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).
- 10 **Australian Customs Service—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).
- 11 **Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).
- 12 **Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts—Reports for 2007-08—**
 - Volume 1—Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts**
 - Volume 2—Legislation**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).
- 13 **National Transport Commission—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Bushby, 13 November 2008*).
- 14 **Australian Bureau of Statistics—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Boyce, 13 November 2008*).
- 15 **Commonwealth Ombudsman—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Boyce, 13 November 2008*).
- 16 **Australian Institute of Health and Welfare—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Boyce, 13 November 2008*).
- 17 **Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited (Teaching Australia)—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Boyce, 13 November 2008*).
- 18 **Australian Electoral Commission—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Boyce, 13 November 2008*).

- 19 **Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Boyce, 13 November 2008*).
- 20 **Australian Fair Pay Commission—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Adams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Boyce, 13 November 2008*).
- 21 **Australian Fair Pay Commission Secretariat—Report for 2007-08**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Adams—That the Senate take note of the document (*adjourned, Senator Boyce, 13 November 2008*).
- 22 **Department of Immigration and Citizenship—Report for 2007-08—Correction**
Consideration (*24 November 2008*).
- 23 **National Health and Medical Research Council—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (*24 November 2008*).
- 24 **Sugar Research and Development Corporation—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (*24 November 2008*).
- 25 **Australian River Co. Limited—Report for 1 December 2006 to 30 November 2007**
Consideration (*25 November 2008*).
- 26 **Audio-Visual Copyright Society Limited (Screenrights)—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (*25 November 2008*).
- 27 **Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (*25 November 2008*).
- 28 **Murray-Darling Basin Commission—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (*25 November 2008*).
- 29 **General Practice Education and Training Limited—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (*25 November 2008*).
- 30 **Aged Care Act 1997—Report for 2007-08 on the operation of the Act**
Consideration (*25 November 2008*).
- 31 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Personal identifiers 481/08 to 491/08—Government response to reports by the Commonwealth Ombudsman, dated 24 November 2008**
Consideration (*25 November 2008*).
- 32 **Migration Act 1958—Section 486O—Assessment of appropriateness of detention arrangements—Personal identifiers 481/08 to 491/08—Reports by the Commonwealth Ombudsman**
Consideration (*25 November 2008*).
- 33 **Crimes Act 1914—Authorisations for acquisition and use of assumed identities—Report for 2007-08—Australian Crime Commission**
Consideration (*25 November 2008*).

- 34 **National Rural Advisory Council—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (25 November 2008).
- 35 **Australian Fisheries Management Authority—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (25 November 2008).
- 36 ***Schools Assistance (Learning Together—Achievement Through Choice and Opportunity) Act 2004—Report on financial assistance granted to each state in respect of 2007***
Consideration (26 November 2008).
- 37 ***Crimes Act 1914—Authorisations for acquisition and use of assumed identities—Report for 2007-08—Australian Customs Service***
Consideration (26 November 2008).
- 38 **Australian Postal Corporation (Australia Post)—Equal employment opportunity program—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (26 November 2008).
- 39 **Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (26 November 2008).
- 40 **Bilateral treaty—Text, together with national interest analysis—Agreement between the Government of Australia and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation on the Security of Information, done At New York on 26 September 2007**
Consideration (26 November 2008).
- 41 **Australian Public Service Commission—State of the service—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (2 December 2008).
- 42 **Telstra Sale Company Limited—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (2 December 2008).
- 43 **Administrative Review Council—Report no. 49: Administrative accountability in business areas subject to complex and specific regulation, dated November 2008**
Consideration (2 December 2008).
- 44 **Statutory Fishing Rights Allocation Review Panel Selection Committee—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (2 December 2008).
- 45 **Snowy Hydro Limited—Financial report for the period 1 July 2007 to 28 June 2008**
Consideration (2 December 2008).
- 46 **Skills Australia—Report for the period 20 March to 30 June 2008**
Consideration (2 December 2008).
- 47 **Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency—Quarterly report for the period 1 July to 30 September 2008**
Consideration (2 December 2008).

- 48 **Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997—Quarterly report on the maximum movement limit for Sydney Airport for the period 1 April to 30 June 2008**
Consideration (2 December 2008).
- 49 **Sydney Airport Demand Management Act 1997—Quarterly report on the maximum movement limit for Sydney Airport for the period 1 July to 30 September 2008**
Consideration (2 December 2008).
- 50 **Anglo-Australian Telescope Board—Anglo-Australian Observatory—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (3 December 2008).
- 51 **ASC Pty Ltd—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (3 December 2008).
- 52 **Remuneration Tribunal—Report for 2007-08**
Consideration (3 December 2008).
- 53 **Multilateral treaty—Text, together with national interest analysis—Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, New York, 13 December 2006**
Consideration (3 December 2008).
- 54 **Parliamentarians' travel paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation—Report for the period 1 January to 30 June 2008, dated December 2008**
Consideration (4 December 2008).
- 55 **Former parliamentarians' travel paid by the Department of Finance and Deregulation—Report for the period 1 January to 30 June 2008, dated December 2008**
Consideration (4 December 2008).
- 56 **Parliamentarians' overseas study travel reports—Report for the period 1 January to 30 June 2008, dated December 2008**
Consideration (4 December 2008).
- 57 **Department of Defence—Special purpose flights—Schedule for the period 1 January to 30 June 2008**
Consideration (4 December 2008).
- *58 **Australian Electoral Commission—Report for 2007-08—Correction**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Williams—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Williams, in continuation, 3 February 2009*).

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*).
- 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*).
- 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*).
- 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*).
- 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*).
- 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*).

- 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*).
- 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*).
- 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*).
- 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*).
- 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*).
- 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*).
- 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*).
- 76 **Renewable Energy Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff for Electricity) Bill 2008**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Milne*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Arbib, in continuation, 13 November 2008*).
- 78 **Renewable Energy Amendment (Increased Mandatory Renewable Energy Target) Bill 2008**—(*Senate bill*)—(*Senator Milne*)
Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Milne, in continuation, 27 November 2008*).
- 80 **Administration—The first national security statement to the Australian Parliament—Ministerial statement**
Adjourned debate on the motion of Senator Abetz—That the Senate take note of the document (*Senator Abetz, in continuation, 4 December 2008*).

BUSINESS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Next day of sitting (5 February 2009)

Business of the Senate—Notice of Motion

Notice given 3 December 2008

- 1 **Senator Barnett:** To move—That the following matter be referred to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee for inquiry and report by 25 June 2009:
Australia's judicial system and the role of judges, with particular reference to:
- (a) the procedure for appointment and method of termination;

- (b) the term of appointment, including the desirability of a compulsory retirement age, and the merit of full-time, part-time or other arrangements;
- (c) appropriate qualifications;
- (d) jurisdictional issues;
- (e) the cost of delivering justice;
- (f) the timeliness of judicial decisions;
- (g) the judicial complaints handling system;
- (h) the interface between the federal and state judicial system; and
- (i) other matters relating and incidental thereto.

On 12 February 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Economics—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Tax Agent Services Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On 17 February 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

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

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Federal Justice System Amendment (Efficiency Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On 20 February 2009

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

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

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Defence Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

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

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Federal Court of Australia Amendment (Criminal Jurisdiction) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

3 **Economics—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Tax Laws Amendment (Taxation of Financial Arrangements) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

4 **Economics—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Trade Practices Amendment (Cartel Conduct and Other Measures) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On 23 February 2009

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 24 February 2009

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

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

Report to be presented on the exposure draft of the Personal Property Securities Bill 2008.

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

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Disability Discrimination and Other Human Rights Legislation Amendment Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

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.*

On 25 February 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Procedure—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on amendment to membership provisions of standing order 25.

On 26 February 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Economics—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on bank mergers.

Last sitting day of February 2009 (26 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 27 February 2009

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 Fair Work Bill 2008.

Government Business—Order of the Day

1 Fair Work Bill 2008—(Minister for Human Services, Senator Ludwig)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (5 December 2008 am).

On 10 March 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Finance and Public Administration—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the Freedom of Information (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and Other Measures) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

Government Business—Order of the Day

1 Freedom of Information (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [2009]—(Senate bill)—(Special Minister of State, Senator Faulkner)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (26 November 2008).

On the tenth sitting day of 2009 (12 March 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 12 March 2009

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 the oversight of the child care industry.

On 17 March 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Standing Committees

Reports to be presented on the 2008-09 additional estimates.

Government Business—Order of the Day

1 Issues from the Advance to the Finance Minister as a final charge for the year ended 30 June 2008

Consideration in committee of the whole (*4 December 2008*).

On 19 March 2009

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

1 Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the import risk analysis for the importation of Cavendish bananas from the Philippines.

2 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 the last sitting day of March 2009 (19 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 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 27 March 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Environment, Communications and the Arts—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the Water Amendment (Saving the Goulburn and Murray Rivers) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

General Business—Order of the Day

79 Water Amendment (Saving the Goulburn and Murray Rivers) Bill 2008—(Senate bill)—(Senator Birmingham)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Birmingham, in continuation, 3 December 2008*).

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

Final report to be presented.

On 29 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 April 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 Economics—Standing Committee

Report to be presented on the provisions of the Uranium Royalty (Northern Territory) Bill 2008. (*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

On 30 May 2009

Business of the Senate—Orders 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.

2 Men's Health—Select Committee

Report to be presented.

On 15 June 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

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

Report to be presented on the Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008.
(*Referred pursuant to Selection of Bills Committee report.*)

General Business—Order of the Day

77 **Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008—(Senate bill)**—(*Leader of the Australian Greens, Senator Bob Brown*)

Second reading—Adjourned debate (*Senator Bob Brown, in continuation, 11 November 2008*).

On 18 June 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

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

Report to be presented on public passenger transport in Australia.

On 23 June 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Standing Committees**

Reports to be presented on the 2009-10 Budget estimates.

On 25 June 2009

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

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

Report to be presented on forestry and mining operations on the Tiwi Islands.

On 30 June 2009

Business of the Senate—Orders of the Day

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

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

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

Final report to be presented on meat marketing.

3 **Agricultural and Related Industries—Select Committee**

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

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 the last sitting day of 2009 (26 November 2009)

Business of the Senate—Order of the Day

1 **Community Affairs—Standing Committee**

Report to be presented on the impact of gene patents on the provision of healthcare in Australia.

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—Order 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
Commonwealth Electoral (Above-the-Line Voting) Amendment Bill 2008

Referred to the Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters (*referred 14 May 2008*).

Defence Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 20 February 2009*).

Disability Discrimination and Other Human Rights Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 24 February 2009*).

Fair Work Bill 2008 [Provisions]

Referred to the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee (*referred upon the introduction of the bill in the House of Representatives, 25 November 2008; bill introduced 25 November 2008; reporting date: 27 February 2009*).

Federal Court of Australia Amendment (Criminal Jurisdiction) Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 20 February 2009*).

Federal Justice System Amendment (Efficiency Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 17 February 2009*).

Freedom of Information (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [2009]‡

Referred to the Finance and Public Administration Committee (*referred 26 November 2008; reporting date: 10 March 2009*).

Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008‡

Referred to the Finance and Public Administration Committee (*referred 13 November 2008; reporting date varied 25 November 2008; reporting date: 15 June 2009*).

Tax Agent Services Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Economics Committee (*referred 26 November 2008; reporting date: 12 February 2009*).

Tax Laws Amendment (Taxation of Financial Arrangements) Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Economics Committee (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 20 February 2009*).

Trade Practices Amendment (Cartel Conduct and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Economics Committee (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 20 February 2009*).

Uranium Royalty (Northern Territory) Bill 2008 [Provisions]‡

Referred to the Economics Committee (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 30 April 2009*).

Water Amendment (Saving the Goulburn and Murray Rivers) Bill 2008‡

Referred to the Environment, Communications and the Arts Committee (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 27 March 2009*).

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 Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) Bill 2008**National Fuelwatch (Empowering Consumers) (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008**

Second reading negatived, 12 November 2008.

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

Second reading negatived, 28 August 2008.

Social Security Legislation Amendment (Employment Services Reform) Bill 2008

Second reading negatived, 4 December 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.

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

Discharged from *Notice Paper*, 11 November 2008.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions remaining unanswered

Question Nos, as shown, from 38 to 1211 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.

38 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs

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.

142 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs

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.

250 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs

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 25 August 2008

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.

583 Minister representing the Treasurer

603 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 13 November 2008*)

604 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 13 November 2008*)

611 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 13 November 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.

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

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

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

631 Minister for Climate Change and Water

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

644 Minister representing the Minister for Employment Participation (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 27 August 2008*)

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
- 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 (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 27 November 2008*)
- 676 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 27 November 2008*)
- 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 (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 27 November 2008*)

685 Minister representing the Minister for Youth (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education 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

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
- 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
- 721 Minister representing the Minister for Youth (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education 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 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 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.

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 (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation on 3 December 2008*)

748 Minister for Climate Change and Water (*transferred to the Minister representing the Prime Minister on 29 October 2008*)

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

Notice given 30 October 2008

Senator Abetz: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 761-763)—

- (1) Since the 2007 Federal Election, on how many occasions has there been communications between the Minister and:
- (a) the Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia;
 - (b) the head of the Australian Office of Financial Management;
 - (c) the head of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority;
 - (d) the head of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission;
 - (e) the Secretary of the United States Department of the Treasury;
 - (f) the head of the United States Federal Reserve;
 - (g) the head of the Australian Stock Exchange;
 - (h) the head of each of Australia's major banks (Commonwealth Bank of Australia, Westpac Banking Corporation, National Australia Bank, Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ));
 - (i) the head of the World Bank; and
 - (j) the head of the International Monetary Fund.
- (2) For each separate communication in (1) please provide details of: (a) date; (b) place; (c) medium; and (d) duration.

761 Minister representing the Prime Minister (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 23 December 2008*)

762 Minister representing the Treasurer

763 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 18 December 2008*)

Notice given 7 November 2008

767 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts—

- (1) Were any of the hydrodynamic modelling reports, including addendums, and any additional modelling reports prepared by consultants on behalf of Gunns Limited for the pulp mill at Long Reach in Tasmania, peer reviewed by any: (a) specialists within the department; if so: (i) by whom, and (ii) what were their findings, conclusions, and/or recommendations; and (b) third parties; if so: (i) by whom, and (ii) what were their findings, conclusions, and/or recommendations.
- (2) Did any of the hydrodynamic modelling reports including addendums and any additional modelling reports prepared by consultants on behalf of Gunns Limited for the pulp mill at Long Reach contain any assumptions; if so, what was each assumption.

768 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts—In regard to condition 26 and modules B and C of the Environmental Impact Management Plan for the Gunns Limited pulp mill in Tasmania:

- (1) What is 'zero tolerance' and how will it be achieved.
- (2) How and within what area/locale will existing threatened and endangered species populations be recorded, documented and compared against the construction impact of the pulp mill.
- (3) What is the radius in kilometres from the mill site for 'zero tolerance'.
- (4) Does 'zero tolerance' extend to construction crew traffic including, but not limited to, four-wheel drive and private vehicles.
- (5) Is the 'zero tolerance' assessment self-regulating.
- (6) If road kill is found and it is a threatened or endangered species, are there any mitigation mechanisms in place; if so, what.
- (7) Taking into consideration those employees that will come from interstate, overseas and Tasmania: how will all employees recognise a threatened or endangered species.
- (8) (a) How is compliance and non-compliance to be monitored and reported; and (b) what penalties are in place for non-compliance in regard to threatened and endangered species.
- (9) Considering that Gunns Limited did not complete the road kill module B, (condition 26) as directed by the Chief Scientist Dr Jim Peacock, has the Minister lowered the bar with implementing 'zero tolerance' and abandoned the Government's commitment to a 'most rigorous' assessment process.
- (10) Does the Government's current threatened and endangered species assessment process satisfy the intent of the Chief Scientist.
- (11) Given that apparently only one study has been performed and acknowledged at Low Head near the pipeline outfall, and given that the Minister for Climate Change and Water has assured Parliament that research identifying habitat/population locations of the threatened green and gold frog have been performed along the proposed pipeline route: where, when and who performed the other studies.
- (12) What measures are in place for newly identified green and gold frog populations if they are found near the pulp mill site or associated infrastructure (i.e. pipeline).

769 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education—

- (1) In regard to regional loading under the Commonwealth Grant Scheme Guidelines: (a) what is the additional cost to Western Australian institutions of providing tertiary education to regional students; (b) how has this figure been calculated; (c) how often and how does the Government review the adequacy of the regional loading process; and (d) when is the next review.
- (2) In regard to student income support, will the Government: (a) reduce the age of independence from 25 to 18; (b) increase the parental income threshold; (c) align payments to above the poverty line; (d) exempt scholarships from the income test; and (e) increase and index, on an annual basis, the income free area.

773 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) Has the department or any of its agencies carried out work since 2004 on the: (a) carbon sequestration potential of Kyoto-compliant plantations or native forest restoration; (b) effect of emissions trading (or a carbon tax) on existing Kyoto-compliant plantations, in respect of rotation lengths and their use for wood production; (c) relationship between carbon price and the rate and extent of plantation establishment and native forest restoration if these activities are included in the Government's Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme; (d) impact of tax deductions for carbon sinks and/or managed investment schemes on the rate and extent of plantation establishment and native forest restoration; (e) impact on wood production from native forests as a result of including Kyoto-compliant plantations in the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme.
- (2) (a) Can a list be provided of all projects, consultancies, publications or other work relating to question (1) above, giving the title, authors, date, cost (if a consultancy) and a brief summary; and (b) can a copy of each report, publication or document be provided.

774 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts—

- (1) Further to the answer to question on notice no. 558 (Senate *Hansard*, 27 August 2008, p. 3 975), concerning the Gunns Limited pipeline and populations of the green and gold frog, the department's response indicated that the frog survey has been conducted and completed: can the Minister now confirm the presence of green and gold frogs (*Litoria raniformis*) in the Dilston and Windermere areas.
- (2) (a) Has the green and gold frog survey been completed to the Minister's satisfaction as directed by the Chief Scientist; and (b) what were the dates, locality and times of the surveys, and who conducted each one.
- (3) In the absence of data, can the Minister confirm that the Dilston, Windermere, Hillwood and Landfall areas will be suitably surveyed for the presence of the green and gold frog.
- (4) In the absence of data, can the Minister confirm that the entire region proposed for the length of the Gunns Limited pipeline will be surveyed for green and gold frog populations and other threatened species.
- (5) Can the Minister give an assurance that the area to be affected by the Gunns Limited pipeline and the East Tamar Highway Dilston bypass will be surveyed for the amphibian chytrid fungus prior to any formal approval or the commencement of actual development work.

776 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for Climate Change and Water—

- (1) In regard to the answer to question on notice no. 726 (Senate *Hansard*, 13 October 2008, p. 92), concerning the construction of irrigation pipelines from the Meander River via water release from the Meander Dam in Tasmania, in which the Minister advised that \$140 million had been allocated to the Tasmanian Government to support efficient irrigation projects and that this funding was subject to Tasmania's agreement to a range of conditions related to the implementation of the National Water Initiative: what conditions must the Tasmanian Government comply with to meet their commitments to the National Water Initiative.

- (2) Has the Tasmanian Government failed to comply with any of these conditions; if so, which ones and what are the implications for Tasmania.

Notice given 11 November 2008

- 784 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation—In regard to the Liquified Petroleum Gas Vehicle Conversion Scheme: Has any request been made to the Minister or the department to re-phase the scheme's funding from the forward estimates period to the 2008-09 financial year; if so: (a) on what date was the request made; (b) how much was requested to be brought forward; and (c) has a response been finalised; if so: (i) when was the response finalised, and (ii) was the re-phasing approved.

Notice given 13 November 2008

- 789 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—Was the Australian Taxation Office consulted in relation to the: (a) definition of 'tourist activity' for the purposes of the amendments to the Tax Laws Amendment (Luxury Car Tax) Bill 2008 and related bills; if so, when did the consultations begin; and (b) drafting of regulations pursuant to the legislative changes; if so, when did the consultations begin.
- 793 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—With reference to the 2008-09 Budget estimates hearing of the Economics Committee:
- (1) In regard to the answer to question BI41, a figure was given of \$109 622.93 for the grand total of year-to-date payments as at 14 July 2008: is there an update on this figure; if so: (a) what is it; and (b) what amount of this figure accrues to each of: (i) Professor Alan Hughes, (ii) Professor Richard Lester, and (iii) Professor Stan Metcalf.
 - (2) In regard to the answer to question BI43: (a) what extra funding has been provided to the cooperative research centre (CRC) for Australian Weed Management for its extension until 31 December 2008; (b) has the CRC for Innovative Dairy Products accepted the offer of an extension until 31 December 2009; if so, how much money has been allocated for this extension; and (c) has the CRC for Tropical Savannas Management accepted an offer of extension to their Commonwealth Agreement until 31 December 2009; if so, how much extra funding has been provided.
 - (3) In regard to the answer to question BI47: (a) on what basis has the exact yearly grant been calculated for each Business Enterprise Centre (BEC); and (b) how much will be allocated to each of the 36 BECs.
 - (4) In regard to the answers to questions BI50 and BI53: (a) is it asserted that the Small Business Field Officer program did not provide the services referred to in BI53 as business planning advice on loans and banking products, simple marketing plans, legal and accounting services, leasing guidance, staff training programs, and programs that cater for the needs of women, please specify in relation to each one; and (b) do the BECs simply refer clients to lawyers, accountants and professionals in the various areas or do they provide the specific advice.
 - (5) In regard to the answer to question BI54: has the department undertaken any analysis or investigation as part of determining the exact grant given to each BEC.

- (6) In regard to the answer to question BI55: was an analysis or investigation conducted or undertaken by the department to determine whether the BEC program would be effective; if so, what were they.
- (7) In regard to the answer to question BI69: (a) which certificates and professional, educational and vocational qualifications and certifications will be required as part of the funding agreement; and (b) will the department be undertaking an audit of each BEC as to the level of qualification of all officers.

795 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister for Climate Change and Water—

- (1) With reference to the proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme: has a Regulatory Impact Statement been undertaken or provided.
- (2) With reference to Professor Ian Plimer's letter to the editor published on page 17 of *The Australian* of 21 October 2008:
 - (a) does the Government agree with Professor Plimer's analysis; if so, why; if not, why not;
 - (b) does the Government agree that Australia acting in isolation would be deeply problematic for the economy;
 - (c) does the Government consider that it is acting on greenhouse gases in isolation; if not: (i) what other countries are deemed to be acting in consort with Australia, (ii) what schemes are they operating under, and (iii) how do they compare with the proposed Australian scheme;
 - (d) if the Government is acting on greenhouse gases in isolation or relative isolation: which countries might be influenced by Australia's actions;
 - (e) does the Government have a list of countries that will be motivated to follow suit because of Australia's leadership with its proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme;
 - (f) has the Government given consideration to the number or major emitters; if so, which ones would need to participate in a global scheme before Australia moves ahead with its own Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme;
 - (g) will Australia's Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme have any specific remedial or beneficial impact to save Australian icons such as the Great Barrier Reef; if so, how, and is there any evidence to support this view;
 - (h) in regard to the list of 2 500 scientists who are asserted to endorse the reports of the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC): (i) has the Government been made aware of this list by the IPCC Secretariat; if so, can a copy of the list be provided, and (ii) is this list publicly available; if not: what has the Government done to satisfy itself as to the veracity of the claim;
 - (i) on what basis was a 20 per cent total proportion of permits available for trade exposed companies set, if it was based on environmental, economic or other considerations please specify which; and
 - (j) if Australia reduces its carbon emissions to zero, will it have zero impact on the climate.

(3) With reference to answers to questions on notice nos 561-563 (Senate *Hansard*, 4 September 2008, p. 4633), and in particular, the paper used in the various reports:

- (a) does the department agree that elemental chlorine-free paper has less impact on the environment than totally chlorine-free paper;
- (b) in regard to the answer in (11)(c)(i): on what basis did the printer assess that the two Australian-made options are of lower quality;
- (c) was this based on environmental considerations or production/presentation considerations; and
- (d) was the final report printed on Australian-made paper; if not, from where was the paper sourced.

796 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—With reference to the vacancy on the Prime Minister's Science and Engineering Innovation Council as at February 2008: has that position been filled; if so, by whom and on what basis/consideration.

797 **Senator Johnston:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—In the period 1 April to 30 September 2008:

- (1) Was there a reduction in uniformed staffing numbers as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts in the army, navy or air force; if so, where and at what level.
- (2) Was there a reduction in civilian staffing numbers as a result of the efficiency dividend and/or other budget cuts in the army, navy or air force; if so, where and at what level.

Senator Johnston: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 800-801)—For each agency within the responsibility of the Minister:

- (1) (a) In the period 1 April to 30 September 2008, what discussions or meetings were conducted regarding the Government's 'Razor Gang Mk II'; and (b) has the razor gang indicated any cuts or savings to be made by the department or agency.
- (2) (a) What special accounts does the agency currently hold; (b) as at 30 September 2008, how much is in these accounts; (c) does the agency use the interest from these accounts to fund ongoing operations; and (d) has the razor gang given any indication about the future of these accounts.

800 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

801 Minister representing the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 20 November 2008*)

Senator Johnston: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 808-809)—

- (1) For each agency within the responsibility of the Minister, in the period 1 April to 30 September 2008: (a) what was the department's hospitality spend; and (b) for each departmental hospitality event, can the following details be provided: (i) date, (ii) location, (iii) purpose, and (iv) cost.
- (2) (a) For the office of the Minister, what was the total hospitality spend in the period 1 April to 30 September 2008; and (b) for each hospitality event in the office, can the following details be provided: (i) date, (ii) location, (iii) purpose, and (iv) cost.

808 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

809 Minister representing the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 20 November 2008*)

Senator Johnston: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 810-811)—For each agency within the responsibility of the Minister, what appointments to boards or committees were made in the period 1 April to 30 September 2008.

810 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

811 Minister representing the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 20 November 2008*)

Senator Johnston: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 812-813)—For the period 1 April to 30 September 2008:

- (1) (a) Did the Minister or associated Parliamentary Secretary travel overseas on official business; if so: (i) to what destination, (ii) for what duration, and (iii) for what purpose; and (b) what was the total cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, and (iii) any other expenses.
- (2) (a) Which ministerial staff accompanied the Minister or associated Parliamentary Secretary; and (b) for these staff, what was the cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, and (iii) any other expenses.
- (3) (a) Which departmental officers accompanied the Minister or associated Parliamentary Secretary on each trip; and (b) for these officers, what was the total cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, and (iii) any other expenses.
- (4) (a) Apart from ministerial staff and departmental officers, who else accompanied the Minister or associated Parliamentary Secretary on each trip; and (b) for each of these people, what was the total cost of: (i) travel, (ii) accommodation, and (iii) any other expenses.

812 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

813 Minister representing the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 20 November 2008*)

Senator Johnston: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 814-815)—For each agency within the responsibility of the Minister, in the period 1 April to 30 September 2008:

- (1) Did the department or agency receive any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests.
- (2) How many FOI requests has the department or agency received.
- (3) How many FOI requests have been granted or denied.
- (4) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests.

814 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

815 Minister representing the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 20 November 2008*)

Senator Johnston: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 820-821)—For each agency within the responsibility of the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary:

- (1) How many reviews are currently being undertaken in the portfolio/agency or affecting the portfolio/agency.
- (2) What was the commencement date of each review.
- (3) When will each review be concluded.

(4) (a) Which reviews were completed in the period 1 April to 30 September 2008; and (b) when will the Government respond to the each of these reviews.

(5) As at 30 September 2008, what has been the cost of each of these reviews.

820 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

821 Minister representing the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 20 November 2008*)

Notice given 24 November 2008

Senator Ronaldson: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 876-881)—In regard to the Minister's administered portfolio area, for the 2008 calendar year, can lists be provided for: (a) the top 5 program overspends and their costs; and (b) the top 5 program underspends and their costs.

876 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

877 Special Minister of State

879 Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

880 Minister for Human Services

881 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law

Senator Ronaldson: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 882-897)—For the 2008 calendar year, can lists be provided for: (a) the department's top 5 program overspends and their costs; and (b) the department's top 5 program underspends and their costs.

884 Minister representing the Treasurer

885 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

886 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

887 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

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

890 Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

892 Minister representing the Attorney-General

894 Minister representing the Minister for Resources and Energy

895 Minister representing the Minister for Tourism

897 Minister representing the Minister for Sport (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing on 19 January 2009*)

Senator Ronaldson: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 898-920)—What is the aggregate amount spent by the department on media monitoring during the 2008 calendar year.

898 Minister representing the Minister for Education

899 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

901 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

902 Special Minister of State

903 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

904 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

- 905 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 906 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 907 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation
- 908 Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
- 909 Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
- 910 Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
- 911 Minister for Climate Change and Water
- 912 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts
- 913 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 914 Minister for Human Services
- 915 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 916 Minister representing the Minister for Resources and Energy
- 917 Minister representing the Minister for Tourism
- 919 Minister representing the Minister for Youth (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 9 December 2008*)
- 920 Minister representing the Minister for Sport

Senator Ronaldson: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 921-943)—For the 2008 calendar year, can details be provided of the start date, duration, cost and nature (direct source or open source) of tender for each individual consultancy contract with the department dealing with: (a) media relations; (b) public relations; (c) public events management; (d) communications; and (e) communications strategy.

- 921 Minister representing the Minister for Education
- 922 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
- 924 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- 925 Special Minister of State
- 926 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 927 Minister representing the Minister for Defence
- 928 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 929 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 930 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation
- 931 Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
- 932 Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
- 933 Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
- 934 Minister for Climate Change and Water
- 935 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts
- 936 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 937 Minister for Human Services
- 938 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 939 Minister representing the Minister for Resources and Energy

940 Minister representing the Minister for Tourism

942 Minister representing the Minister for Youth

943 Minister representing the Minister for Sport

Senator Ronaldson: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 944-966)—

- (1) Can details be provided, as of 24 November 2008, of the total number of all staff in:
 - (a) the Minister's office whose job description involves: (i) media relations, (ii) media advice, (iii) public relations, (iv) public affairs, (v) communications, and (vi) communications strategy; and
 - (b) the department whose job description involves: (i) media relations, (ii) media advice, (iii) public relations, (iv) public affairs, (v) communications, and (vi) communications strategy.
- (2) Can details be provided of the aggregate salary and superannuation costs during the 2008 calendar year for all staff in:
 - (a) the Minister's office whose job description involves: (i) media relations, (ii) media advice, (iii) public relations, (iv) public affairs, (v) communications, and (vi) communications strategy; and
 - (b) the department whose job description involves: (i) media relations, (ii) media advice, (iii) public relations, (iv) public affairs, (v) communications, and (vi) communications strategy.
- (3) Can details be provided of the aggregate travel costs during the 2008 calendar year for all staff in:
 - (a) the Minister's office whose job description involves: (i) media relations, (ii) media advice, (iii) public relations, (iv) public affairs, (v) communications, and (vi) communications strategy; and
 - (b) the department whose job description involves: (i) media relations, (ii) media advice, (iii) public relations, (iv) public affairs, (v) communications, and (vi) communications strategy.
- (4) Can details be provided of the aggregate mobile phone costs during the 2008 calendar year for all staff in:
 - (a) the Minister's office whose job description involves: (i) media relations, (ii) media advice, (iii) public relations, (iv) public affairs, (v) communications, and (vi) communications strategy; and
 - (b) the department whose job description involves: (i) media relations, (ii) media advice, (iii) public relations, (iv) public affairs, (v) communications, and (vi) communications strategy.
- (5) Can a breakdown be provided of every review, inquiry and committee which is being conducted in the department that has been announced since 1 December 2007.
- (6) (a) How many of the department's reviews, inquiries and committees are in progress or incomplete as of 24 November 2008; and (b) what are their reporting dates.
- (7) In regard to each of the department's review, inquiry and committee (completed and incomplete as of 24 November 2008) that has or is being conducted during the 2008 calendar year: (a) what is the number of departmental staff allocated to each; (b) what is the aggregate number of departmental staff allocated to all; (c) were external consultants engaged to assist in any; if so, which consultants and how much has each consultancy

cost (please itemise for each); and (d) what have been the travel costs associated with those staff involved in each (please itemise for each).

- (8) For the 2008 calendar year, what is the total cost of each departmental review, inquiry and committee, including staff wages, consultancy costs, travel and any other associated expenditure (please itemise for each).

- 944 Minister representing the Minister for Education
- 945 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
- 946 Minister representing the Treasurer
- 947 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- 948 Special Minister of State
- 949 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 950 Minister representing the Minister for Defence
- 951 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 952 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 953 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation
- 954 Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
- 955 Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
- 956 Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
- 957 Minister for Climate Change and Water
- 958 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts
- 959 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 960 Minister for Human Services
- 961 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 962 Minister representing the Minister for Resources and Energy
- 963 Minister representing the Minister for Tourism
- 964 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law
- 965 Minister representing the Minister for Youth (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 9 December 2008*)
- 966 Minister representing the Minister for Sport

Notice given 25 November 2008

- 969 **Senator Ronaldson:** To ask the Special Minister of State (*transferred to the Minister representing the Prime Minister on 10 December 2008*)—With reference to the 2008 Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) Audit into the management of credit cards at four Commonwealth departments and agencies (report no. 37 of 2007-08, *Management of credit cards*):
- (1) For the 2008 calendar year, how many credit card transactions were subject to the ANAO audit
 - (2) For the 2008 calendar year: (a) how many instances did ANAO discover where Commonwealth credit card purchases were split in order to acquire goods and/or services that were in excess of the cardholder's transaction limits; and (b) for each instance, can an itemised list be provided of: (i) the goods and services that were acquired, and (ii) the name of the agency where the purchases were made.

- (3) (a) For the 2008 calendar year, how many violations of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* (the Act) using Commonwealth credit cards were discovered by ANAO; and (b) how many of these violations involved breaches of Section 60 of the Act.
- (4) For the 2008 calendar year, how many violations of the Act were committed by each of the four agencies audited.
- (5) Can an itemised list be provided of the items or services purchased through improper use of Commonwealth credit cards that were discovered in the audit.
- (6) For the 2008 calendar year: (a) how many violations of Order 2.5 of the Act were discovered by the audit; and (b) what percentage of incidents violated: (i) section 60, and (ii) Order 2.5, of the Act.
- (7) For the 2008 calendar year, can an itemised list be provided of goods and services acquired by all misuse of Commonwealth credit cards.

Senator Ronaldson: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 970-1003)—

- (1) How many Commonwealth credit cards have been issued to departmental and agency staff within the Minister's portfolio.
- (2) How many Commonwealth credit cards have been issued to departmental and agency staff that fall within the responsibility of the Minister's associated Parliamentary Secretary or Secretaries.
- (3) Within the Minister's portfolio, how many Commonwealth credit cards have been issued to: (a) staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984*; (b) the Minister; and (c) the Minister's associated Parliamentary Secretary or Secretaries.
- (4) For each Commonwealth credit card issued in (3) above, what was the date of its issue.

(In substitution for question published in Notice Paper of 26 November 2008.)

- 970 Minister representing the Prime Minister
- 974 Minister representing the Treasurer
- 975 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- 976 Special Minister of State
- 977 Minister representing the Minister for Trade
- 978 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs
- 980 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 982 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation
- 984 Minister for Climate Change and Water
- 986 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 987 Minister for Human Services
- 991 Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs
- 992 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 10 December 2008*)
- 993 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 10 December 2008*)
- 999 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy

1000 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 10 December 2008*)

1001 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing

1003 Minister representing the Minister for Sport

Senator Ronaldson: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1004-1037)—Has the Minister or any associated Parliamentary Secretary travelled overseas on parliamentary or ministerial business since 25 November 2007; if so, for each trip:

- (1) What was the purpose.
- (2) How many nights were spent overseas.
- (3) What were the dates and venues.
- (4) How many meetings did the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary attend.
- (5) How many departmental and/or personal ministerial staff accompanied the Minister or Parliamentary Secretary.
- (6) What was the aggregate cost.
- (7) Can an itemised account be provided of the costs for the following: (a) transportation; (b) travel allowance; (c) accommodation; (d) meals; and (e) other expenses, paid for by the Commonwealth in relation to the Minister, Parliamentary Secretary and their staff.

1004 Minister representing the Prime Minister

1005 Minister representing the Minister for Education

1006 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

1007 Minister representing the Minister for Social Inclusion

1008 Minister representing the Treasurer

1009 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

1010 Special Minister of State

1011 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

1012 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

1013 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

1014 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

1015 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

1017 Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

1018 Minister for Climate Change and Water

1019 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts

1020 Minister representing the Attorney-General

1021 Minister for Human Services

1022 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

1023 Minister representing the Minister for Resources and Energy

1024 Minister representing the Minister for Tourism

1025 Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs

1026 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer

1027 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs

- 1028 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
- 1029 Minister representing the Minister for Housing
- 1030 Minister representing the Minister for the Status of Women
- 1031 Minister representing the Minister for Employment Participation (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 9 December 2008*)
- 1032 Minister representing the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 27 November 2008*)
- 1033 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy
- 1034 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law
- 1035 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing
- 1036 Minister representing the Minister for Youth (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 9 December 2008*)
- 1037 Minister representing the Minister for Sport

Notice given 27 November 2008

- 1039 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—Further to question on notice no. 287 that refers to the series of bushfires that began burning on or about 6 December 2006 on the east coast of Tasmania, seriously damaging a number of areas, especially the Four Mile Creek district and its answer (Senate *Hansard*, 13 May 2008, p. 1 668):
 - (1) Can a breakdown be provided of the funds expended by the Affected Areas Recovery Committee.
 - (2) If a breakdown for (1) above cannot be provided, why not.
- 1040 **Senator Ronaldson:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation (*transferred to the Special Minister of State on 3 December 2008*)—
 - (1) Since 1 December 2007, how many government staff employed under the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* (MoPS) have been provided with a motor vehicle as part of their remuneration package.
 - (2) In which ministerial or parliamentary secretarial offices do these staff work and if certain offices have more than one such MoPS staffer, please specify the number of staff and the offices where they work.
 - (3) Since 1 December 2007, what is the make, model and value of each motor vehicle provided to each government MoPS staff adviser as part of their remuneration package.
 - (4) Since 1 December 2007, did any government MoPS staff take up the option to upgrade the motor vehicle provided to them as part of their remuneration package to another make or model; if so: (a) what was the make, model and value of each upgraded vehicle; and (b) how much was paid in upgrade fees for each vehicle.
 - (5) For each motor vehicle, can a detailed accounting of the costs incurred over the past 12 months by government MoPS staff in the use of the motor vehicle provided to them as part of their remuneration package be provided for: (a) petrol; (b) car maintenance; and (c) car insurance premiums.

1041 **Senator Ronaldson:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet publication, *Australian Government: One Year Progress Report*, dated November 2008:

- (1) How much funding has the Government allocated to compile, produce, publish and distribute this publication.
- (2) Which Government departments and agencies were involved in the compilation, drafting, production, printing and distribution of this publication.
- (3) How many departmental staff were involved in the compilation, drafting, production, printing and distribution of this publication.
- (4) How many departmental staff hours were expended in the compilation, drafting, production printing and distribution of this publication.
- (5) (a) How many hard copies of this publication have been produced; and (b) have these, or will these, publications be direct mailed or sent through unaddressed mail.
- (6) How much has been budgeted towards distribution costs for this publication.
- (7) Were any external consultants required to help produce this publication; if so, for each consultant: (a) who was the consultant; (b) what did the consultancy cost; and (c) can an itemised list of the expenditures of the contract be provided.
- (8) Was this publication, or elements of it, focus group tested; if so, how much did that research cost taxpayers.
- (9) How many soft copies, or a weblink to this publication, have been distributed electronically.
- (10) Have soft or electronic copies of this publication been distributed through the databases acquired from third party organisations or websites, including GetUp! and trade unions.

1042 **Senator Ronaldson:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation (*transferred to the Special Minister of State on 3 December 2008*)—With reference to the private-plated Toyota Prius vehicle provided by entitlement to the Prime Minister:

- (1) As of 27 November 2008, what was the odometer reading for the vehicle.
- (2) As of 27 November 2008: (a) what was the most recent odometer reading in the department's records for the vehicle; and (b) what was the date of that odometer reading.
- (3) On 1 January 2008: (a) what was the most recent odometer reading in the department's records for the vehicle; and (b) what was the date of that odometer reading.
- (4) Is the vehicle home-based by department criteria in Canberra or Brisbane.
- (5) On 27 November 2008, was the vehicle physically located in Canberra or Brisbane.

Notice given 28 November 2008

1044 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts—What is the approved level of chlorinated dioxins and furans, in kilograms, that will be discharged into the Tamar River by the proposed Gunns Limited pulp mill on each day of operation.

Notice given 1 December 2008

- 1045 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation on 27 January 2009*)—(a) How much of the funding offered by the Prime Minister at the Council of Australian Governments was already incorporated in the contingency reserve inherited from the Howard Government in December 2007; and (b) how much of the funding was new money.

Notice given 2 December 2008

- 1047 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts—
- (1) With reference to the Minister's media release, 'North-west marine profile to underpin planning process', dated 10 November 2008, and the statement that the 'Marine Bioregional Planning will help ensure that national economic assets such as the oil and gas and commercial fishing industries can prosper and that the impact of any conservation measures on them are minimised': can an explanation for the meaning of 'minimised' in the statement be provided.
 - (2) Are state waters included in the marine protected areas; if not: (a) why not; and (b) can an explanation be provided of how the network of marine protected areas can 'truly represent the biodiversity of this region' without the inclusion of state waters.

Notice given 3 December 2008

- 1050 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation—
- (1) How much money has been returned following underspends in programs in each portfolio for the 2007-08 financial year.
 - (2) How much depreciation funding has been used for recurrent spending by departments or agencies from December 2007 to June 2008.
 - (3) (a) How many policy proposals were costed by the Budget Group of the department for the 2008-09 Budget; and (b) what was the average length of time that was spent by officers in the Budget Group on costing each policy proposal for the 2008-09 Budget.
 - (4) How much 'time off in lieu' was accrued by staff in the Budget Group of the department from 1 January 2008 to 30 June 2008.
 - (5) How much non-taxation revenue was collected from outside the general government sector in the 2007-08 financial year and then subsequently spent by departments or agencies under section 31 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*.
- 1051 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation—
- (1) Are departments and agencies required to seek the approval of the Minister to budget for an operating loss; if so: (a) which agencies did the Minister approve to budget for an operating loss for the 2007-08 financial year; and (b) for each agency, what was the reason for each operating loss.

- (2) Has the Minister given approval for any agencies to budget for an operating loss for the 2008-09 financial year; if so, what was the reason for each of these agencies needing to budget for an operating loss.
- (3) Did the Minister receive any requests for approval to budget for an operating loss that were not approved; if so, what were the reasons for these requests not being approved.
- (4) Which departments or agencies had an operating loss in the 2007-08 financial year had not received approval to budget for an operating loss from the Minister.
- (5) How many departments or agencies had an operating loss in the 2007-08 financial year and had requested approval to budget for an operating loss which was not approved by the Minister.

Senator Abetz: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1052-1087)—

- (1) Given that spending on individual programs is not reported in either the budget papers or annual reports, did any programs in the Minister's portfolio:
 - (a) have underspends for the 2007-08 financial year; if so, for each underspend: (i) in what program did it fall, (ii) how much was the underspend, and (iii) what was the reason for the underspend; and
 - (b) have overspends for the 2007-08 financial year; if so, for each overspend: (i) in what program did it fall, (ii) how much was the overspend, and (iii) what was the reason for the overspend.
- (2) Will any agencies and/or departments in the Minister's portfolio return money in the 2008-09 Budget as a result of underspends for the 2007-08 financial year; if so, how much.

1052 Minister representing the Prime Minister

1053 Minister representing the Minister for Education

1054 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations

1055 Minister representing the Minister for Social Inclusion

1056 Minister representing the Treasurer

1057 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship

1058 Special Minister of State

1059 Minister representing the Minister for Trade

1060 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

1061 Minister representing the Minister for Defence

1062 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing

1063 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

1064 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation

1065 Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government

1066 Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy

1067 Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

1068 Minister for Climate Change and Water

1069 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts

1070 Minister representing the Attorney-General

- 1071 Minister for Human Services
- 1072 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 1073 Minister representing the Minister for Resources and Energy
- 1074 Minister representing the Minister for Tourism
- 1075 Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs
- 1076 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 6 January 2009*)
- 1077 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 6 January 2009*)
- 1078 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
- 1079 Minister representing the Minister for Housing
- 1080 Minister representing the Minister for the Status of Women
- 1081 Minister representing the Minister for Employment Participation (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 9 December 2008*)
- 1082 Minister representing the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 4 December 2008*)
- 1083 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy
- 1084 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 6 January 2009*)
- 1085 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing
- 1086 Minister representing the Minister for Youth (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 9 December 2008*)
- 1087 Minister representing the Minister for Sport

Senator Abetz: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1088-1123)—

- (1) (a) For the period 1 December 2007 to 30 June 2008, what funds has the Government committed to spend under regulation 10 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* (the Act) for each department and/or agency that operates under the Act in the Minister's portfolio; and (b) how much of this commitment was approved: (i) at the department or agency level, and (ii) by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation.
- (2) How much depreciation funding for each department or agency in the Minister's portfolio: (a) was available as at 30 June 2008; (b) was spent in the 2007-08 financial year; and (c) was spent in the 2007-08 financial year to directly replace assets for which it was appropriated.

- 1088 Minister representing the Prime Minister
- 1092 Minister representing the Treasurer
- 1093 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- 1094 Special Minister of State
- 1098 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 1100 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation
- 1101 Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
- 1102 Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
- 1103 Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research

- 1104 Minister for Climate Change and Water
- 1106 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 1107 Minister for Human Services
- 1108 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 1109 Minister representing the Minister for Resources and Energy
- 1110 Minister representing the Minister for Tourism
- 1111 Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs
- 1112 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 6 January 2009*)
- 1113 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 6 January 2009*)
- 1119 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy
- 1120 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 6 January 2009*)
- 1121 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing on 14 January 2009*)
- 1123 Minister representing the Minister for Sport (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing on 14 January 2009*)
- 1124 **Senator Ronaldson:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—As at 2 December 2008, can a list be provided of:
 - (a) each appointment or reappointment made by the department to overseas ambassadorial posts since 1 December 2007; and
 - (b) each of the department's overseas ambassadorial nominations where no formal appointment or reappointment has been made to overseas ambassadorial posts since 1 December 2007.
- Senator Ronaldson:** To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1125-1160)—As at 2 December 2008, can a list be provided of:
 - (a) each appointment or reappointment made by the department to any board, committee, formal advisory body, informal advisory body, domestic ambassadorial post, or any other Commonwealth body since 1 December 2007; and
 - (b) each nomination, where no formal appointment or reappointment has been made by the department to any board, committee, formal advisory body, informal advisory body, domestic ambassadorial post, or any other Commonwealth body since 1 December 2007.
- 1125 Minister representing the Prime Minister
- 1126 Minister representing the Minister for Education
- 1127 Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations
- 1128 Minister representing the Minister for Social Inclusion
- 1129 Minister representing the Treasurer
- 1130 Minister for Immigration and Citizenship
- 1131 Special Minister of State
- 1132 Minister representing the Minister for Trade
- 1133 Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs

- 1134 Minister representing the Minister for Defence
- 1135 Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing
- 1136 Minister representing the Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- 1137 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation
- 1138 Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government
- 1139 Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy
- 1140 Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research
- 1141 Minister for Climate Change and Water
- 1142 Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts
- 1143 Minister representing the Attorney-General
- 1144 Minister for Human Services
- 1145 Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- 1146 Minister representing the Minister for Resources and Energy
- 1147 Minister representing the Minister for Tourism
- 1148 Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs
- 1149 Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer
- 1150 Minister representing the Minister for Competition Policy and Consumer Affairs
- 1151 Minister representing the Minister for Veterans' Affairs
- 1152 Minister representing the Minister for Housing
- 1153 Minister representing the Minister for the Status of Women
- 1154 Minister representing the Minister for Employment Participation (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 9 December 2008*)
- 1155 Minister representing the Minister for Defence Science and Personnel (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 4 December 2008*)
- 1156 Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy
- 1157 Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law
- 1158 Minister representing the Minister for Ageing
- 1159 Minister representing the Minister for Youth (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Education on 9 December 2008*)
- 1160 Minister representing the Minister for Sport

Notice given 4 December 2008

- 1164 **Senator Johnston:** To ask the Minister for Climate Change and Water—
 - (1) Is the department refusing to process applications for accreditation under the Greenhouse Friendly initiative pending proposed changes to regulatory approval in the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) White Paper; if so, what is the rationale for this position.
 - (2) Is the Minister aware that some companies have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars complying with the department's onerous requirements including independent auditing and third party reviews in order to achieve accreditation under the existing scheme.

- (3) Does the Minister believe that notwithstanding any new regulatory scheme that may be adopted under the new CPRS that companies that have already completed their accreditation application under the Greenhouse Friendly scheme should be allowed to have their applications determined.
- (4) Will the Minister instruct the department to immediately determine any completed applications that they are currently holding under the Greenhouse Friendly initiative; if not, why not.
- (5) Will companies that already have Greenhouse Friendly accreditation be given preferential treatment when it comes to accreditation under the new CPRS; if so, will this treatment also apply to companies that have completed and lodged their applications for Greenhouse Friendly accreditation prior to the commencement of the CPRS.

1165 **Senator Bushby:** To ask the Minister representing the Treasurer—

- (1) In regard to the Reserve Bank Amendment (Enhanced Independence) Bill 2008 (the bill) which was introduced in the House of Representatives on 20 March 2008 and passed in the Senate with amendments on 23 June 2008: (a) Why has the Government not debated these amendments in the House of Representatives; and (b) when will the Senate's amendments to the bill be considered.
- (2) Does the Government plan to continue debate on the bill or is it to be withdrawn.
- (3) (a) What is the process for removing the Governor or Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia for misbehaviour under the *Reserve Bank Act 1959* (the Act); and (b) what are the differences in comparison to the process outlined in the Senate's amendments to the bill.
- (4) Is it possible that under the Act, a Governor who is 'not of good behaviour', for example one involved in embezzlement, could remain in office as Governor for more than a year even with a conviction for embezzlement recorded against him or her.

1166 **Senator Ronaldson:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—

- (1) (a) As at 4 December 2008, can an itemised list be provided, by bottle and quantity, of the wine kept at Kirribilli House, including wine maker, vintage, blend; and (b) what is the total value of that wine.
- (2) (a) As at 4 December 2008, can an itemised list be provided, by bottle and quantity, of the wine kept at the Lodge, including wine maker, vintage, blend; and (b) what is the total value of that wine.
- (3) As at 4 December 2008, can an itemised list be provided, by brand and quantity, of the alcoholic spirits, including make and full description, kept at:
 - (a) Kirribilli House; and
 - (b) the Lodge.
- (4) Can an itemised list be provided of the wine, including quantities, wine maker, vintage and blend, which has been purchased between 1 December 2007 and 1 December 2008 for use at:
 - (a) Kirribilli House, including: (i) the total cost for those purchases, and (ii) the dates those purchases were made; and
 - (b) the Lodge, including: (i) the total cost for those purchases, and (ii) the dates those purchases were made.

- (5) Can an itemised list be provided of the alcoholic spirits, including brand and quantity, which has been purchased between 1 December 2007 and 1 December 2008 for use at:
 - (a) Kirribilli House, including: (i) the total cost for those purchases, and (ii) the dates those purchases were made; and
 - (b) the Lodge, including: (i) the total cost for those purchases, and (ii) the dates those purchases were made.
- (6) What was the total amount expended on truffles, caviar, chocolate and cheese between 1 December 2007 and 2 December 2008 at:
 - (a) Kirribilli House; and
 - (b) the Lodge.

Notice given 5 December 2008

- 1167 **Senator Brandis:** To ask the Minister representing the Attorney-General—With reference to the department's annual report for 2007-08:
- (1) Why did the department report an operating loss of \$11.7 million in the 2007-08 financial year.
 - (2) Why did employee expenses for the department rise from 2007 to 2008.
 - (3) Why did the total expenses for the department rise from 2007 to 2008.
 - (4) Given that the department's annual report states that the write-down and impairment of assets for the 2007-08 financial year was \$4.737 million:
 - (a) which assets were written down; and
 - (b) why were these assets written down.

Notice given 16 December 2008

- 1170 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—Has the Government definitively ruled out the presence of cane toads on Australian Defence Force bases in East Timor; if not, why not.
- 1171 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Ageing—With reference to interactions between the representatives of tobacco companies and the Rudd Government: Have any ministers or ministerial staff met with representatives of tobacco companies; if so: (a) which ministers or the staff of which ministers have taken part in such meetings; (b) what was the purpose of the meetings; and (c) on what dates did these meetings take place.
- 1172 **Senator Siewert:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—
- (1) Is the Minister aware that Amway, Mary Kay and Mannatech currently have Australian patent applications pending for processes to extract vitamin C from the Gubinge tree (also known as Billy Goat Plum and Kakadu Plum) that occurs across tropical Australia and has the highest concentration of vitamin C of any fruit on the planet.
 - (2) Is the Minister aware that if these patents are successful then the current development plans for this plant for commercialisation by Indigenous communities will be stopped.
 - (3) What steps are being taken to provide legal recognition of traditional knowledge for the purpose of giving Indigenous people the capacity to participate in the economic development of Australia, thereby generating income and wealth for them which will be independent of Government.

1173 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts—

- (1) Are there any restrictions or conditions on who is responsible for spending the Indigenous component of the funding for the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area (TWWHA).
- (2) Does the Federal Government monitor the Tasmanian State Government's expenditure of the Indigenous component of the funding.
- (3) What measures are in place to ensure local Aboriginal groups are involved in the expenditure of the Indigenous component of funding for the TWWHA.
- (4) What recourse do local Aboriginal groups have if they feel the Tasmanian Government is misusing funding earmarked for the Indigenous components of the TWWHA.

1174 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts—With reference to the desalination plant proposed for the Victorian coastline near Wonthaggi:

- (1) Does the Victorian Environment Effects Statement (EES) for the desalination plant adequately account for the effects on endangered marine animals, such as whales and Great White Sharks, that live or pass through the area; if so, what are the measures that will be put in place to protect these animals.
- (2) Has the department received a response to its letter dated 9 October 2008 to the Victorian Department of Planning and Community Development regarding its concerns with the EES; if so, what was the response; if not, when is a response expected.
- (3) On the department's website there is a fact sheet about whales and noise dated 2 May 2008 that states the department is 'currently reviewing the guidelines aimed at avoiding or minimising impacts from seismic activity on whales': has this review finished; if so, what were its findings; if not, will the Minister delay considering approval for the desalination plant until the review is finished.

1176 **Senator Ludlam:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Defence on 19 December 2008*)—

- (1) What environmental impact studies have been conducted in relation to the planned Exercise Talisman Sabre 2009, which will involve the movement of tens of thousands of troops, with associated tanks and other military hardware, on the fragile ecosystems of the Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area in Central Queensland.
- (2) Has the possible impact from Exercise Talisman Sabre 2009 on the Great Barrier Reef been assessed.
- (3) (a) Will Exercise Talisman Sabre 2009 be compliant with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, and compatible with the Commonwealth Heritage listing of Shoalwater Bay, both of which the Minister cited in his recent rejection of the rail line and coal port proposal due to the area's unique biodiversity values; and (b) in particular, how will local fauna be protected from the effects of live firing exercises.
- (4) What impact will the 2009 exercise have on the Shoalwater Bay Ramsar wetlands.

- (5) Will the Government give a guarantee that no depleted uranium (DU) weapons will be used by forces of either the United States of America or Australia during the 2009 exercises.
- (6) Has any DU been used in any previous Exercise Talisman Sabre.
- (7) (a) What military chemicals does the Government anticipate will be left in the land and marine environments as a result of the 2009 exercise; and (b) what are the human health impacts of these chemicals.
- (8) Will nuclear-powered and/or nuclear weapons-capable vessels take part in the planned 2009 exercise; if so: (a) what preparations have been made for the event of a nuclear accident on one of these vessels; and (b) which government would bear the enormous financial cost of a clean-up in the event of such an accident.
- (9) Has the economic impact of such an accident on tourism been considered in the decision to conduct the 2009 exercise at Shoalwater Bay.

1177 **Senator Ludlam:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Defence—Given the answer to a question placed on notice (Q3: Rendition of Mamdouh Habib) by former Senator Nettle during the 2008-09 Budget estimates hearing of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee, on 4 June 2008, was that, ‘Defence has no record of involvement through meetings or through the provision of advice in the matter of the rendition of Mr Mamdouh Habib’:

- (1) How do 85 418 pages of Defence departmental documents fall within the terms of a Freedom of Information request for any reports from 1 October 2001 onwards from Defence or any of its agencies regarding the transfer and/or rendition of Mamdouh Habib to Egypt, with an associated cost of \$107 145.55 including 1 038 hours to identify, examine and make decisions on the documents.
- (2) How do 82 838 pages of Defence departmental documents fall within the terms of a Freedom of Information request for communications regarding the rendition and/or transfer of prisoners or detainees by the United States of America to other countries (particularly Egypt) for interrogation or questioning, with an associated cost of \$85 603.80.
- (3) How is such a massive volume of documentation consistent with Defence’s contention in estimates hearings that there are no records relevant to this matter.

Senator Abetz: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1178-1180)—

- (1) What is the total size of the Government’s vehicle fleet, including executive-level vehicles, ministerial vehicles etc.
- (2) (a) How many, both as a number and a percentage, of these vehicles are not Australian-made; and (b) for each imported model: (i) what is the make, and (ii) what is the number of that model currently held.

1178 Minister representing the Prime Minister (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation on 19 December 2008*)

1179 Minister representing the Treasurer (*transferred to the Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation on 18 December 2008*)

1180 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation

1182 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—With reference to the Government's website www.greenvehicleguide.gov.au:

- (1) Does the Minister endorse this website.
- (2) When did the Minister, his office and/or the department become aware that this website is used by the Queensland and Tasmanian state governments as a reference for their vehicle fleet procurement policies.
- (3) Was either the Minister, his office and/or the department consulted about this website being used as a reference in the aforementioned procurement policies.
- (4) Does the Minister support the use of this website in the procurement policies of the Queensland or Tasmanian state governments.
- (5) Will Ford's new Euro IV compliant engine, to be built in Geelong, Victoria, score 5.5 or better on this website.
- (6) What involvement does the department have in maintaining this website.
- (7) Does the Minister agree that the Queensland and Tasmanian vehicle procurement policies are inherently biased against Australian-made cars.
- (8) How is the use of the website by the Queensland and Tasmanian state governments consistent with the Federal Government's own guidelines that cars for their fleet should be primarily Australian-built.
- (9) Has either the Minister, his office and/or the department had any discussions with the Queensland and Tasmanian state governments about their vehicle procurement policies; if so: (a) was the use of the website in their procurement policies discussed; and (b) can details of these discussions be provided.
- (10) Has either the Minister, his office, and/or the department had any discussions with the governments of the Australian Capital Territory, Western Australia and New South Wales about their vehicle procurement policies; if so, can details of these discussions be provided.

Notice given 17 December 2008

1184 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—How many aged care facilities have been identified as having some non-compliance in respect of the 44 accreditation standards for each of the following financial years: (a) 1998-99; (b) 1999-2000; (c) 2000-01; (d) 2001-02; (e) 2002-03; (f) 2003-04; (g) 2004-05; (h) 2005-06; and (i) 2006-07.

1186 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—(a) As at 17 December 2008, how many state and territory government aged care facilities are under sanction; and (b) can a breakdown of those services under sanction be provided.

1188 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) As at 17 December 2008, how many Victorian state-owned aged care facilities have: (a) received unannounced spot checks in 2008; and (b) been sanctioned since the announcement of increased unannounced spot checks.
- (2) How many Victorian state-owned aged care facilities were sanctioned in 2005, 2006 and 2007.
- (3) Can a list be provided of the names of the Victorian state-owned aged care facilities that have been sanctioned since November 2007.

- 1189 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—Is the department aware of whether the Queensland State Government is selling its aged care facilities; if so, what plans are in place for its bed licences.
- 1190 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—How many high and low care places which were allocated 5 or more years ago are still not operational.
- 1191 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—
- (1) Does the Government outlay the full amount that it budgets each year on aged care.
 - (2) (a) Did the Government budget to spend \$6.7 billion on aged care in the 2007-08 financial year; and (b) did the Government actually spend that amount or was it less as the income tested fee deductions were greater than budgeted for.
- 1192 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—Has the department convened discussions with Deans of Nursing about how to address aged care workforce needs: if so, what was the outcome of those discussions; if not: (a) why not; and (b) are discussions expected to be held and when.
- 1193 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—As at 17 December 2008, how many state and territory government facilities are under sanctions.
- 1194 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—Why did the department audit back 18 months under the Aged Care Funding Instrument (ACFI), when prior to the ACFI the department only audited back 3 months.
- 1195 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—What training has Aged Care Assessment Team personnel received in relation to assessing potential residents for aged care.

Notice given 18 December 2008

- 1196 **Senator Ludlam:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—
- (1) (a) When the OPAL research reactor is operating at full capacity, what is the heat output per cubic metre of spent nuclear fuel when it is first removed from the reactor; and (b) if the answer to (a) is above 2kW/m³, after what period of time does the heat output fall below 2kW/m³.
 - (2) What is the heat output for a single spent fuel element when first removed from the reactor.
 - (3) What is the volume of each spent fuel element.
 - (4) How many spent fuel elements does the OPAL reactor discharge annually.
 - (5) Can a full list be provided of the names, quantities and half-lives of radionuclides contained in spent nuclear fuel when it is first removed from the OPAL reactor.
 - (6) Can detailed information be provided on medical radioisotope supply arrangements during the periods when the OPAL reactor has not been operating or has been operating at less than full capacity.

- (7) Can any independently-verifiable information be provided to support the information provided in the answer to question 6.

Notice given 19 December 2008

1199 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) How many facilities have had their licences revoked because of serious risk since the introduction of the *Aged Care Act 1997*.
- (2) Can the names be provided of the two services who have had their licences revoked following findings by the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency of serious risk since 1 July 2006.
- (3) Since 1 July 2006, 37 services have had sanctions imposed on them because of serious risk findings by the agency: (a) can a list be provided of those 37 services; and (b) for each service, can a copy be provided of the review audit major findings – assessment information.

1200 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to advertisements appearing in rural print media for the Farm Ready Reimbursement Grants providing \$130 million over 4 years to primary producers and Indigenous land managers to attend approved courses to help them adapt and respond to the impacts of climate change:

- (1) Why is a distinction drawn in the grants between primary producers and Indigenous land managers.
- (2) Are non-Indigenous land managers eligible for these grants if they are not primary producers.
- (3) How is the \$130 million allocated between primary producers and Indigenous land managers.
- (4) (a) What criteria will be used to assess particular projects as worthy of a grant; and (b) will the same criteria be used to assess projects undertaken by primary producers and Indigenous land managers.

Senator Cormann: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1202-1203)—Given the estimated \$800 million in additional infrastructure investment required by Inpex Corporation as a result of the decision to process gas from the Browse Basin's Ichthys gas field in Darwin rather than in Western Australia:

- (1) What will be the delay in commencement of Petroleum Resource Rent Tax payments from the Ichthys gas field as a result of this additional capital expenditure.
- (2) What is the potential impact on Commonwealth revenue as a result of reduced petroleum resource rent tax flowing from the increase in project capital costs.

1202 Minister representing the Treasurer

1203 Minister representing the Minister for Finance and Deregulation (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 23 December 2008*)

Notice given 23 December 2008

1204 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law—

- (1) On what basis has the Government determined the income taxation rates for non-Australian casual horticultural workers on working holiday visas.

- (2) What mechanisms, levers and incentives are in place to encourage non-Australian casual horticultural workers to undertake casual work when visiting Australia on a working holiday visa.
- (3) What does the Government view as some of the deterrents to non-Australian workers on working holiday visas undertaking casual horticulture work.
- (4) Over the past 5 years, what is the estimated dollar value of all superannuation funds belonging to non-Australian horticultural workers on a working holiday visa that have not been claimed or collected.
- (5) Over the past 5 years, what is the estimated dollar value loss to non-Australian horticultural workers' (on working holiday visas) superannuation funds from the payment of superannuation management fees and other costs.
- (6) Given the majority of superannuation payments that are made to itinerant horticultural workers are either not claimed or rarely collected, why are employers required to pay superannuation to non-Australian horticultural workers on a working holiday visa.
- (7) Why are non-Australian horticultural workers on a working holiday visa not able to access and spend their accrued superannuation as those funds are accrued in Australia.
- (8) Are there any mechanisms in place enabling non-Australian horticultural workers on a working holiday visa to access their superannuation funds as those funds are accrued in Australia.
- (9) What does the Government view as the critical success factors in ensuring that Australian fruit growers remain internationally competitive.
- (10) (a) What does the Government view as some of the impediments to strong growth in Australian fruit growers export markets; and (b) what actions will the Government undertake to remove such impediments.

1205 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government—

- (1) Was any complaint made to or any investigation initiated by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) in relation to the sinking of the *Cap Favel* off the West Coast of Tasmania earlier in 2008.
- (2) Is there any intention by the ATSB to investigate the sinking of this vessel in the future.

1206 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) What is the Australian Fisheries Management Authority's official position in relation to the use of flags of convenience on vessels in Australian waters.
- (2) Does the Government have guidelines in relation to the use of flags of convenience; if so, can these guidelines be provided.
- (3) Was the successful tenderer for the *Taruman* based in North Korea; if not, why did the *Taruman* sail under the North Korean flag.
- (4) Does the Government believe that this is an example of the use of a 'flag of convenience'.
- (5) Was there any clause or caveat in the tender contract for the *Taruman* that prevented the use of a flag of convenience.

1207 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Employment and Workplace Relations—With reference to the answer to DEEWR question no. EW631_09 taken on notice on 3 June 2008 during the 2008-09 Budget estimates hearings of the Education, Employment and Workplace Relations Committee:

- (1) Can a copy be provided of the signatory page of the document referred to as 'document labelled as an Australian Workplace Agreement'.
- (2) Does this page disclose the signature of the employer.
- (3) On what basis is it claimed in the answer provided that 'this document was not signed by the employer'.
- (4) Whilst it is acknowledged that the claimant stated in an interview that she had not seen an Australian Workplace Agreement, was she ever presented with a copy of the 'document labelled as an Australian Workplace Agreement', which purportedly had the claimant's signature attached to it.
- (5) Was the claimant asked to verify or deny that it was her signature attached to that 'document labelled as an Australian Workplace Agreement'.
- (6) Given the date that appeared on the 'document labelled as an Australian Workplace Agreement' and the claimant's commencement of employment, was any further verification or information sought from the claimant in relation to the document and her previous sighting of it.
- (7) (a) On what dates did Ms Healy make back pay payments; and (b) were three of those payments made during 2007; if so, on what dates were those payments made.
- (8) On what date was Ms Healy officially charged.
- (9) On what basis was it reported in the *Hobart Mercury* that Mr Wilson had advised that Ms Healy 'had not voluntarily complied with the Ombudsman during the investigation'.
- (10) Is it acknowledged that payments for the underpaid staff were in fact made prior to Ms Healy being officially charged.
- (11) Is voluntary payment prior to being charged considered to be voluntary compliance; if so, why did Mr Wilson assert Ms Healy had not voluntarily complied during the investigation.

1209 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—With reference to part 4 of question AFMA 02 taken on notice during the 2008-09 supplementary Budget estimates hearing of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee, 'Was extra legal advice needed because of the international bidder' and the answer, 'Legal advice was obtained during the tender process to ensure that best practice procurement was followed': Was any extra legal advice sought on the disposal tender of the *Taruman* (the reference to 'extra' means out of the normal course, that is, above the regular requirement for legal advice on tenders); if so: (a) who provided this advice; (b) what was the cost of this advice; and (c) would this advice have been sought if all bidders and/or the successful bidder had been domestic rather than international.

Notice given 5 January 2009

1211 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—Further to the answer to question CC24 taken on notice during the 2008-09 supplementary Budget estimates hearings of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Committee:

- (1) Was Mr Tony Bartlett's signing of the letter dated 23 June 2008, which was forwarded to the Executive Officers of the Private Forestry Development Committees (PFDCs), in any way associated with his move from the forestry section of the portfolio.
- (2) How were state government agencies and individual PFDCs notified on 23 June 2008, was it by letter to be delivered via Australia Post, email, facsimile transmission etc (please specify).
- (3) Did funding run out on 30 June 2008; if not, on what date did the funding run out.
- (4) In regard to the answer given to part 5, can a more responsive answer be provided.
- (5) If it was always known that the funding was to lapse on 30 June 2008, why was it necessary to provide any correspondence or communication to state government agencies and individual PFDCs on 23 June 2008.
- (6) Specifically, what representations did the department make to any other department or to any minister's office, specifying which to seek a continuation of the funding.
- (7) Was the correspondence from Mr Bartlett, dated 23 June 2008, the result of a final decision in relation to the funding under the program.
- (8) If it was always known that funding was to run out on 30 June 2008, why were letters confirming this not sent out earlier than 23 June 2008.
- (9) Was the Minister reconsidering this decision; if so, when was the final decision made not to reconsider the lapsing of the funding arrangements.

Notice given 9 January 2009

Senator Cormann: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos 1213-1214)—

- (1) How much tax revenue has been collected since the implementation of the increase in the excise on alcopops on 27 April 2008.
- (2) Given that table 2 (Australian Government general government sector revenue) of the *Final budget outcome 2007-08* includes a line-item under the heading 'Customs duty' headed 'Excise-like goods' which included potable spirits, and given that the majority of potable spirits sold in Australia are imported and therefore pay customs duty rather than excise duty, what proportion of the \$2.4 billion in customs duty collected on excise-like goods is attributable to imported potable spirits.
- (3) Given that table 2 of the *Final budget outcome 2007-08* lists for the 'Excise-like goods' a change on the 2008-09 Budget of +\$41 million, what proportion of this figure is attributable to the underestimation of sales of potable spirits by the Department of the Treasury when completing the 2008-09 Budget estimates.

- (4) In regard to the +\$5 million change on the 2008-09 Budget estimate for excise duty on potable spirits, what proportion of the positive change on the 2008-09 Budget (for both excise and customs duty on potable spirits) is attributable to the 2 months of May and June 2008.

1213 Minister representing the Treasurer

1214 Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs (*transferred to the Minister representing the Treasurer on 16 January 2009*)

Notice given 15 January 2009

1215 **Senator Cormann:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Ageing—

- (1) Can a breakdown be provided for the 2008-09 Aged Care Approvals Round (ACAR), by state and territory, of the number of: (a) high care places available; (b) high care places sought; (c) low care places available; and (d) low care places sought.
- (2) Are applicants in the 2008-09 ACAR assessed on the basis of having experience in the provision of aged care services and/or the financial capacity to provide the beds they apply for.
- (3) How many of the applicants in the 2008-09 ACAR had no previous experience in providing aged care services.
- (4) Of the bed licences granted in each of the years 2003 to 2008, how many have not been: (a) built; and (b) surrendered.

1216 **Senator Fifield:** To ask the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy—Has the Australian Broadcasting Corporation undertaken a review of the content of the 'Planet Slayer' website; if so: (a) what was the outcome of that review; (b) when will the Minister release the review; and (c) will the review be posted online for the general public to access; if not, why not.

1217 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Having yet to receive a response to questions taken on notice during the 2008-09 supplementary Budget estimates hearings of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee, can the Minister also provide answers to the following:

- (1) Has BHP Billiton announced that it will not be going ahead with mining on Gag Island, Indonesia.
- (2) What representations, direct or indirect, have been made to Indonesia by Australia or any Australian mining company regarding Gag Island or its inclusion on the World Heritage List.

1218 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister for Climate Change and Water—Will the Commonwealth Government act to ensure the \$140 million allocated to Tasmania for irrigation projects is not spent on projects such as the proposed Boobyalla Dam (otherwise known as the Waterhouse Dam) which would destroy Regional Forest Agreement (RFA) protected forest community types and state- and Commonwealth-listed threatened species and noted priority species for protection under the Tasmanian RFA; if not, why not.

1219 **Senator Milne:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry—

- (1) In regard to the proposed construction of the Boobyalla Dam (also referred to as the Waterhouse Dam) in north-east Tasmania: (a) does the Commonwealth Government, as a signatory to the Tasmanian Regional Forest Agreement (RFA), intend to exercise its influence and authority to

ensure the Tasmanian Government does not unilaterally breach the RFA by allowing the destruction of a RFA-protected forest community type *Euc. Ovata* (Swamp Gum); if so, how; and (b) if the Commonwealth Government will not exercise its influence and authority to uphold the RFA conservation protection requirements for protected forest community types, listed threatened species and associated priority species for protection, why not.

- (2) Given that in 2003 the Forest Practices Authority (FPA) acted to prevent the damming of the Boobyalla River within the Ben Lomond bioregion because of Tasmanian RFA obligations to protect *Euc. Ovata* forest on public land whenever prudent or feasible and because in the FPA's view, the protection of the area was of critical importance for the long-term management and conservation of this endangered forest community type that represents one of the largest and viable stands of *Euc. Ovata* in Tasmania: how can the Tasmanian Government void/avoid its RFA responsibilities to protect threatened forest community types including, but not limited to, *Euc. Ovata* by amending its Forest Practice Regulations 2007 which removed the legal requirement for a certified Forest Practices Plan to be in place for dam works.

Notice given 16 January 2009

1220 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—Further to the answer to question SI-10 taken on notice during the 2008-09 supplementary Budget estimates hearings of the Economics Committee:

- (1) Can a list be provided of all programs which had underspends in the 2007-08 financial year, including for each program: (a) its total budget; and (b) its total underspend.
- (2) (a) Which program requested a roll-over of its underspend; (b) how much was requested be rolled-over; and (c) what was the outcome of this request.

1221 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—Further to the answer to question SI-13 taken on notice during the 2008-09 supplementary Budget estimates hearings of the Economics Committee:

- (1) What is the 'AusIndustry Branding' campaign.
- (2) What is the purpose of this campaign.
- (3) Can full details of this campaign be provided, such as what was the cost of developing the campaign and website and what advertisements were run and where.

1222 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—Further to the answer to question SI-21 taken on notice during the 2008-09 supplementary Budget estimates hearings of the Economics Committee: Was the assurance from Toyota given orally or in writing.

1223 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—Further to the answer to question SI-22 taken on notice during the 2008-09 supplementary Budget estimates hearings of the Economics Committee: Is the Minister saying that 10 November 2008 was the date that Holden and Ford were officially advised that the Green Car Innovation Fund was open for business before the original advertised starting date of 2011; if not, on what date were Holden and Ford advised.

- 1224 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—Further to the answer to question SI-24 taken on notice during the 2008-09 supplementary Budget estimates hearings of the Economics Committee: Can the Minister guarantee that no more money will be distributed from the Green Car Innovation Fund before the guidelines are formalised.
- 1225 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, Independent Contractors and the Service Economy—With reference to question SI-12 taken on notice during the 2008-09 supplementary Budget estimates hearings of the Economics Committee:
- (1) How many staff are based in the Minister's electorate office.
 - (2) What is the *Members of Parliament (Staff) Act 1984* classification of each staff member based in the electorate office.
 - (3) Can a copy of the duty statement of each staff member in the electorate office be provided.
 - (4) In regard to personal staff based in the electorate office, what is the supporting department for each.
- 1226 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts—With reference to the Minister's announcement on Monday, 5 January 2009:
- (1) What was the purpose of the Minister's telephone call to Mr Bob McMahon on 5 January 2009.
 - (2) What time, to the nearest 15 minutes, was this call made.
 - (3) What was the duration of the phone call.
 - (4) Did the Minister advise Mr McMahon of his decision regarding the pulp mill approval during this phone call.
 - (5) Did the Minister read Mr McMahon his press release, media conference statement or a portion thereof during this conversation.
 - (6) Did the Minister personally telephone anyone from Gunns Limited to advise them of his decision prior to the announcement.
 - (7) What time, to the nearest 15 minutes, did the Minister or his office contact Gunns Limited to advise them of his decision.
 - (8) Did the Minister telephone, contact or in any other way notify anybody else of his decision before the announcement at 12.30 pm; if so, for each instance: (a) who was contacted; (b) what was the time (to the nearest 15 minutes) of the contact; (c) what was the duration of the discussion; and (d) what was the nature of the discussion.
 - (9) Did the Minister's office telephone, contact or in any other way notify anybody else of the Minister's decision before the announcement at 12.30 pm; if so, for each instance: (a) who was contacted; (b) what was the time (to the nearest 15 minutes) of the contact; (c) what was the duration of the discussion; and (d) what was the nature of the discussion.

Notice given 20 January 2009

- 1227 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister for Climate Change and Water—With reference to part 5 of the amended answer to question on notice no. 562, which states that, 'The Department has not made enquiries as to what type of motor vehicle Professor Garnaut drives':

- (1) Has Professor Garnaut been provided with a motor vehicle by the Commonwealth; if so, what is the make and model of this vehicle.
- (2) Does Professor Garnaut claim a motor vehicle allowance; if so: (a) how much and on what basis is it paid; (b) what make and model of motor vehicle does this specific allowance support; and (c) if the department does not know what make and model of motor vehicle the specific allowance supports, will the department undertake to find out; if not, why not.

1228 **Senator Abetz:** To ask the Minister for Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy—With reference to the illegal protest in the Florentine Valley, Tasmania, by members of the Still Wild Still Threatened (SWST) group which commenced on 12 January 2009:

- (1) In regard to Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) 936 and ABC Northern Tasmania:
 - (a) (i) how many radio news items in total did the ABC broadcast concerning this protest, and for each news item, what was the date of broadcast, station, position in bulletin and its duration, and (ii) what was the cumulative time of these news items;
 - (b) how many radio interviews did the ABC hold with members of the SWST group or their spokespersons, Australian Greens politicians, Wilderness Society representatives or any other associated group regarding this protest, and for each interview can the: (i) station, (ii) program, (iii) position in bulletin, (iv) interviewer, (v) interviewee, and (vi) time for each interview, be identified; and
 - (c) how many radio interviews did the ABC hold with Forestry Tasmania or other forest industry representatives regarding this protest, and for each interview can the: (i) station, (ii) program, (iii) interviewer, (iv) interviewee, and (v) time for each interview, be identified.
- (2) In regard to all ABC television: (a) how many television news items did the ABC broadcast concerning this protest; and (b) for each television news item, what was the date of broadcast, station and its duration.
- (3) In regard to ABC online: (a) how many online items did the ABC broadcast concerning this protest; and (b) can a copy of each online news item be provided.
- (4) How many journalists, cameramen, sound recordists etc. did the ABC have covering this protest story.
- (5) (a) What was the total cost of the ABC's coverage of this protest in terms of resources committed; and (b) can an itemised list of these costs be provided.

1229 **Senator Cash:** To ask the Minister representing the Prime Minister—With reference to the statements made by the Prime Minister in March 2008 indicating the Government's intention to seek membership of the United Nations Security Council for 2013-2014, at a cost of up to \$40 million:

- (1) Can a detailed breakdown be provided of those items which comprise the estimated cost of \$40 million; if not, why not.

- (2) (a) How much money has been expended since March 2008 to date on this matter; and (b) on what items has the expenditure occurred.
- (3) On what date did Cabinet formally approve the decision to seek this membership.

Notice given 22 January 2009

- 1230 **Senator Ludlam:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Education—For each of the years in which the Commonwealth-State Agreement for Skilling Australia's Workforce has operated, what has been the unit price per student contact hour paid to each state.

Notice given 28 January 2009

- 1231 **Senator Bob Brown:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—With reference to the article 'Asteroid shield "our only hope"' on page 44 of *The Guardian Weekly* of 19 December 2008, which stated that a group of leading scientists, the International Panel on Asteroid Threat Mitigation, has urged the United Nations to establish a network to search for asteroids on a collision course with Earth, will the Government: (a) support the scientists' call for such a global network and response plan; and (b) contribute funding to a network and response plan.

Notice given 2 February 2009

Senator Bob Brown: To ask the Ministers listed below (Question Nos *1232-*1233)—

- (1) Between the release of the Government's green and white papers in 2008 on the proposed Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme (CPRS) for Australia, how many times did representatives of the Business Council of Australia or their members meet with: (a) the Minister or anyone from the Minister's office; and (b) departmental officials.
- (2) Can copies be provided of correspondence, including emails, between the Minister or anyone in the Minister's office or departmental officials and the Business Council of Australia, its representatives or members relating to the development of the CPRS between the release of the green and white papers.

*1232 Minister representing the Prime Minister

*1233 Minister for Climate Change and Water

Notice given 3 February 2009

- *1234 **Senator Minchin:** To ask the Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research—For each year since 2000, how many applications for the registration of the use of the Commonwealth coat of arms, by individuals or non-government organisations, have been received and granted by Intellectual Property Australia.

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).)

Amendments 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.)

3 Questions to chairs of committees and to other senators—Amendment to standing order 72—Temporary order

That standing order 72 be amended to read as follows and to operate as a temporary order during 2009:

72 Questions without notice

- (1) At the time provided questions may be put to ministers relating to public affairs.
- (2)
 - (a) The asking of each question shall not exceed one minute and the answering of each question shall not exceed 4 minutes.
 - (b) The asking of each supplementary question shall not exceed one minute and the answering of each supplementary question shall not exceed one minute.

- (3) (a) After question time motions may be moved without notice to take note of answers given that day to questions.
- (b) A senator may speak for not more than 5 minutes on such a motion.
- (c) The time for debate on all motions relating to answers to questions without notice on any day shall not exceed 30 minutes.

(Agreed to 15 October 2008 upon adoption of recommendation at page 3 in the Procedure Committee's second report of 2008; continuation of temporary order agreed to 4 December 2008.)

Committees

***4 Agricultural and Related Industries—Select Committee—Authorisation to meet**

That the Select Committee on Agricultural and Related Industries be authorised to hold a public meeting during the sitting of the Senate on Wednesday, 4 February 2009, from 3.30 pm, to take evidence for the committee's inquiry into the pricing and supply arrangements in the Australian and global fertiliser market.

(Agreed to 3 February 2009.)

5 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.)

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 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.)

9 Substitute members of committees—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order from the first sitting day in 2009 until the conclusion of the 2009 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 14 August 2006 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee's first report of 2006; continuation of temporary order agreed to 7 February 2007; 13 February 2008; 3 December 2008)

Estimates

10 2008-09 Additional estimates—2009-10 Budget estimates—Hearings

- (1) That estimates hearings by standing committees for 2009 be scheduled as follows:

2008-09 additional estimates:

Monday, 9 February and Tuesday, 10 February 2009, and, if required, Friday, 13 February 2009 (*Group A*)

Wednesday, 11 February and Thursday, 12 February 2009, and, if required, Friday, 13 February 2009 (*Group B*).

2009-10 Budget estimates:

Monday, 25 May to Thursday, 28 May 2009, and, if required, Friday, 29 May 2009 (*Group A*)

Monday, 1 June to Thursday, 4 June 2009, and, if required, Friday, 5 June 2009 (*Group B*)

Monday, 19 October and Tuesday, 20 October 2009 (*supplementary hearings—Group A*)

Wednesday, 21 October and Thursday, 22 October 2009 (*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, 17 March 2009 in respect of the 2008-09 additional estimates; and
- (b) Tuesday, 23 June 2009 in respect of the 2009-10 Budget estimates.

(Agreed to 12 November 2008.)

11 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.)

12 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.

13 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.

14 2008-09 Supplementary Budget estimates—Answers to questions

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

Group A:

Environment, Communications, and the Arts	Thursday, 4 December 2008
Finance and Public Administration	Friday, 5 December 2008
Legal and Constitutional Affairs	Friday, 28 November 2008
Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport	Wednesday, 10 December 2008

Group B:

Community Affairs	Friday, 12 December 2008
Economics	Friday, 12 December 2008
Education, Employment and Workplace Relations	Friday, 28 November 2008
Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade	Thursday, 4 December 2008

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

Meeting of Senate

15 Meeting of Senate

That the days of meeting of the Senate for 2009 be as follows:

Autumn sittings:

Tuesday, 3 February to Thursday, 5 February
Monday, 23 February to Thursday, 26 February
Tuesday, 10 March to Thursday, 12 March
Monday, 16 March to Thursday, 19 March

Budget sittings:

Tuesday, 12 May to Thursday, 14 May

Winter sittings:

Monday, 15 June to Thursday, 18 June
Monday, 22 June to Thursday, 25 June

Spring sittings:

Tuesday, 11 August to Thursday, 13 August
Monday, 17 August to Thursday, 20 August
Monday, 7 September to Thursday, 10 September
Monday, 14 September to Thursday, 17 September

Spring sittings (2):

Monday, 26 October to Thursday, 29 October
Monday, 16 November to Thursday, 19 November
Monday, 23 November to Thursday, 26 November.

(Agreed to 12 November 2008.)

16 Adjournment debate on Tuesday—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order from the first sitting day in 2009 until the conclusion of the 2009 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 19 November 2002 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee's second report of 2002; continuation of temporary order agreed to 10 February 2004; 9 February 2005; 7 February 2006; 6 February 2007; 13 February 2008; 3 December 2008)

17 Divisions on Thursday—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order from the first sitting day in 2009 until the conclusion of the 2009 sittings:

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

(Agreed to 11 May 2004 upon adoption of recommendations in the Procedure Committee's first report of 2004; continuation of temporary order agreed to 4 August 2004; 9 February 2005; 27 February 2006; 10 August 2006; 21 June 2007; 13 February 2008; 3 December 2008)

Orders for production of documents

18 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.)

19 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.)

20 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.)

21 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.)

22 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.)

23 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.)

24 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.)

**25 *Water Act 2007*—Critical human water needs—Definitions and criteria—
Order for production of document**

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Climate Change and Water, by 10 March 2009, in relation to section 86A of the *Water Act 2007*, a document containing the following:

- (a) a comprehensive, practical definition of the term, ‘critical human water needs’ which identifies categories of users of such water and allowable purposes for the use of such water;
- (b) a definition of the core human consumption requirements which would satisfy paragraph 86A(2)(a);
- (c) a definition of the non-human consumption requirements which would satisfy paragraph 86A(2)(b); and
- (d) clear, transparent and equitable criteria the Murray-Darling Basin Authority will apply:
 - (i) in determining whether the definition in paragraph 86A(2)(a) is met,
 - (ii) in determining whether the definition in paragraph 86A(2)(b) is met,
 - (iii) in determining the volume of conveyance water required to deliver water to meet critical human water needs, and
 - (iv) to monitor the use of such water to ensure it is used for the allowable purposes referred to in paragraph (a) of this resolution.

(Motion of Senator Fisher agreed to 3 December 2008.)

Question time

26 *Restructuring question time*—Temporary order

That the following operate as a temporary order during 2009:

No notice to be given of questions, as at present.

Primary questions to be limited to one minute and the answers to them to two minutes.

Two supplementary questions to be allowed to the questioner.

Supplementary questions and the answers to them to be limited to one minute each.

Answers to be required to be directly relevant to each question, as in the original proposal.

(Agreed to 13 November 2008; continuation of temporary order agreed to 4 December 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, 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)
- Men's Health
- 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 and 13 November 2008)

Members

Senator Heffernan (*Chair*), and Senators Fisher, Milne, Nash, O'Brien and Sterle

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, 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; final reporting date: 30 June 2009)

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

Report presented

Pricing and supply arrangements in the Australian and global fertiliser market—
Interim report *(tabled 2 December 2008)*

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 Johnston (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Carol Brown, Cameron and Parry and Mr Chester, Mr Clare, Mr Hayes and Ms Ley

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 Ms Ley

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, 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, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

Current inquiries

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

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 of March 2009)

Impact of gene patents on the provision of healthcare in Australia (referred 11 November 2008; reporting date: last sitting day of 2009)

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*)

Building trust: Supporting families through disability trusts (*tabled 16 October 2008*)

Poker Machine Harm Reduction Tax (Administration) Bill 2008, Poker Machine Harm Minimisation Bill 2008 and ATMs and Cash Facilities in Licensed Venues Bill 2008 (*tabled 10 November 2008*)

Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs and Other Legislation Amendment (Further 2008 Budget and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 10 November 2008*)

National Rental Affordability Scheme Bill 2008 [Provisions] and National Rental Affordability Scheme (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*presented to the President on 12 November 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 13 November 2008*)

Social Security and Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment (Schooling Requirements) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 13 November 2008*)

Aged Care Amendment (2008 Measures No. 2) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Forshaw, on 20 November 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 24 November 2008*)

Protecting Children from Junk Food Advertising (Broadcasting Amendment) Bill 2008 (*tabled 2 December 2008*)

Government expenditure on Indigenous affairs and social services in the Northern Territory (*tabled 4 December 2008*)

Corporations and Financial Services—Joint Statutory Committee

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

Members

Mr Ripoll (*Chair*), Senator Mason (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Arbib, Boyce and Marshall and Ms Grierson, Ms Owens, Mr Pearce and Mr Robert

Current inquiry

Continuing oversight of the operations of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (*statutory responsibility*)

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*)

Opportunity not opportunism: Improving conduct in Australian franchising (*tabled 2 December 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, 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

Bank mergers (*referred 24 November 2008; reporting date: 26 February 2009*)

Tax Agent Services Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 26 November 2008; reporting date: 12 February 2009*)

Tax Laws Amendment (Taxation of Financial Arrangements) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 20 February 2009*)

Trade Practices Amendment (Cartel Conduct and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 20 February 2009*)

Uranium Royalty (Northern Territory) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 30 April 2009*)

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*)

Tax Laws Amendment (Political Contributions and Gifts) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*presented to the President on 20 October 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 10 November 2008*)

Tax Laws Amendment (2008 Measures No. 5) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 10 November 2008*) and additional comments by Opposition senators (*tabled 24 November 2008*)

Lost in Space? Setting a new direction for Australia's space science and industry sector (*tabled 12 November 2008*)

Australia's mandatory Last Resort Home Warranty Insurance scheme (*tabled 13 November 2008*)

Temporary Residents' Superannuation Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] and Superannuation (Departing Australia Superannuation Payments Tax) Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Forshaw, on 18 November 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 24 November 2008*) and minority report by Senator Xenophon (*tabled 24 November 2008*)

Corporations Amendment (Short Selling) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 27 November 2008*)

Joint marketing arrangements on the North West Shelf project (*tabled 2 December 2008*)

Nation-building Funds Bill 2008 [Provisions], Nation-building Funds (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 [Provisions] and COAG Reform Fund Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 2 December 2008*)

The need, scope and content of a definition of unconscionable conduct for the purposes of Part IVA of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (*tabled 3 December 2008*)

Matters relating to the gas explosion at Varanus Island, Western Australia (*tabled 3 December 2008*)

Disclosure regimes for charities and not-for-profit organisations (*tabled 4 December 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

Substitute members

Australia's research and training capacity in the area of climate change—Senator Milne to replace Senator Siewert

Oversight of the child care industry—Senator Hanson-Young to replace Senator Siewert

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Adams, Barnett, Bernardi, Bilyk, Birmingham, Bishop, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Bob Brown, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cameron, Colbeck, Coonan, Cormann, Eggleston, 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, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

Current inquiries

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

Fair Work Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred upon the introduction of the bill in the House of Representatives, 25 November 2008; bill introduced 25 November 2008; reporting date: 27 February 2009*)

Oversight of the child care industry (*referred 25 November 2008; reporting date: 12 March 2009*)

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*)
 Social Security Legislation Amendment (Employment Services Reform) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 24 November 2008*)
 Schools Assistance Bill 2008 [Provisions] and Education Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*tabled 27 November 2008*)
 Building and Construction Industry (Restoring Workplace Rights) Bill 2008 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Parry, on 28 November 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 1 December 2008*)
 Allegations of academic bias in universities and schools (*tabled 4 December 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 inquiry

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

Reports presented

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

Commonwealth Electoral Amendment (Political Donations and Other Measures) Bill 2008—Advisory report (*tabled 10 November 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 Boswell, Ludlam, Lundy, Pratt, Troeth and Wortley

Substitute members

Effectiveness of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 and other programs in protecting threatened species and ecological communities— Senator Nash to replace Senator Boswell

Water Amendment (Saving the Goulburn and Murray Rivers) Bill 2008— Senator Siewert to replace Senator Ludlam

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, Farrell, Feeney, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Fisher, Forshaw, Furner, Hanson-Young, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Ludlam, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Moore, Nash, O'Brien, Payne, Polley, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Trood and Xenophon

Current inquiries

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*)

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment) Bill 2008 (*referred 25 September 2008; reporting date: 18 December 2008*)

Forestry and mining operations on the Tiwi Islands (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 25 June 2009*)

Water Amendment (Saving the Goulburn and Murray Rivers) Bill 2008 (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 27 March 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*)

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*)

Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008 (*tabled 10 November 2008*)

Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television Switch-over) Bill 2008 (*tabled 25 November 2008*)

Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment) Bill 2008 (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Moore, on 18 December 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 3 February 2009*)

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, Hanson-Young, Moore, Parry and Ryan

Substitute members

Residential and community aged care in Australia—Senator Siewert to replace Senator Hanson-Young

Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008—Senator Bob Brown to replace Senator Hanson-Young

Freedom of Information (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [2009]—Senator Ludlam to replace Senator Hanson-Young

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, Farrell, Feeney, Fielding, Fisher, Forshaw, Furner, Hanson-Young, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Ludlam, Lundy, Macdonald, Marshall, Mason, McEwen, McGauran, McLucas, Milne, Minchin, Nash, O'Brien, Payne, Pratt, Ronaldson, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Sterle, Troeth, Trood, Williams, Wortley and Xenophon

Current inquiries

Residential and community aged care in Australia (referred to the Economics Committee 25 September 2008; transferred 14 October 2008; reporting date: 29 April 2009)

Plebiscite for an Australian Republic Bill 2008 (referred 13 November 2008; reporting date: 15 June 2009)

Freedom of Information (Removal of Conclusive Certificates and Other Measures) Bill 2008 [2009] (referred 26 November 2008; reporting date: 10 March 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*)
 Item 16525 in Part 3 of Schedule 1 to the Health Insurance (General Medical Services Table) Regulations 2007 (*tabled 13 November 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, Hanson-Young, Johnston, Ludlam, 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 Markus, Mrs Mirabella, Ms Parke, Ms Rea, Mr Ripoll, 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*)

Reports presented

Review of the Defence annual report 2005-06 (*tabled 16 June 2008*)
 Review of the Defence annual report 2006-07 (*tabled 2 December 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 Feeney, Ferguson, 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, 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*)

Defence Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 20 February 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*) and addendum (*tabled 16 October 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; resolution of appointment varied 13 November 2008; reporting date: 21 October 2009*)

Members

Senator Cormann (*Chair*), Senator Hutchins (*Deputy Chair*), and Senators Bushby, Fifield, 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, Farrell, Feeney, Ferguson, Fielding, 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 Coonan, Forshaw, Marshall and McGauran and Mr Downer, Mr Dreyfus, Mrs Hull, 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 community (*statutory responsibility*)

Review of administration and expenditure no. 7 – Australian intelligence community (*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

Substitute members

Disability Discrimination and Other Human Rights Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]—Senator Siewert to replace Senator Hanson-Young

Federal Court of Australia Amendment (Criminal Jurisdiction) Bill 2008 [Provisions]—Senator Ludlam to replace Senator Hanson-Young

Federal Justice System Amendment (Efficiency Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2008 [Provisions]—Senator Ludlam to replace Senator Hanson-Young

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, Fielding, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Forshaw, Furner, Hanson-Young, 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 inquiries

Exposure draft of the Personal Property Securities Bill 2008 (*referred 13 November 2008; reporting date: 24 February 2009*)

Disability Discrimination and Other Human Rights Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 24 February 2009*)

Federal Court of Australia Amendment (Criminal Jurisdiction) Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 20 February 2009*)

Federal Justice System Amendment (Efficiency Measures) Bill (No. 1) 2008 [Provisions] (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 17 February 2009*)

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*)

Migration Legislation Amendment (Worker Protection) Bill 2008—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Forshaw, on 7 November 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 10 November 2008*)

Migration Legislation Amendment (Worker Protection) Bill 2008 (*tabled 10 November 2008*)

Effectiveness of the *Sex Discrimination Act 1984* in eliminating discrimination and promoting gender equality (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Humphries, on 12 December 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 3 February 2009*)

Library—Standing Committee

Members

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

Men's Health—Select Committee

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

(*appointed 13 November 2008; reporting date: 30 May 2009*)

Members

Senator Bernardi (*Chair*), Senators Cash†, Lundy, Sterle, Troeth and Williams

†Senator Cash to be discharged from 12 May 2009 with Senator Adams to be reappointed in her place

Participating members

Senators Abetz, Arbib, Barnett, Bilyk, Birmingham, Bishop, Boswell, Boyce, Brandis, Carol Brown, Bushby, Cameron, Colbeck, Collins, Coonan, Cormann, Crossin, Eggleston, Farrell, Feeney, Ferguson, Fierravanti-Wells, Fifield, Fisher, Forshaw, Furner, Heffernan, Humphries, Hurley, Hutchins, Johnston, Joyce, Kroger, Macdonald, Mason, Marshall, McEwen, McGauran, Minchin, Moore, Nash, O'Brien, Payne, Polley, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Trood and Wortley

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, Dr Stone 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*)

Report presented

Immigration detention in Australia: A new beginning (Criteria for release from immigration detention)—First report of the inquiry into immigration detention in Australia (*tabled 2 December 2008*)

National Broadband Network—Select Committee

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

(appointed 25 June 2008; resolution of appointment varied 13 November 2008; final reporting date: 30 March 2009)

Members

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

Report presented

Interim report (*tabled 2 December 2008*)

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, McGauran, McLucas, O'Brien and Payne

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 Abetz, Bob Brown, Faulkner, Hurley, Ludwig and Parry

Current inquiry

Amendment to membership provisions of standing order 25 (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 25 February 2009*)

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*)

Third report of 2008—Restructuring question time (*tabled 12 November 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*)

6th report (*tabled 16 October 2008*)

7th report (*tabled 13 November 2008*)

8th report (*tabled 4 December 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 Bevis, Mrs BK Bishop, Mr Bradbury, Mr Briggs, Mr Butler, Ms King, 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*)

Report 413—The efficiency dividend and small agencies: Size does matter (*tabled 4 December 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*)

Australian Super Hornet Facilities Project, RAAF Base Amberley (Eighth report of 2008) (*presented to the President on 22 October 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 10 November 2008*)

Referrals tabled June – September 2008 (Ninth report of 2008) (*tabled 2 December 2008*)

Regional and Remote Indigenous Communities—Select Committee

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

(appointed 19 March 2008; resolution of appointment varied 13 November 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, 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

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, 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, Parry, Payne, Polley, Pratt, Ronaldson, Ryan, Scullion, Siewert, Stephens, Troeth, Trood, Wortley and Xenophon

Current inquiries

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: 12 March 2009*)

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): 19 March 2009*)

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

Import risk analysis for the importation of Cavendish bananas from the Philippines (*referred 27 November 2008; reporting date: 19 March 2009*)

Public passenger transport in Australia (*referred 4 December 2008; reporting date: 18 June 2009*)

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*)

Annual reports (No. 2 of 2008), dated November 2008 (*tabled 13 November 2008*)

Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008, Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008 and Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 (*tabled 13 November 2008*)

Water Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]—Interim report (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Moore, on 19 November 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 24 November 2008*)

Water Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Barnett, on 21 November 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 24 November 2008*) and corrigenda (*tabled 27 November 2008*)

Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2008 [Provisions] and Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (*presented to the Temporary Chair of Committees, Senator Barnett, on 21 November 2008, pursuant to standing order 38(7); tabled 24 November 2008*)

Climate change and the Australian agricultural sector (*tabled 4 December 2008*)

Scrutiny of Bills—Legislative Scrutiny Committee

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

Members

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

No. 11 of 2008 (*tabled 15 October 2008*)

No. 12 of 2008 (*tabled 12 November 2008*)

No. 13 of 2008 (*tabled 26 November 2008*)

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

Eleventh report of 2008 (*tabled 15 October 2008*)

Twelfth report of 2008 (*tabled 12 November 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*)
Report no. 13 of 2008 (*presented 15 October 2008*)
Report no. 14 of 2008 (*presented 16 October 2008*)
Report no. 15 of 2008 (*presented 13 November 2008*)
Report no. 16 of 2008 (*presented 26 November 2008*)
Report no. 17 of 2008 (*presented 4 December 2008*)

Senators' Interests—Standing Committee

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

Members

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

Register of senators' interests incorporating notifications of alterations of interests of senators lodged between 24 September and 1 December 2008 (*tabled 3 December 2008*)

Declarations 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*)

Register of gifts to the Senate and to the Parliament, incorporating declarations of gifts lodged between 24 September and 1 December 2008 (*tabled 3 December 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 Briggs, Mr Forrest, Ms Hall, Ms Neal, Ms Parke, Mr Simpkins, Mr Trevor and Ms Vamvakinou

Current inquiries

All treaties tabled in the Senate

Nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament (*referred 13 October 2008*)

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*)

Report 95—Treaties tabled on 4 June, 17 June, 25 June and 26 August 2008 (*tabled 16 October 2008*)

Report 96—Treaties tabled on 16 September 2008 (*tabled 24 November 2008*)

Report 97—Treaties tabled on 16 September 2008 (*tabled 4 December 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 Search 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.