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2016

Wind Turbines—Select Committee—Government response

General business notice of motion: 16

Moved by: Senators Leyonhjelm, Day, Xenophon, Lambie, Griff, Kakoschke-Moore, Burston and Roberts, the Leader of the Pauline Hanson's One Nation (Senator Hanson) and Senator Hinch

Date agreed to: 1 September 2016

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
 - (i) the President's report to the Senate on government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports as at 30 June 2016, listed the report of the Select Committee on Wind Turbines amongst the reports the Government had failed to respond to within the 3 month timeframe, and
 - (ii) the Government still has not provided a formal response to the committee's report, although it has been some 12 months since the report was tabled; and
- (b) there be laid on the table by no later than **3.30 pm on 21 November 2016** by the Minister representing the Minister for Environment and Energy the Government's response to the report of the Select Committee on Wind Turbines, dated August 2015.

Statement made: 1 September 2016

Document received: 8 December 2016

Transport—Western Australia—Perth Freight Link

General business notice of motion: 23

Moved by: Senator Ludlam

Date agreed to: 1 September 2016

That—

- (a) the Senate notes the Turnbull Government intends to provide funding now worth \$1.2 billion for the Perth Freight Link and has no social, environmental or economic credibility; and
- (b) there be laid on the table no later than **11 am on Monday, 12 September 2016** by the Minister for Finance:
 - (i) an estimate of the financial penalties or compensation that the Barnett Government has exposed WA taxpayers to, should the contracts be terminated, and
 - (ii) any correspondence or information (including briefings and meeting notes) relating to penalties or compensation that will be offered to contractors, should the contracts for the Perth Freight Link be terminated upon a change of government, including correspondence between any Australian Government minister, department or agency and the Western Australian Government on this matter.

Document tabled: 12 September 2016

Administration—2016 Census—Legal Advice

General business notice of motion: 24

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 12 September 2016

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
 - (i) on 3 August 2016, the Australian Statistician was interviewed on the ABC television program 7.30 in relation to the 2016 Census, and
 - (ii) during the interview the Australian Statistician referred to legal advice received from the Australian Government Solicitor; and
- (b) there be laid on the table no later than **3 pm on Wednesday, 14 September 2016** by the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, the legal advice referred to by the Australian Statistician during his appearance on 7.30 on 3 August 2016.

Statement made: 12 September 2016

Document tabled: 14 September 2016

Transport—Western Australia—Perth Freight Link

General business notice of motion: 29

Moved by: Senator Ludlam

Date agreed to: 12 September 2016

That there be laid on the table no later than **10 am on 12 September 2016** by the Minister for Finance, the following documents:

- (a) any correspondence including appointments between successful tenderer and major donor Leighton Holdings (CIMIC Group Ltd) with any federal minister relating to the Perth Freight Link;
- (b) the traffic modelling for the Perth Freight Link with specific regard to Government claims that it will reduce congestion, improve safety, reduce traffic accidents on Leach Highway, and improve access to Fiona Stanley Hospital;
- (c) a summary of all requests made to the Government for traffic modelling or the business case that have been refused on commercial-in-confidence or public interest grounds;
- (d) any environmental surveying or assessment of the construction envelope in Stage 2 or 3 including Stygofauna or Trogofauna given the new decision to complete much of the Freight Link by tunnel; and
- (e) a list of every National Partnership project that has received federal funding from the Abbott-Turnbull terms of Government of more than \$100 million without a published business case.

Document tabled: 15 September 2016

Estimates hearing: [Hansard extract](#) of 18 October 2016

Primary industries—Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority

General business notice of motion: 39

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 13 September 2016

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by no later than 4 pm on 10 October 2016**, any documents held by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources relating to the relocation from Canberra to Armidale of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority, including:

- (a) any cost benefit analysis; and
- (b) any correspondence or other information, including briefings, meeting and file notes, between any Australian Government Minister, department or agency.

Statement made: 13 September 2016

Document tabled: 10 October 2016

Estimates hearing: [Hansard extract](#) of 18 October 2016

Environment and Communications References Committee—Stormwater management—Government response

General business notice of motion: 40

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 13 September 2016

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
 - (i) the President's report to the Senate on government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports as at 30 June 2016, listed the report of the Environment and Communications References Committee on stormwater management in Australia as amongst the reports the Government had failed to respond to within the 3 month timeframe, and
 - (ii) the Government still has not provided a formal response to the committee's report, although it has been 10 months since the report was tabled; and
- (b) there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 10 October 2016**, the Government's response to the report of the Environment and Communications References Committee on stormwater management in Australia, dated 2 December 2015.

Document tabled: 10 October 2016

Community Affairs References Committee—Availability of cancer drugs in Australia—Government response

General business notice of motion: 41

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 13 September 2016

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
- (i) the President's report to the Senate on government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports as at 30 June 2016, listed the report of the Community Affairs References Committee on the availability of new, innovative and specialist cancer drugs in Australia as amongst the reports the Government had failed to respond to within the 3 month timeframe, and
 - (ii) the Government still has not provided a formal response to the committee's report, although it has been almost 12 months since the report was tabled; and
- (b) there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Health and Aged Care, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 10 October 2016**, the Government's response to the report of the Community Affairs References Committee on the availability of new, innovative and specialist cancer drugs in Australia, dated 17 September 2015.

Documents tabled: 10 October 2016 ([letter](#) from Minister Nash; [letter](#) from Minister Ley)

Economics References Committee—Australia's automotive industry—Government response

General business notice of motion: 45

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 14 September 2016

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
- (i) the President's report to the Senate on government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports as at 30 June 2016, listed the report of the Economics References Committee on the future of Australia's automotive industry as amongst the reports the Government had failed to respond to within the 3 month timeframe, and
 - (ii) the Government still has not provided a formal response to the committee's report, although it has been 10 months since the report was tabled; and
- (b) there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 10 October 2016**, the Government's response to the report of the Economics References Committee on the future of Australia's automotive industry, dated 1 December 2015.

Statement made: 14 September 2016

Trade—World Trade Organization Government Procurement Agreement

General business notice of motion: 54

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 10 October 2016

That—

- (1) The Senate notes that:
 - (a) the Government is currently in negotiations with the 45 of 164 World Trade Organisation (WTO) member countries that have acceded to the WTO Government Procurement Agreement, and that Australia is negotiating to accede to the agreement; and
 - (b) these negotiations are being held in secret but could have profound effects on the ability of future Australian governments to use Government procurement for local industry development.
- (2) There be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 12 October 2016**, the Australian offer made and responses to date to that offer.

Statements made: 10 October 2016 ([Minister McGrath](#) and [Senator Xenophon](#))

Documents tabled: [10 October 2016](#); [12 October 2016](#)

Science and technology—Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation Review

General business notice of motion: 56

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 10 October 2016

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, **by no later than 12.30 pm on 11 October 2016**, the following documents relating to the final report commissioned by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) and prepared by Ernst and Young, entitled *Review of CSIRO's Science Prioritisation and Implementation Process*:

- (a) the terms of reference for the review; and
- (b) any documents, including correspondence, briefs or file notes, held by either CSIRO or the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science.

Statement made: 10 October 2016

Documents tabled: 10 October 2016 ([extract](#) of a service requirement; [work request order](#))

Documents received: 19 October 2016

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee—Australian grape and wine industry—Government response

General business notice of motion: 58

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 10 October 2016

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
 - (i) the President's report to the Senate on government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports as at 30 June 2016, listed the report of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee on the Australian grape and wine industry as amongst the reports the Government had failed to respond to within the 3 month timeframe, and
 - (ii) the Government still has not provided a formal response to the committee's report, although it has been 7 months since the report was tabled; and

- (b) there be laid on the table **by no later than 3.30 pm on 12 October 2016** by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources the Government's response to the report of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee on the Australian grape and wine industry, dated 12 February 2016.

Document tabled: 12 October 2016

Administration—2016 Census—Legal advice

General business notice of motion: 63

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 11 October 2016

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) on 12 September 2016 the Senate agreed to an order for production of documents directed at the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business for the legal advice referred to by the Australian Statistician during his appearance on 7.30 on 3 August 2016,
 - (ii) on 14 September 2016 the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business advanced a public interest immunity claim that the longstanding practice of successive governments has been not to disclose privileged legal advice to conserve the Commonwealth's legal and constitutional interest,
 - (iii) the Senate has not accepted that there is a general public interest immunity that allows ministers or departments to withhold legal advice, but rather that each claim of public interest immunity is assessable by the Senate and that information of the particular potential harm should be provided to the Senate to make this assessment,
 - (iv) on 16 July 1975 the Senate laid out by resolution its position with respect to public interest immunity claims - paragraph 4 of that resolution makes it clear that, while the Senate may permit claims of public interest immunity to be advanced, it reserves the right to determine whether a particular claim will be accepted, and
 - (v) Australian courts have acknowledged that for the Parliament to undertake its duties it must be able to require the Executive to produce documents, and that the justification for legal professional privilege does not apply; and
- (b) does not accept the public interest immunity claim made by the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business in relation to the order for production of documents of 12 September 2016, and orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Small Business, **by the start of business on the next day of sitting**, the legal advice referred to by the Australian Statistician during his appearance on 7.30 on 3 August 2016

Document tabled: 12 October 2016

Environment and Communications References Committee—Australia's video game development industry—Government response

General business notice of motion: 69

Moved by: Senator Ludlam

Date agreed to: 12 October 2016

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) the video games industry is the fastest-growing entertainment industry in the world,
 - (ii) in recent years the industry in Australia has generated over \$2 billion in retail revenue, and it continues to grow,
 - (iii) it is larger than the local film industry, but Federal Government assistance has been cut,

- (iv) the Senate inquiry into the future of Australia's video game development industry was held from June 2015 to April 2016, with the final report presented on 29 April 2016, which was unanimously agreed to, and
 - (v) under resolution of the Senate, the Government is required to respond to Senate inquiries within three months of reporting; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for the Arts, **by no later than 2 pm on 13 October 2016**, the Government's response to the report of the Environment and Communications References Committee on the future of Australia's video game development industry.

Statement made: 12 October 2016

Document tabled: 13 October 2016

Document received: 31 January 2018

Environment—United Nations Framework on the Convention of Climate Change—Modelling

General business notice of motion: 93

Moved by: Senator Ludlam

Date agreed to: 7 November 2016

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Foreign Affairs, **by no later than 1 December 2016**, the modelling referred to by New Zealand in the United Nations Framework on the Convention of Climate Change session SB145(2016) that details the Government's emission and removals projections for 2030.

Statement made: 7 November 2016

Document tabled: 1 December 2016

Administration—Student Builder Pilot Program—North East Vocational College

General business notice of motion: 95

Moved by: Senator Cameron

Date agreed to: 8 November 2016

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Education and Training, **no later than the end of question time on 10 November 2016**, all documents containing information pertaining to the following matters:

- (a) the visit by the then Assistant Minister for Education and Training, Senator Birmingham, to the premises of North East Vocational College at St Agnes, South Australia on or about 4 May 2015;
- (b) the meeting held between the then Assistant Minister for Education and Training, Senator Birmingham, and former Senator Day on 1 June 2015 in relation to a proposal for a 'Student Builder' pilot program to be located at North East Vocational College;
- (c) the meeting held between the then Minister for Vocational Education and Skills, the Honourable Luke Hartsuyker MP, and former Senator Day on 14 October 2015 in relation to a proposal for a 'Student Builder' pilot program to be located at North East Vocational College;
- (d) grants of \$2 025 320 made under the Apprenticeship Training - Alternative Delivery Pilots Program to Master Builders Australia, National Electrical Communications Association and North East Development Agency trading as North East Vocational College;
- (e) business plans, project proposals, funding contracts, deeds and related documents pertaining to the grants referred to in paragraph
- (d) above; and

- (f) the Recommendation Report of the Apprenticeships Reform Advisory Group (ARAG), including all appendices to the report, meeting papers and minutes of meetings of the ARAG.

Documents tabled: 10 November 2016

Qualification of former Senator Day—Legal advice

General business notice of motion: 98

Moved by: Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Wong)

Date agreed to: 9 November 2016

That there be laid on the table by the Attorney-General, **by no later than 9.30 am on 9 November 2016**, the legal advice provided to the Government in relation to the eligibility of former Senator Day to be elected as a senator for South Australia, as referred to in the Senate on Monday, 7 November 2016 by the Special Minister of State (Senator Ryan) and the Minister for Finance (Senator Cormann), and provided by David Jackson, QC, and any related documents that have not already been laid on the table.

Statement made: 9 November 2016

Document received: 15 November 2016

Family and community services—Cashless Debit Card Trial Progress Report

General business notice of motion: 99

Moved by: Senator Siewert

Date agreed to: 9 November 2016

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Social Services, **on 16 November 2016**, all information (including documents and statistics) used in the preparation of the report entitled *Cashless Debit Card Trial Progress Report*, authored by the Department of Social Services and released publicly on 31 October 2016.

Document tabled: 1 December 2016

Defence—Future Submarine Project—Design and Mobilisation Contract

General business notice of motion: 100

Moved by: Senators Xenophon and Carr

Date agreed to: 9 November 2016

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
- (i) the SEA 1000 Future Submarine project, a project that aims to deliver Australia a regionally superior future submarine capability, is likely to be the most expensive and complex project ever undertaken by the Commonwealth of Australia,
 - (ii) failures that occur in complex projects are often attributed to decisions made in the commencement phase of the project, and
- (iii) there is an accepted need for transparency in Government contracts; and
- (b) there be laid on the table by the Minister for Defence, **by the start of business on 24 November 2016**, the Design and Mobilisation Contract signed between the Commonwealth of Australia and DCNS on 30 September 2016.

Statement made: 9 November 2016

Document tabled: 1 December 2016

Defence—Resistance to Interrogation Training Programs

General business notice of motion: 109

Moved by: Senator Lambie

Date agreed to: 21 November 2016

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Defence, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 28 November 2016**, all recordings of the Australian Defence Force's resistance to interrogation training programs.

[Document](#) tabled: 28 November 2016

Administration—Former ministers—Meetings

General business notice of motion: 113

Moved by: Senators Waters and McAllister

Date agreed to: 23 November 2016

That—

- (1) There be laid on the table, by each minister in the Senate, in respect of each Commonwealth 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 statement in accordance with the succeeding provisions of this order:

A statement, covering the period since the previous statement was tabled, in respect of each former minister, listing:

- (a) all meetings, including teleconferences, at which lobbying, advocacy or the consideration of business took place, including date, location and duration, between current ministers, secretaries or deputy secretaries (or equivalent), of any Commonwealth Department or Agency and former ministers;
 - (b) how many people attended or participated and the capacities in which people attended or participated; and
 - (c) what topics were considered at each of the meetings.
- (2) This order has immediate effect with the first statement for 2016-17 additional estimates covering all meetings from the date of commencement of this order to 7 days prior to additional estimates.
 - (3) In this order:
 - (a) "Commonwealth Department or Agency" means a Commonwealth entity, other than the Parliamentary Departments and the Office of the Official Secretary of the Governor-General, within the meaning of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*;
 - (b) "former minister" means a person who is no longer a member of the Australian Parliament and who has been a minister in the 18 months prior to the estimates hearing at which the statement is due.
 - (4) 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.
 - (5) This order is of continuing effect.

[Statement](#) made: 23 November 2016

[Document](#) tabled: 14 February 2017

Estimates hearing: [Hansard extract](#) of 27 February 2017

Related [resolution](#) agreed: 29 March 2017, and [statement](#) made

[Document](#) received: 28 March 2019

[Document](#) received: 1 April 2019

Community Affairs References Committee—Income inequality—Government response

General business notice of motion: 126

Moved by: Senator Brown

Date agreed to: 28 November 2016

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Treasurer, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 29 November 2016**, the government response to the report of the Community Affairs References Committee entitled *Extent of income inequality in Australia – Bridging our growing divide: inequality in Australia*.

Statement made: 28 November 2016

Document tabled: 29 November 2016

Primary industries—Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority—Relocation

General business notice of motion: 136

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 29 November 2016

That—

(a) the Senate notes:

- (i) the grave concerns of the wider agricultural and agribusiness community that the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority's (APVMA) relocation will irreversibly damage the capacity of the APVMA to carry out its core responsibilities,
- (ii) the recently released Ernst and Young independent analysis of the APVMA relocation, which identified the following key risks:
 - (a) the APVMA is unable to effectively relocate or recruit key APVMA executive management and technical assessment staff within the first two years,
 - (b) during transition and in the short term, the APVMA is unable to sustain its rate of effort for registration of new agricultural and veterinary chemical products,
 - (c) the APVMA is unable to maintain and grow its capability in the medium term, and
 - (d) the APVMA has reduced access to stakeholders, and
- (iii) the recommendation in the independent analysis calling for the carrying out of the following critical next tasks for risk mitigation:
 - (a) an analysis of supply (and demand) for regulatory scientists,
 - (b) an analysis of connectivity between APVMA business groups,
 - (c) the development of recruitment, retention and training strategies, and
 - (d) the development of a transition plan; and

(b) there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by no later than 9.30 am on 1 December 2016**, the following documents held or prepared by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and/or the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority:

- (i) an analysis of supply (and demand) for regulatory scientists,
- (ii) an analysis of connectivity between APVMA business groups,
- (iii) any APVMA recruitment, retention and training strategies, and
- (iv) any APVMA transition plans.

Document tabled: 1 December 2016

Document received: 6 December 2016

Primary industries—Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Program Review

General business notice of motion: 137

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 29 November 2016

That—

- (a) the Senate notes:
 - (i) the adverse effect of Red Imported Fire Ant (RIFA) populations on ecosystems, native species, agricultural communities and human health,
 - (ii) the ongoing program since 2001 to eradicate Red Imported Fire Ants,
 - (iii) the communique of the Agriculture Ministers Forum held in Auckland, New Zealand on 20 May 2016, which indicated that:
- (a) it remains in the national interest to eradicate the ants and that it is technically feasible and cost beneficial to do so,
- (b) ministers agreed to continue to cost share the RIFA South East Queensland eradication program in 2016-17, in accordance with the nationally agreed 2013-18 Response Plan, and
- (c) funding of a 10-year eradication plan or transition to a management plan for the SEQ Programme will be considered at the next AGMIN meeting, and
 - (iv) the right of all Australians to sufficient information to understand the important decision that the agriculture ministers will be making at their next meeting in 2017 on whether the eradication program should continue, the implications of proceeding and not proceeding, the costs involved and the lessons learnt from the program so far; and
- (b) there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by no later than 9.30 am on 1 December 2016**, the Independent Review of the National Red Imported Fire Ant Eradication Program: Report of the independent review panel.

Statement made: 29 November 2016

Documents tabled: 1 December 2016

Environment—Minamata Convention on Mercury—Ratification

General business notice of motion: 138

Moved by: Senator Waters

Date agreed to: 29 November 2016

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Energy, **by no later than 9.30 am on 1 December 2016**, the cost-benefit analysis undertaken by Marsden Jacob Associates of Australia ratifying the Minamata Convention on Mercury commissioned by the Department of the Environment and Energy.

Statement made: 29 November 2016

Document tabled: 1 December 2016

Documents received: 19 January 2017—[correspondence](#); [exposure draft](#); [final report](#)

Law and justice—Bell Group liquidation—Documents to be provided to a committee

General business notice of motion: 151

Moved by: Senator Watt

Date agreed to: 30 November 2016

That—

- (a) the following documents relating to the Bell Group liquidation and the Western Australian Bell Group Companies (Finalisation of Matters and Distribution of Proceeds) legislation be provided to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee by the Attorney-General:
 - (i) correspondence, including but not limited to, briefings, letters, memoranda and aides memoire between the Attorney-General and:
 - (a) the Treasurer of Western Australia,
 - (b) the Attorney General of Western Australia, and
 - (c) the Solicitor-General,
 - (ii) any file notes held of any meetings between the Attorney-General and:
 - (a) the Treasurer of Western Australia,
 - (b) the Attorney General of Western Australia, and
 - (c) the Solicitor-General,
 - (iii) briefings to the Attorney-General from the Solicitor-General, Australian Government Solicitor and Attorney-General's Department, and
 - (iv) correspondence between the Australian Government Solicitor and the Attorney-General's Department and the Western Australian Department of the Attorney General, or the Western Australian State Solicitor's Office;
- (b) the time frame for the documents covered by this motion is 1 November 2015 to 30 March 2016; and
- (c) the documents be provided **by no later than 14 December 2016**.

Statement made: 30 November 2016

Document tabled: 14 February 2017

2017

Immigration—Refugees—Resettlement to the United States of America

General business notice of motion: 169

Moved by: Senator McKim

Date agreed to: 8 February 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, **on 15 February 2017**, the agreement between Australia and the United States of America announced on 13 November 2016 regarding the potential resettlement to the United States of refugees on Manus Island and Nauru.

Documents tabled: 15 February 2017

Defence—Future Submarine Program—Design and Mobilisation Contract

General business notice of motion: 178

Moved by: Senators Xenophon and Carr

Date agreed to: 8 February 2017

That—

(a) notes that:

- (i) on 9 November 2016, the Senate agreed to an order for production of documents directed at the Minister for Defence for the Design and Mobilisation Contract signed between the Commonwealth of Australia and DCNS on 30 September 2016;
 - (ii) on 1 December 2016, the Minister for Defence tabled a redacted version of the Design and Mobilisation contract and asserted a public interest immunity claim over the redacted components, and in particular the intellectual property terms, on the basis that these terms were of significant commercial value and highly sensitive to DCNS,
 - (iii) poorly negotiated intellectual property rights in Defence contracts both here and overseas have caused significant problems for the ongoing sustainment and enhancement of critical defence equipment, including:
 - (a) the contracted intellectual property rights for the Collins Class submarine became a significant issue in the ongoing sustainment and enhancement of the Collins submarines and also in relation to the evolving of Collins as a potential solution for the future submarine project, and
 - (b) United States (US) Air Force Lieutenant General Christopher Bogdan, Head of the F-35 Fighter program, has publically expressed concern as to the adverse effect that not addressing intellectual property rights at the commencement of the Joint Strike Fighter program in the US is having on the ongoing sustainment and enhancement of the aircraft,
 - (iv) the future submarine program involves a projected spend of \$50 billion of taxpayers' money, and that the impact of the intellectual property rights on the entire program, including any potential follow-on submarine class, are significant,
 - (v) there is an overwhelming and overriding public interest in respect of parliamentary oversight and scrutiny on the intellectual property terms associated with the future submarine program;
- (b) does not accept the public interest immunity claim in relation to the contracted intellectual property terms of the Design and Mobilisation Contract signed between the Commonwealth of Australia and DCNS on 30 September 2016 made by the Minister for Defence in relation to the order for production of documents of 9 November 2016; and
- (c) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for Defence, **by the start of business on the next day of sitting**, the intellectual property terms of the Design and Mobilisation Contract signed between the Commonwealth of Australia and DCNS on 30 September 2016.

Statements made: 8 February 2017—[Senator McGrath](#); [Senator Xenophon](#)

Document tabled: 9 February 2017

Transport—Western Australia—Perth Freight Link

General business notice of motion: 186

Moved by: Senator Ludlam

Date agreed to: 13 February 2017

That the Senate:

(a) notes:

- (i) the Abbott-Turnbull election commitment that infrastructure projects attracting more than \$100 million of federal funding would require a full cost benefit analysis,
- (ii) that the Abbott-Turnbull Government has committed funding now worth \$1.2 billion to the Perth Freight Link for which no business case has ever been provided, for which Stages 2 and 3 have not even been planned or assessed, and which does not reach the Port,

- (iii) that it is important that Federal money granted to a state be spent in a manner that represents value for money and that the Senate has an oversight obligation in this regard, and
- (iv) public interest immunity in response to Senate orders for the production of documents must not just be asserted, rather established;
- (b) rejects the grounds for public interest immunity made in relation to six previous Senate orders for production of documents, concerning the release of the business case, and specifically those made by the Minister for Finance on 19 April and 1 September 2016;
- (c) orders that the full business case and cost benefit analysis for the Perth Freight Link be laid on the table by the Minister for Finance **by no later than 12.30 pm on 14 February 2017**; and
- (d) resolves that, if the documents specified in paragraph (c) are not laid on the table by 12:30 pm on 14 February 2017, the Minister for Finance be required to attend the Senate at that time and provide an explanation for his failure to table the documents, and that at the conclusion of the explanation any senator may move to take note of the explanation.

Statement made: 13 February 2017

Documents tabled: 13 February 2017

Matter debated: 14 February 2017 [[first speaker](#): Senator Cormann]

Transport—Western Australia—Roe Highway Extension

General business notice of motion: 202

Moved by: Senator Ludlam

Date agreed to: 13 February 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes Condition 4 of the federal approval decision for the Roe Highway Extension, which specifies that all potential nesting trees are to be investigated to detect the presence of black cockatoos using hollows within 7 days prior to clearing, and that the investigation must be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced person; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Energy, **by 5 pm on 13 February 2017**, the following information:
 - (i) the date the investigation of nesting trees was completed,
 - (ii) how the investigation was undertaken,
 - (iii) the qualifications of the person/s who undertook the investigation, and
 - (iv) a copy of the investigation, including all results.

Document tabled: 13 February 2017

Document tabled: 23 March 2017

Transport—Western Australia—Perth Freight Link

General business notice of motion: 214

Moved by: Senator Ludlam

Date agreed to: 14 February 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes, in relation to the Perth Freight Link 'Roe 8' Highway extension, that significant breaches have been documented and reported to the Minister in relation to approval conditions and management plans, relating to dust suppression, asbestos management, and trapping and relocation of endangered species; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Energy, **by no later than 12.45 pm on 15 February 2017**, the following documents:

- (i) a summary of correspondence or reports made to the Minister for the Environment and Energy or the Department of the Environment and Energy with evidence of compliance breaches with approval conditions since construction commenced, and the response to each, and
- (ii) a record of the dates, times and locations where state or federal compliance officers have been on site since construction began.

Statement made: 14 February 2017

Document tabled: 15 February 2017

Senate—Failure to answer questions on notice—Non-compliance with order for the production of documents—Explanation

General business notice of motion: 216

Moved by: Leader of the Opposition in the Senate (Senator Wong)

Date agreed to: 14 February 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes the failure of the Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Brandis) to:
 - (i) provide answers to questions on notice nos 67, 69, 70, 126, 127, 129, 138, 152, 158, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 242, 272, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 306, 309, 310, 312, 313 and 324 within 30 days of the asking of those questions, and that answers to these questions are still outstanding,
 - (ii) provide answers to questions on notice from legislation committees following the 2016-17 supplementary Budget estimates hearings by the date set by the committees for the provision of answers, and
 - (iii) provide a response to the order for the production of documents agreed to by the Senate on 30 November 2016 relating to the Bell Group liquidation;
- (b) calls on the Leader of the Government in the Senate to provide the answers to outstanding questions on notice and respond to the order for the production of documents to the Senate by **9.30 am on 16 February 2017**;
- (c) requires the Leader of the Government in the Senate to attend the Senate at **9.30 am on 16 February 2017** so that, prior to government business being called on, any senator may ask for an explanation for the failure to provide answers and responses in accordance with the timelines established by the Senate; and
- (d) resolves that:
 - (i) in the event that the Leader of the Government in the Senate provides an explanation, any senator may, at the conclusion of the explanation, move without notice—That the Senate take note of the explanation, or
 - (ii) in the event that the Leader of the Government in the Senate does not provide an explanation, any senator may, without notice, move a motion with regard to the Leader of the Government in the Senate's failure to provide an explanation, and
 - (iii) any motion to take note under paragraphs (d) (i) or (ii) have precedence over all other government business until determined.

Statement made: 14 February 2017

Matter debated: 16 February 2017 [[first speaker: Senator Brandis](#)]

Death of Work for the Dole participant

General business notice of motion: 252

Moved by: Senator Rhiannon

Date agreed to: 22 March 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Employment, **by no later than 4 pm on 27 March 2017**, all documents and correspondence relating to the death of a Work for the Dole participant, Josh Park-Fing, including the report prepared by Workplace Health and Safety Queensland into this death.

Statement made: 22 March 2017

Document tabled: 27 March 2017

Document received: 28 May 2020

Future Submarine Program

General business notice of motion: 262

Moved by: Senators Xenophon and Carr

Date agreed to: 22 March 2017

- (1) That the Senate notes that:
- (a) the SEA 1000 Future Submarine Project, a project that aims to deliver Australia a regionally superior future submarine capability, is likely to be the most expensive and complex project ever undertaken by the Commonwealth of Australia;
 - (b) on 26 April 2016, the Prime Minister announced that DCNS, the French naval shipbuilding company, would be the design partner for the future submarine, and stated 'The submarine project alone will see Australian workers building Australian submarines with Australian steel, here where we stand today, for decades into the future';
 - (c) subsequent to this announcement, the Defence Minister has made statements in the Parliament that the Government intends to maximise Australian industry involvement, engagement and capability throughout the entire Future Submarine Program; and
 - (d) on 30 September 2016, the Government signed a Design and Mobilisation Contract with DCNS as a first step in the process of designing and building Australia's future submarines, and this contract contains the requirement for DCNS to:
 - (i) within five months of the effective contract date, of the Design and Mobilisation Contract, develop an Australian Industry Capability Plan for the future submarine, and
 - (ii) within four months of the effective contract date, conduct a study into the availability and economic viability of Australian manufactured hull steel equivalent to that normally used by the DCNS and a plan for development of the Australian capability for manufacture of steel in Australia that meets the contractor's and the Commonwealth's requirements for use in the future submarine.
- (2) That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Defence, **by the start of business on 28 March 2017**:
- (a) the Australian Industry Capability Plan for the Future Submarine; and
 - (b) the Australian Steel Development and Qualification Study.

Documents received: 4 April 2017

Document received: 26 October 2018

Live export trade and chilled meat trade

General business notice of motion: 263

Moved by: Senator Rhiannon

Date agreed to: 27 March 2017

That there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, **by 29 March 2017**, all documents by, or held by, the Export Finance and Insurance Corporation (EFIC), including risk assessments, advice, emails, minutes or other information relating to consideration of the live export trade or live exporters, including, but not limited to, consideration of the trade's cruelty to animals, reputational risk, and preference for EFIC to support the chilled meat trade in free trade agreement negotiations with any country including Indonesia.

Statement made: 27 March 2017

Document tabled: 29 March 2017

Bell Group liquidation and Bell Act—Orders for production of documents—Documents to be provided to a committee

General business notice of motion: 272

Moved by: Senator Pratt

Date agreed to: 27 March 2017

That the Attorney-General be required to provide to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee, **by no later than noon on 7 April 2017**, the following documents relating to the Bell Group liquidation and the Bell Act:

- (a) correspondence between the Attorney-General and Ms O'Dwyer in March and April 2016;
- (b) a letter from the former Solicitor-General, Mr Justin Gleeson, to the Attorney-General regarding the High Court proceedings in the Bell matter, dated 15 March 2016;
- (c) the email chain between the offices of the Solicitor-General and Attorney-General entitled 'Bell - Commissioner of Taxation request for advice from the Solicitor-General - referral to Counsel Assisting the Solicitor-General [SEC=PROTECTED, DLM=Sensitive: Legal]', dated 6 and 7 March 2016; and
- (d) the submission from the Attorney-General's Department to the Attorney-General's office on the question of intervention in the Bell matter, dated 28 January 2016.

Statement made: 27 March 2017

Bell Group liquidation and the Bell Act—Orders for production of documents—Documents to be provided to a committee

General business notice of motion: 273

Moved by: Senator Pratt

Date agreed to: 27 March 2017

That the Minister representing the Minister for Revenue and Financial Services be required to provide to the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee, **by no later than noon on 7 April 2017**, the document relating to the Bell Group liquidation and the Bell Act entitled 'FW: Possible Attorney-General's direction under the Judiciary Act [DLM=Sensitive: Legal]', which was attached to an email between officers of the Australian Taxation Office, dated 29 November 2016.

Document received: 3 April 2017

Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee—Bell Group litigation—Unanswered questions on notice

General business notice of motion: 274

Moved by: Senator Pratt

Date agreed to: 28 March 2017

That—

- (1) The Senate notes:
 - (a) the failure of the Attorney-General and officers of the Attorney-General's Department to provide any responses to many of the questions asked in the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee inquiry into the nature and scope of any agreement reached by the Commonwealth and Western Australian governments in relation to the distribution of proceeds of the liquidation of, and litigation concerning, the Bell Group of companies (the proceeds);
 - (b) answers to these questions would enable clear facts to be established regarding the Commonwealth's actions, and give the public confidence the Commonwealth is acting consistent with its constitutional responsibilities and protecting its position with the states; and
 - (c) the failure to provide answers has significantly compromised the ability of the committee to fulfil the terms of reference of the inquiry.
- (2) The Senate **requires the Attorney-General, by 12.45 pm on 29 March 2017**, to provide answers to the committee to questions taken on notice by him or officers of the Attorney-General's Department, listed in Appendix 1 of the committee's interim report tabled in the Senate on 22 March 2017, or alternatively make a substantive claim of public interest immunity that is acceptable to the Senate.
- (3) The committee report to the Senate on the Attorney-General's compliance with this resolution on 29 March 2017.
- (4) The Senate **requires that the Attorney-General be in the Senate at 9.30 am on 30 March 2017**, so that a senator may ask the Attorney-General for an explanation in connection with his actions on this matter, and at the conclusion of the explanation any senator may move a motion to take note of the explanation; or if the Attorney-General fails to provide an explanation, any senator may move to take note of his failure to do so.

Statement made: 28 March 2017

Document tabled and matter debated: 30 March 2017

Draft National Recovery Plan for Leadbeater's Possum

General business notice of motion: 281

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 28 March 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Energy, **by no later than 9.30 am on 30 March 2017**, the following documents:

- (a) any correspondence between the Department of the Environment and Energy and the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources or his ministerial staff in relation to the Draft National Recovery Plan for Leadbeater's Possum; and
- (b) any correspondence between the Department of the Environment and Energy and the Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources or her ministerial staff relating to the Draft National Recovery Plan for Leadbeater's Possum.

Document tabled: 29 March 2017

Perth Freight Link

General business notice of motion: 285

Moved by: Senator Ludlam

Date agreed to: 28 March 2017

- (1) The Senate notes that:
- (a) on six previous occasions, the Government has refused to release the business case and cost-benefit analysis for the \$1.9 billion Perth Freight Link on the grounds that it would prejudice relations between the Commonwealth and the states; and
 - (b) given the resounding defeat of the Barnett Liberal Government in Western Australia and the change of government on 11 March 2017, this ground is no longer applicable.
- (2) There be laid on the table by the Minister for Finance, **by no later than 2 pm on 29 March 2017**, the full unredacted business case and cost-benefit analysis for the Perth Freight Link.

Document tabled: 29 March 2017

Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility

General business notice of motion: 288

Moved by: Senator Moore

Date agreed to: 29 March 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 30 March 2017**:

- (a) the contract or Memorandum of Understanding between the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) and the Export Finance and Investment Corporation (EFIC);
- (b) the NAIF Risk Appetite Statement;
- (c) the NAIF Public Interest Test;
- (d) any policies or other documents to be used by the NAIF Board to satisfy themselves that the project meets each of the mandatory criteria as set out in the NAIF Investment Mandate; and
- (e) any policies or other documents to be used by the NAIF Board to satisfy themselves that the project meets each of the non-mandatory criteria as set out in the NAIF Investment Mandate.

Statement made: 29 March 2017

Document tabled: 30 March 2017

Military exports to Saudi Arabia

General business notice of motion: 297

Moved by: Senator Ludlam

Date agreed to: 29 March 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) the Australian Defence Department has approved four military exports to Saudi Arabia in the past year, and
 - (ii) the Minister for Defence Industry, the Honourable Christopher Pyne MP, visited Riyadh in December 2016 to promote Australian defence material to senior government figures, including Prince Mutaib bin Abdullah al-Saud, the head of Saudi Arabia's National Guard; and

- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for Defence, **by no later than 6 pm on 30 March 2017**:
- (i) the Minister for Defence Industry's itinerary in Saudi Arabia, and
 - (ii) any documents relating to approvals for military exports to Saudi Arabia since January 2016.

Document tabled: 9 May 2017

Estimates hearing: [Hansard](#) of 29 May 2017

Economics—Parallel importation laws (Castalia report)

General business notice of motion: 307

Moved by: Senator Carr

Date agreed to: 10 May 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Urban Infrastructure, **by no later than 9.30 am on 11 May 2017**, the Castalia Report into parallel import laws.

Documents received: 12 May 2017 [[correspondence](#); [report](#)]

Health—Oakden aged care service—Accreditation and assessment reports

General business notice of motion: 320

Moved by: Senators Xenophon, Griff and Kakoschke-Moore

Date agreed to: 10 May 2017

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
- (i) on 20 April 2017 it was announced that the Makk and McLeay Aged Mental Health Care Service at Oakden (Oakden) in South Australia, the state Government run nursing home for vulnerable dementia patients, would be shut in the wake of allegations of mistreatment at the facility,
 - (ii) the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency (AACQA) has a responsibility to accredit Australian Government subsidised aged care homes, and had accredited Oakden,
 - (iii) the chief executive of the AACQA, visited the facility after the announced closures and conceded that Oakden was one of the 'poorest examples' of nursing homes he had experienced,
 - (iv) the AACQA is now conducting a review on its own performance in relation to the accreditation of Oakden, and
 - (v) there is always danger in self-assessment by Government agencies; and
- (b) there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Aged Care, **by no later than 5 pm on 11 May 2017**, the following Oakden-related documents for the period 2007 to date:
- (i) all accreditation site audit reports,
 - (ii) all assessment information documents,
 - (iii) all assessment contact reports, both announced and unannounced,
 - (iv) all decisions to accredit or not accredit and associated reasons,
 - (v) any recommendations to impose sanctions,
 - (vi) all referrals from the Department of Health to the AACQA, and
 - (vii) all statements of major findings.

Statements made: 10 May 2017 [[Minister McGrath](#), [Senator Gallagher](#), [Senator Xenophon](#)]

Document received: 25 May 2017

Environment and Communications References Committee—Australia’s video game development industry—Government response

General business notice of motion: 331

Moved by: Senator Ludlam

Date agreed to: 13 June 2017

That the Senate—

(a) notes:

- (i) the unanimous findings of the Environment and Communications References Committee report, *Game on: more than playing around – The future of Australia’s video game development industry*, received on 29 April 2016, and
- (ii) the absence of any government response to the findings of this inquiry; and

(b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for Communications, **by no later than 3 pm on 14 June 2017**, a copy of the government response to this report.

Statement made: 13 June 2017

Document tabled: 14 June 2017; **statement made:** 14 June 2017

Environment—Leadbeater’s Possum

General business notice of motion: 339

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 14 June 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Energy, **by no later than 9.30 am on 21 June 2017**, the following documents held by the Department of the Environment and Energy: any nominations submitted seeking revised listing of the Leadbeater’s Possum (*Gymnobelideus leadbeateri*) under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*, including the completed nomination form(s) received.

Statement made: 14 June 2017

Documents tabled: 22 June 2017

Defence—Maribyrnong Defence site

General business notice of motion: 340

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 14 June 2017

That there be laid on the table, by the Minister for Defence, **by no later than 12.30 pm on 20 June 2017**, the following documents regarding the Defence site Maribyrnong:

- (a) the consultant report referred to by the Minister for Defence at the estimates hearing on 29 May 2017 of the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee regarding the sale and proposed capacity of 6000 dwellings for the site;
- (b) any correspondence between the Department of Defence or the Minister for Defence and her office and Australia Zhongren Enrichment Holding Pty Ltd or associated entities;
- (c) any property contamination profile or related documents held by the Department of Defence;
- (d) any correspondence by or to the Department of Defence or the Minister for Defence and her office regarding the cost of site remediation or decontamination; and
- (e) any correspondence by or to the Department of Defence or the Minister for Defence and her office regarding advice on the number of houses that could be built on the land and potential congestion and urban planning issues including schools, child care, medical centres, amenities and the environment.

Statement made: 14 June 2017

Documents tabled: 22 June 2017

Animal welfare—Live export of equines

General business notice of motion: 341

Moved by: Senators Rhiannon and Hinch

Date agreed to: 14 June 2017

That there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by close of business on 20 June 2017**, a copy of the draft or any other version of the Export Control (Animals) Amendment (Equine Animals) Order 2017 (the Equine Amendment Order) and all documents by or held by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and/or the Minister's office, including risk assessments, advice, emails, minutes or other information relating to the live export of equines including, but not limited to, consideration of the trade's cruelty to animals and any reputational risk to all those involved.

Statement made: 14 June 2017

Document tabled: 22 June 2017

Education—Australian Education Amendment Bill 2017

General business notice of motion: 364

Moved by: Senator Collins

Date agreed to: 20 June 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Education and Training (Senator Birmingham), **by no later than 7.20 pm on 20 June 2017**, the following documents provided by him to any senator or their staff:

- (a) all documents, including correspondence and any other communication, relating to the cost of implementing the amendments provided for in the Australian Education Amendment Bill 2017 produced by or for, or provided to, the Minister for Education and Training;
- (b) all documents, including correspondence and any other communication, relating to the cost of implementing the amendments provided for in the Australian Education Amendment Bill 2017 produced by or for, or provided to, the office of the Minister for Education and Training; or
- (c) all documents, including correspondence and any other communication, relating to the cost of implementing the amendments provided for in the Australian Education Amendment Bill 2017 produced by or for, or provided to, the Department of Education and Training.

Statements made: 21 June 2017

Document tabled: 22 June 2017

Administration—Postal plebiscite or ballot—Advice on the conduct or constitutionality

General business notice of motion: 405

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 9 August 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Finance, **by no later than 11.50 am on 10 August 2017**, the following documents held, commissioned or requested by the Department of Finance: any advice on the conduct or constitutionality of a postal plebiscite or postal ballot received by the Department of Finance from:

- (a) the Solicitor-General;
- (b) the Attorney-General's Department;
- (c) the Australian Electoral Commission;
- (d) the Australian Bureau of Statistics;
- (e) the Australian Statistician; and
- (f) any other legal, constitutional or electoral experts.

Document tabled: 10 August 2017

Statement made: 10 August 2017

Economics References Committee—Australia’s automotive industry— Government response

General business notice of motion: 421

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 15 August 2017

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
- (i) the President’s report to the Senate on government responses outstanding to parliamentary committee reports as at 30 June 2017 listed the report of the Economics References Committee on the Future of Australia’s Automotive Industry as having not been responded to by the Government within the three month timeframe, and
 - (ii) the Government still has not provided a formal response to the Committee’s report, even though it has been 20 months since the report was tabled; and
- (b) there be laid on the table, by the Minister for Industry, Innovation and Science, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 4 September 2017** the Government’s response to the report of the Economics References Committee on the Future of Australia’s Automotive Industry tabled on 1 December 2015.

Document tabled: 4 September 2017 (and [debated](#))

Environment—Barwon-Darling Unregulated River

General business notice of motion: 420

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 16 August 2017

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
- (i) the Murray Darling river system is a national resource,
 - (ii) the aim of the Murray Darling Basin Plan, agreed to in 2012, is to ensure that water is shared between all users, including the environment, in a sustainable way,
 - (iii) it is important that the Commonwealth, the States and users comply with the agreed plan,
 - (iv) on 24 July 2017 the ABC’s *Four Corners* program aired serious allegations in respect of the Barwon-Darling in relation to water pump tampering, theft and rorting, collusion between officials and irrigators, failures by officials to properly monitor compliance and the shutting down of compliance units in the face of alleged non-compliance, irregularity and illegality, and
 - (v) the Senate has an oversight responsibility in relation to implementation and execution of the Murray Darling Basin Plan and visibility to modelling – financial and compliance data assist the Senate in this regard; and
- (b) there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by the start of business on 11 September 2017:**
- (i) documents associated with the proposal to purchase water licences held by Tandou Ltd in June 2017, including Ministerial briefs, and the associated contracts,
 - (ii) draft and final reports and supporting documents, including assumptions used, about all modelling undertaken by the Murray Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) for the Barwon-Darling Unregulated River between 1 January 2014 and today,
 - (iii) draft and final reports and supporting documents about all investigations or work undertaken by the MDBA tracking the movement of environmental water in the Northern Basin between 1 January 2014 and today – including about the legal extraction of environmental water and/or potentially unlawful extraction of water,
 - (iv) a summary of expenditure of monies from the Water for the Environment Special Account to 30 June 2017 and today including:
 - (A) the criteria for distributing monies from this account,
 - (B) the evidence that these criteria had been met by the beneficiary of monies from this account,

- (C) all transactions from this account to individuals or companies in relation to properties on the Barwon-Darling Unregulated River, and
- (D) the scope of work associated with the transactions, and
- (v) reports on the distribution of monies for the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program in the Barwon-Darling Unregulated River between 1 January 2014 and 30 June 2017 including:
 - (A) the criteria for distributing monies from this program,
 - (B) all transactions from this program to individuals or companies, and
 - (C) the scope of work associated with the transactions.

Document received: 6 October 2017

Administration—Member for New England—Solicitor-General’s advice

General business notice of motion: 428

Moved by: Senator Di Natale

Date agreed to: 16 August 2017

That—

- (a) the Senate notes:
 - (i) the admission of the Member for New England, Mr Barnaby Joyce MP, that he may hold New Zealand citizenship,
 - (ii) that the New Zealand Government has confirmed that Mr Joyce is a citizen of New Zealand, and
 - (iii) that the case has been referred to the Court of Disputed Returns; and
- (b) there be laid on the table, by the Attorney-General, **by no later than noon on 17 August 2017**, the Solicitor-General’s advice regarding the eligibility of the Member for New England to continue to sit as a member of the House of Representatives or serve as a minister in the Cabinet.

Statement made: 16 August 2017

Document tabled: 18 August 2017

Immigration—Refugees—Resettlement to the United States of America

General business notice of motion: 430

Moved by: Senator McKim

Date agreed to: 4 September 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes media reports which contain many of the details of arrangements between the Australian Government and the Government of the United States of America for the resettlement of refugees and asylum seekers on Manus Island and Nauru;
- (b) notes the failure of the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection to comply with the order of the Senate made on 8 February 2017 to provide to the Senate all information relating to the refugee resettlement deal for people on Manus Island and Nauru between Australia and the United States of America;
- (c) also notes that the Minister’s response, tabled on 15 February 2017, does not set out the particular harm to the public interest that would result by providing these documents, but instead relies on a letter to the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee, dated 7 January 2017, in relation to a tangentially related inquiry;
- (d) does not accept that a blanket claim, to withhold information from the Senate and its committees, regarding the Government’s negotiations for the resettlement of asylum seekers on Manus Island and Nauru, meets the terms of the Senate order of continuing effect relating to public interest immunity claims; and

- (e) orders that there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, **no later than 11 September 2017**, all documents and correspondence held by the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, or the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, or members of his staff, created after 1 November 2015, relating to the resettlement of asylum seekers or refugees previously and currently on Manus Island and Nauru, including, but not limited to:
- (i) the terms of the arrangement, or arrangements, with the United States of America,
 - (ii) all letters and emails between the Department and the Minister,
 - (iii) all briefing notes, including all ministerial briefing notes,
 - (iv) all internal departmental emails and memos, and
 - (v) all recorded or noted phone calls and meetings, including meeting agendas and minutes, and the names and positions of persons present.

Documents tabled: 11 September 2017 [[Minister Dutton](#), [Minister Cash](#)]

Defence—Review of ASC Pty Ltd—Future Frigate tender

General business notice of motion: 432

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 4 September 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) ASC Pty Ltd is a Government Business Enterprise, ultimately owned by the taxpayer,
 - (ii) early in its deliberations on the future submarine project, the Department of Defence made a decision to not involve ASC in any substantive work on the future submarine – a fact only revealed to the Senate on 20 June 2017 at an Economics References Committee hearing,
 - (iii) on 11 October 2016 – in response to a strategic review of ASC, that was conducted in 2015 – the Government announced that it was splitting ASC group into three entities:
 - (A) Shipbuilding
 - (B) Submarine Sustainment, and
 - (C) Infrastructure, and
 - (iv) Defence has made a decision to exclude ASC from any management role in the Future Frigate Program – a plan also withheld from the Senate; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table, respectively, by the Minister for Finance and the Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry, **by the close of business on 6 September 2017**:
- (i) the report of the strategic review of ASC Pty Ltd that was conducted in 2015, and
 - (ii) all unclassified portions of the Future Frigate tender documentation set.

Document tabled: 6 September 2017

Document tabled: 7 September 2017

Family and community services—Cashless Debit Card Trial

General business notice of motion: 442

Moved by: Senator Siewert

Date agreed to: 4 September 2017

That there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 5 September 2017**, the Wave 2 Final Evaluation Report of the Cashless Debit Card Trial authored by ORIMA Research and all associated documents.

Statements made: 4 September 2017 [Minister [McGrath](#), Senator [Siewert](#)]

Document tabled: 5 September 2017

Defence—Future Frigate project—Australian company partners

General business notice of motion: 449

Moved by: Senators Xenophon and Carr

Date agreed to: 5 September 2017

- (1) The Senate notes that:
 - (a) the Government has embarked on a \$35 billion program to provide nine Future Frigates to the Royal Australian Navy;
 - (b) the Government has made a decision to exclude Australian companies from any leadership and management role in the Future Frigate Program, a decision that the Department of Defence has not conveyed to the Senate; and
 - (c) a decision to exclude either of the two very experienced Australian naval shipbuilders, ASC Pty Ltd and Austal, shows a completely unwarranted lack of confidence the Government has in Australian Industry Capability, and has sovereign implications.
- (2) That there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry, **by the close of business on 6 September 2017:**
 - (a) Gateway Review briefs and decisions in relation to the Future Frigate project to the extent that those briefs and decisions go to Australian Industry Capability, the partnering or use of Australian shipyards, and how Techport and other Australian facilities might be used in the program;
 - (b) any correspondence between the Department of Defence and ASC Pty Ltd in response to the announcement that Australian shipbuilders ASC Pty Ltd and Austal would partner to win the contract to build the \$35 billion Future Frigate in Adelaide;
 - (c) any correspondence between the Department of Defence and Austal in response to the announcement that Australian shipbuilders ASC Pty Ltd and Austal would partner to win the contract to build the \$35 billion Future Frigate in Adelaide;
 - (d) any correspondence between the Department of Defence and the three prospective design partners in response to the announcement that Australian shipbuilders ASC Pty Ltd and Austal would partner to win the contract to build the \$35 billion Future Frigate in Adelaide; and
 - (e) any other documentation held by the Future Frigate project that discusses Australian Industry Capability, the partnering or use of Australian shipyards, and how Techport and other Australian facilities might be used in the program.

Document tabled: 7 September 2017

Environment—Murray-Darling Basin—Allegations concerning illegal structures and water diversion

General business notice of motion: 450

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 5 September 2017

- (1) The Senate notes that:
 - (a) the Murray Darling river system is a national resource;
 - (b) the aim of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, agreed to in 2012, is to ensure that water is shared between all users, including the environment, in a sustainable way;
 - (c) it is important that the Commonwealth, the States and users comply with the agreed plan;
 - (d) on 31 August 2017, the ABC's *Lateline* program aired serious allegations in respect to illegal structures and water diversion within the Murray-Darling Basin and the alleged failure by officials to act upon the assertion of these allegations to authorities by the Lamey family; and
 - (e) the Senate has an oversight responsibility in relation to implementation and execution of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and visibility to the response of authorities to any allegations of conduct contrary to the plan, or the law, will assist the Senate in this regard.
- (2) That there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by the start of business on 15 September 2017:**
 - (a) any correspondence between the Lamey's and the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA), the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) and/or the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder (CEWH) raising allegations over illegal structures, water diversion and other improper conduct taking place near their property on the McIntyre River west of Goondiwindi;

- (b) any correspondence between Norman Farming Pty Ltd (and related entities) and the MDBA, the DAWR or the CEWH in relation to issues raised by the Lamey's;
- (c) any internal correspondence of the MDBA, DAWR and/or CEWH on the issues raised by the Lamey's (excluding correspondence dealing with media enquiries);
- (d) any correspondence between the MDBA, DAWR, and/or CEWH on the issues raised by the Lamey's (excluding correspondence dealing with media enquiries);
- (e) any correspondence from the MDBA, DAWR and/or CEWH to the Queensland Department of National Resources and Mines and/or SunWater on the issues raised by the Lamey's;
- (f) a summary of the expenditure of public money from the Commonwealth, including through any Queensland Government programs, to Norman Farming Pty Ltd (and related entities), since commencement of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, including:
 - (i) the expenditure amounts,
 - (ii) the associated volume of water,
 - (iii) the scope of work associated with each expenditure amount,
 - (iv) evidence that the work associated with each expenditure amount has been completed, and
 - (v) evidence that the volume of water associated with each expenditure is verified; and
- (g) a summary of any negotiations on-foot between the MDBA, DAWR, and/or CEWH and Norman Farming Pty Ltd (and related entities), including in relation to the store and release of environmental water.

Documents received: 20 October 2017

Family and community services—Cashless Welfare Card evaluation

General business notice of motion: 464

Moved by: Senator Siewert

Date agreed to: 6 September 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Social Services, **by 3.30 pm on 7 September 2017**, the evaluation of the Cashless Welfare Card commissioned by the Department of Social Services and authored by Mr J Rob Bray and Professor Matthew Gray, and all associated documents.

Statement made: 6 September 2017

Document tabled: 7 September 2017

Health—Alcohol and drug treatment and rehabilitation services

General business notice of motion: 472

Moved by: Senator Kakoschke-Moore

Date agreed to: 7 September 2017

- (1) That the Senate notes that:
 - (a) during the Senate inquiry into the provisions of the Social Services Legislation Amendment (Welfare Reform) Bill 2017, Professor Alison Ritter, Director, Drug Policy Modelling Program, National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre, told Senator Kakoschke-Moore: "There was a model that I worked on to develop state-by-state estimates of unmet demand for alcohol and other drug treatment. Those data are theoretically available. The Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy said we were not able to release those results and they were not to be made available to anyone who requested them";
 - (b) Professor Ritter advised the direction to not make the model public occurred in 2014 and again "about 12 months ago"; and
 - (c) Professor Ritter went on to state: "In my opinion, the concern from the ministerial council was that it would identify the substantial responsibility that the states and territories and the Commonwealth Government needed to start to take in relation to the appalling situation in relation to drug treatment".

- (2) That there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Health, **by the close of business on 13 September 2017**:
- (a) the model and technical manual which can be used to generate state-by-state estimates of unmet demand for alcohol and drug treatment and rehabilitation services in Australia, which has previously been described as the Drug and Alcohol Clinical Care and Prevention (DA-CCP) Project and the Drug and Alcohol Services Planning Model (DASPM);
 - (b) any correspondence between the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre and the Ministerial Council on Drug Strategy regarding the release of the model and technical manual known as the DA-CCP and DASPM; and
 - (c) any other documentation relating to use of the model, including any reports and data produced by the Commonwealth using the model.

Statement made: 7 September 2017

Documents tabled: 14 September 2017 [[correspondence](#) from Minister Nash; [technical manual](#); [final report to the IGCD](#); [estimator tool](#)]

Defence—Future Frigate project—Australian company partners—Failure to comply with Senate order no. 449

General business notice of motion: 488

Moved by: Senators Xenophon and Carr

Date agreed to: 12 September 2017

- (1) The Senate notes that:
- (a) on 5 September 2017, the Senate agreed to an order for production of documents directed at the Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry for:
 - (i) any correspondence between the Department of Defence and ASC Pty Ltd in response to the announcement that Australian shipbuilders ASC Pty Ltd and Austal would partner to win the contract to build the \$35 billion Future Frigate in Adelaide,
 - (ii) any correspondence between the Department of Defence and Austal in response to the announcement that Australian shipbuilders ASC Pty Ltd and Austal would partner to win the contract to build the \$35 billion Future Frigate in Adelaide,
 - (iii) any correspondence between the Department of Defence and the three prospective design partners in response to the announcement that Australian shipbuilders ASC Pty Ltd and Austal would partner to win the contract to build the \$35 billion Future Frigate in Adelaide, and
 - (iv) any other documentation held by the Future Frigate project that discusses Australian Industry Capability, the partnering or use of Australian shipyards, and how Techport and other Australian facilities might be used in the program;
 - (b) on 7 September 2017, the Minister for Defence tabled a letter in response claiming public interest immunity, and stated that release of such documents would potentially damage national security, damage international relations and adversely affect the Department of Defence's negotiation position in respect of future contracts;
 - (c) information on Australian Industry Capability and the partnering or use of Australian shipyards, and how Techport and other Australian facilities might be used in the program are not matters that would reasonably attract a security classification – the order for production of documents does not seek access to any documents that have been marked with national security markings, only unclassified data;
 - (d) the tender is restricted to three foreign companies: BAE Systems, Fincantieri and Navantia – a claim that disclosing documents passed to three commercial companies could in some way affect Australia's international relations is not a reasonable claim;
 - (e) the Government is seeking to negotiate a contract that prevents established Australian shipbuilders and their workers from a lead role in Australia's Continuous Naval Shipbuilding Program – this approach will have the opposite effect of a creating a sovereign capability – contract negotiations under the current tender arrangements will be harmful to Australian industry and national security; and
 - (f) on 16 July 1975, the Senate laid out by resolution its position with respect to public interest immunity claims – paragraph 4 of that resolution makes it clear that, while the Senate may permit claims of public interest immunity to be advanced, it reserves the right to determine whether a particular claim will be accepted.

- (2) The Senate does not accept the public interest immunity claim made by the Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry in relation to the order for production of documents number 449 and requires the minister to table documents in full compliance with order for the production of documents number 449 **by the commencement of business on 13 September 2017**.
- (3) If the Minister does not comply with this order for the production of documents by the specified time, the Senate **requires the Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry to attend the Senate at the end of question time on 13 September 2017**, so that any senator may ask for an explanation in connection with this matter, and at the conclusion of the explanation any senator may move without notice a motion to take note of the explanation or any failure to provide an explanation.

Statements made: 12 September 2017 [[Minister McGrath](#), [Senator Xenophon](#)]

Matter debated: 13 September 2017 [first speaker: [Senator Payne](#)]

Defence—Future Frigate project—Terms of request for tender

General business notice of motion: 495

Moved by: Senator Xenophon

Date agreed to: 14 September 2017

- (1) That the Senate notes that:
 - (a) the Government has embarked on a \$35 billion program to provide nine Future Frigates to the Royal Australian Navy;
 - (b) on 31 March 2017, a Request for Tender (RFT) was released by the Department of Defence to three foreign companies which stated that it was the Commonwealth's intention that the successful tenderer will directly manage and supervise the workforce undertaking the shipbuilding work, and that the responsibility for build management and supervision should not be subcontracted in its entirety to a third party entity;
 - (c) the effect of these RFT terms is that Australian shipbuilders ASC Pty Ltd and Austal have been locked out of priming the Frigate Program project and this current plan places Australian shipbuilders in the shadows of new invitee foreign shipyards; noting ASC Shipbuilding has no work on its order books beyond 2019, the Government's approach could have significant impact on the future prospects of the company, and Austal will survive but certainly will not thrive;
 - (d) the current RFT will not serve to create a sovereign shipbuilding capability, but rather have the opposite effect;
 - (e) the Minister for Defence Industry has been quoted in the media stating that advice from the Department of Defence is that changing the RFT to mandate a particular shipbuilder would result in a delay of at least two years; and
 - (f) it is implausible that permitting the fully-established, world-class, Australian shipbuilders ASC Pty Ltd and Austal and their experienced workforce and proven track records would slow down a program that would otherwise require the setting up, from scratch, of a foreign shipbuilder with no current workforce.
- (2) That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry, **by the close of business on 14 September 2017**, a detailed statement from the Minister for Defence Industry justifying his claim made to the media.

[Document](#) received: 18 September 2017

Community Affairs References Committee—Price regulation associated with the Prostheses List Framework—Government response

General business notice of motion: 503

Moved by: Senator Griff

Date agreed to: 14 September 2017

- (a) That the Senate notes that:
 - (a) the report of the Community Affairs References Committee, *Price regulation associated with the Prostheses List Framework*, was tabled in the Senate on 11 May 2017;

- (b) the price of devices on the Prostheses List has a material impact on health insurance premiums, which have increased by approximately 5.6 per cent each year over the past ten years;
 - (c) prostheses account for 14 per cent of the cost of hospital cover reimbursements, with a flow-on effect to the cost of premiums, as provided in evidence to the inquiry;
 - (d) private health insurers indicated to the inquiry that savings on prostheses would be passed to members through lowered health insurance costs;
 - (e) in February next year, the Minister for Health will announce the average increase in private health insurance premiums, which will take effect in April, based on the applications made by insurers this year;
 - (f) the Government's response to the 16 recommendations made in the report of the Community Affairs References Committee, combined with the prostheses price reductions it has already mandated this year, will help provide direction to private health insurers that may influence the level of premium increase they decide to seek for 2018; and
 - (g) the deadline for private health insurers to make an application to the Minister for Health for the 2018 private health insurance premium round is 10 November 2017.
- (b) That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Health, **by no later than 16 October 2017**, the Government's response to the recommendations of the report of the Community Affairs References Committee, *Price regulation associated with the Prostheses List Framework*.

Document tabled: 14 September 2017

Health—Australian Capital Territory—Pill testing trial

General business notice of motion: 522

Moved by: Senator Di Natale

Date agreed to: 17 October 2017

That the Senate—

(1) Notes:

- (a) the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) government's approval of a trial of pill testing at the Spilt Milk music festival at Commonwealth Park, Canberra on 25 November 2017;
- (b) that the ACT Shadow Attorney-General (Mr Hanson) wrote to the Minister for Local Government and Territories and the Minister for Health (Senator Nash) about the Federal Government's 'anti-drug campaign' highlighting that the Minister can give the National Capital Authority 'general directions as to the performance of its functions; and
- (c) that the pill testing trial at Spilt Milk was subsequently postponed due to requirements for further documentation in untenable timeframes by the National Capital Authority.

(2) Orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for Local Government and Territories, **by no later than 6 pm on 19 October 2017**:

- (a) any response from a government Minister to the correspondence from the ACT Shadow Attorney-General; and
- (b) any documents relating to the pill testing trial at the Spilt Milk festival in the Australian Capital Territory to the National Capital Authority from the Minister for Regional Development, the Attorney-General, the Minister for Health or any other government source in September or October 2017.

Statement made: 17 October 2017

Document tabled: 18 October 2017

Administration—Government procurement—Economic benefit to the economy

General business notice of motion: 525

Moved by: Senators Carr and Xenophon

Date agreed to: 18 October 2017

That—

- (1) The Senate notes that:
 - (a) on 29 June 2017, the Joint Select Committee into Government Procurement tabled its report, *Buying into our Future: Review of amendments to the Commonwealth Procurement Rules*; and
 - (b) among other things, the report found that ‘Economic benefit, in particular, requires explicit definition and weighting to properly assess suppliers claims’.
- (2) There be laid on the table by the Minister for Finance, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 19 October 2017**, a copy of the report commissioned by the Department of Finance entitled, *Template for tender responses regarding economic benefit to the Australian economy*.

Document tabled: 18 October 2017

Industry—National Energy Guarantee

General business notice of motion: 536

Moved by: Senator Di Natale

Date agreed to: 18 October 2017

That—

- (a) the Senate notes the Government’s claims that its National Energy Guarantee will reduce household bills by an average of \$110 to \$115 per year over the period between 2020 to 2030; and
- (b) there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Energy, **by no later than 12.45 pm on 19 October 2017**, documents and detailed modelling that support the Government’s claims of a reduction in household energy bills.

Statement made: 18 October 2017

Document tabled: 19 October 2017

Industrial relations— Australian Workers’ Union—Registered Organisations Commission investigation

General business notice of motion: 553

Moved by: Senator Cameron

Date agreed to: 14 November 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Employment, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 27 November 2017**, the following documents:

- (a) all emails and messages, including text messages and messages sent on any instant messaging service or application, between any employee of the Minister’s office and any employee of the Prime Minister’s office between 9 am on 23 October 2017 and 30 October 2017 which refer or relate to:
 - (i) the Registered Organisations Commission (ROC) investigation into the Australian Workers’ Union (AWU), or
 - (ii) the execution of a search warrant on AWU premises in relation to the ROC investigation, or
 - (iii) media presence at the execution of a search warrant on AWU premises in relation to the ROC investigation, or
 - (iv) the allegation that the Minister’s office tipped-off the media that the search warrant was to be executed, or
 - (v) the decision, on or about 27 October 2017, that the person employed as Fair Work Ombudsman Director of Media would not take up a position in the Minister’s office;
- (b) all correspondence received by the Minister or her office from the Registered Organisations Commissioner or his office relating to any:

- (i) inquiry, or
 - (ii) investigation, or
 - (iii) 'Matter under assessment', or
 - (iv) the opening of a file,
- including, but not limited to, any matter related to any registered organisation or in relation to any police investigation into the possible leak of the raid of the AWU offices;
- (c) all correspondence received by the Minister or her office from the Fair Work Commission General Manager or their office relating to any:
 - (i) inquiry, or
 - (ii) investigation, or
 - (iii) 'Matter under assessment'; or
 - (iv) the opening of a file,
 including, but not limited to, any matter related to any registered organisation; and
 - (d) phone records, including phone numbers, time and date of call, and duration of call, for each of the following people between 20 October 2017 and 30 October 2017:
 - (i) the Minister for Employment,
 - (ii) the Minister's Chief of Staff,
 - (iii) the Minister's Senior Media Adviser,
 - (iv) the Minister's Junior Media Adviser(s), and
 - (v) the Minister's Adviser with responsibility for matters relating to the Registered Organisations Commission.

Document tabled: 28 November 2017

Industrial relations— Australian Workers' Union—Registered Organisations Commission investigation

General business notice of motion: 554

Moved by: Senator Cameron

Date agreed to: 14 November 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Employment, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 16 November 2017**, the following documents:

- (a) all emails and messages, including text messages and messages sent on any instant messaging service or application, between the Minister and any staff member employed in her ministerial or electorate office between 9 am on 23 October 2017 and 11 pm on 27 October 2017, which refer or relate to:
 - (i) the Registered Organisations Commission (ROC) investigation into the Australian Workers' Union (AWU),
 - (ii) the execution of a search warrant on AWU premises in relation to the ROC investigation,
 - (iii) media presence at the execution of the search warrant,
 - (iv) the allegation and subsequent admission that the Minister's office tipped-off the media that the search warrant was to be executed, and
 - (v) the decision that the person employed as Fair Work Ombudsman Director of Media would not take up a position in the Minister's office;
- (b) all emails and messages, including text messages and messages sent on any instant messaging service or application, between any employee of the Minister's office and the person employed as Fair Work Ombudsman Director of Media between 9 am on 23 October 2017 and 30 October 2017 which refer or relate to:
 - (i) the ROC investigation into the AWU,
 - (ii) the execution of a search warrant on AWU premises in relation to the ROC investigation,
 - (iii) media presence at the execution a search warrant on AWU premises in relation to the ROC investigation,
 - (iv) the allegation that the Minister's office tipped-off the media that the search warrant was to be executed, and
 - (v) the decision, on or about 27 October 2017, that the person employed as Fair Work Ombudsman Director of Media would not take up a position in the Minister's office;

- (c) all emails and messages, including text messages and messages sent on any instant messaging service or application, between the Minister's Senior Media Advisor and any person other than the Minister or an employee of the Minister, on 24 October 2017, 25 October 2017 and 26 October 2017 which refer or relate to the execution of a warrant obtained by the ROC to search offices of the AWU;
- (d) all emails, file notes, memos and forms held by the Minister's office or the Fair Work Ombudsman which relate to:
 - (i) the resignation or termination of employment on 26 October 2017 of the person employed on that date as the Minister's Senior Media Advisor,
 - (ii) all advertisements, wherever circulated, of job vacancies in the senator's ministerial office between 1 August 2017 and 27 October 2017,
 - (iii) any offer of employment in the Minister's office which had been made, prior to 26 October 2017, to the person then employed as the Fair Work Ombudsman Director of Media, and
 - (iv) the decision, on or about 27 October 2017, that the person employed as Fair Work Ombudsman Director of Media would not take up a position in the Minister's office; and
- (e) any question time briefs, or draft question time briefs created between 20 October 2017 and 26 October 2017 relating to the ROC, the AWU, or the execution of a warrant on the Victorian and National Office of the Australian Workers' Union.

Document tabled: 16 November 2017

Adani Carmichael mine

General business notice of motion: 558

Moved by: Senator Di Natale

Date agreed to: 14 November 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes Senator Brandis' comments to the Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Legislation Committee on 26 October 2017, in relation to the Adani Group's Carmichael mine, that "the Australian Government has written to the Government of China to confirm that the project has received all necessary Queensland State Government and Australian Government environmental and mining approvals"; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, **by no later than 12.45 pm on 15 November 2017**, any correspondence from the Australian Government to foreign governments or their agencies in relation to the Adani coal mine or its infrastructure, including the letter from the then-Deputy Prime Minister (Mr Joyce), and the Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment (Mr Ciobo) to the Chinese National Development and Reform Commission.

Document tabled: 15 November 2017

Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility—Master facility agreements

General business notice of motion: 564

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 15 November 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) prior to providing funding through the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility, the Federal Government must agree to Master Facility Agreements with the Governments of Queensland, Western Australia and the Northern Territory,
 - (ii) the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia (Senator Canavan) indicated, in response to an estimates question on 1 June 2017, that he intended to release the Master Facility Agreements once they had all been signed, and
 - (iii) the final Master Facility Agreement was signed by the Federal Government and the Western Australian State Government on 3 November 2017; and

- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, **by no later than 12.45 pm on 16 November 2017**, copies of the Master Facility Agreements agreed between the Federal Government and the Governments of Queensland, Western Australia and the Northern Territory.

Statement made: 15 November 2017

Documents tabled: [16 November 2017](#); **documents received:** [18 December 2017](#)

Murray-Darling Basin Plan—Water purchases

General business notice of motion: 579

Moved by: Senator Patrick

Date agreed to: 16 November 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) the Murray-Darling river system is a national resource,
 - (ii) the aim of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan, agreed to in 2012, is to ensure that water is shared between all users, including the environment, in a sustainable way,
 - (iii) it is important that the plan is executed effectively and with financial responsibility,
 - (iv) on 26 October 2017, the *Guardian* revealed that the Government had purchased 22 mega litres of water at a price of \$78M in circumstances where there were independent valuations for the same water of \$24.8 million (an Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences valuation) and \$38 million (Herron Todd White valuation), and
 - (v) the Senate has an obligation to inform itself as to whether taxpayers' money being spent on the Murray-Darling Basin Plan is being spent efficiently and effectively; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by the start of business on 28 November 2017**:
- (vi) all decisions and associated decision reasoning for all purchases of water across the Basin from 1 January 2017, and
 - (vii) all valuations/assessments in the Government's possession related to each of these purchases, including independent valuations/ assessments.

Document tabled: 12 February 2018

Document received: 26 October 2018

Document received: 15 December 2020

Royal Australian Navy and its Saudi Arabian counterpart—joint training exercise

General business notice of motion: 585

Moved by: Senator Whish-Wilson

Date agreed to: 27 November 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes ABC media reports on 15 November 2017, referring to Operation Manitou and the fact that, on 14 August 2017, the Royal Australian Navy conducted a training exercise with its Saudi Arabian counterpart in the Red Sea;
- (b) further notes that Saudi Arabia is currently enforcing a naval blockade of Yemen, which has led to widespread food shortages; and

- (c) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for Defence, **by no later than 12.45 pm on 29 November 2017**, any documents relating to the joint training exercise between the Royal Australian Navy and its Saudi Arabian counterpart on 14 August 2017.

Document tabled: 29 November 2017

Document received: 20 December 2017

Department of Human Services—Data breach

General business notice of motion: 610

Moved by: Senator Di Natale

Date agreed to: 29 November 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) on 3 July 2017, *The Guardian Australia* broke the story that private Medicare numbers were being illegally sold on the dark web,
 - (ii) the Minister for Human Services stated that both he and his department had only been made aware of the breach when *The Guardian* contacted them on 3 July 2017,
 - (iii) on 15 September 2017, the Finance and Public Administration References Committee questioned the Department of Human Services during the inquiry into this breach, at which time the department failed to mention any early knowledge about the breach, and
 - (iv) on 21 November 2017, it was revealed by *The New Daily* that heavily redacted FOI documents show that officers of the Department of Human Services were aware of the breach 11 days prior to *The Guardian* story's publication; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services, **by no later than 6.30 pm on 4 December 2017**:
- (i) any advice provided to the Minister by the Department of Human Services relating to the breach, prior to 3 July 2017,
 - (ii) any documents relating to the breach from the Department of Human Services, prior to 3 July 2017, and
 - (iii) any related documents.

Document tabled: 4 December 2017

Environment and Communications References Committee—Australia's video game development industry—Government response

General business notice of motion: 640

Moved by: Senators Steele-John and O'Neill

Date agreed to: 5 December 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
- (i) the unanimous findings of the Environment and Communications References Committee report, *Game on: more than playing around – The future of Australia's video game development industry*, received on 29 April 2016,
 - (ii) the absence of any government response to the findings of this inquiry, and
 - (iii) that, on 25 May 2017, the Minister for Communications (Senator Fifield) and the Deputy Secretary of the Department of Communications and the Arts (Mr Richard Eccles) stated at the Budget estimates hearing, in response to questioning by Senator Ludlam, that a finalised draft response to this inquiry has been submitted to the Government for consideration,
 - (iv) on 24 October 2017, the Minister for Communications (Senator Fifield) stated at supplementary Budget estimates, in response to questioning by Senator Urquhart, that processes for a whole-of-government response were ongoing and included his input; and

- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for Communications, **by no later than 3 pm on 6 December 2017**, a copy of the government response to this report.

Document tabled: 6 December 2017

Document received: 31 January 2018

Mr Don Burke—Social media contact with minister

General business notice of motion: 642

Moved by: Senator Hanson-Young

Date agreed to: 6 December 2017

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, by no later than 6.30 pm on 7 December 2017:

- (a) any documents produced by, with, or featuring celebrity gardener Mr Burke from 1 November 2016,
- (b) any advice provided to the Minister by the Department relating to social media featuring Mr Burke since 1 November 2016 and prior to 4 December 2017,
- (c) any documents relating to social media featuring the Minister and Mr Burke since 1 November 2016 and prior to 4 December 2017, and
- (d) any related documents.

Statements made: 6 December 2017 [[first speaker](#)]

Document received: 13 December 2017

South Australia—Radioactive waste management facility, Kimba

General business notice of motion: 643

Moved by: Senator Patrick

Date agreed to: 6 December 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) in 2015, the Government commenced consultation with the local community of Kimba in South Australia on whether the town might host a radioactive waste management facility, in order to ascertain if there was 'broad community support',
 - (ii) in an early 2016 vote on the issue, the community was shown to be split down the middle – 51 per cent in favour to 49 per cent against,
 - (iii) a late 2016 vote was then held, where the numbers changed slightly to 56 per cent in favour to 41 per cent against,
 - (iv) on 22 March 2017, the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, responding to a question from then Senator Xenophon on the meaning of 'broad community support', advised the Senate that the Government had taken a proposal forward in the Hawker region in South Australia where support was at 65 per cent,
 - (v) the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia further advised that, while the Government has not put a definitive figure on what constitutes 'broad community support', the Government would need a figure in the range of the support received in Hawker,
 - (vi) Kimba voted a third time in July this year, with a total of 88 per cent of the community voting – the results have come in at 57 per cent for and 43 per cent against,
 - (vii) at no stage has the 65 per cent 'broad community support' criteria the Government set itself been reached, and
 - (viii) on 27 June 2017, the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia announced that two proposed sites for a radioactive waste management facility at Kimba will proceed to the next phase of assessment; and

- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia, by no later than 3.30 pm on 7 December 2017, a definition of the decision criteria 'broad community support' and all information used by him to determine that proceeding to the next phase of assessment for the two proposed sites for a radioactive waste management facility at Kimba had 'broad community support'.

Statements made: 6 December 2017 [[first speaker](#)]

Document received: 8 December 2017

Ms Sally Zou—Donations made to the Liberal Party of Australia and state branches

General business notice of motion: 654

Moved by: Senator Hanson-Young

Date agreed to: 6 December 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes comments made, on 5 December 2017, by the Acting Special Minister of State (Senator Cormann) that the current regulatory regime surrounding foreign donations risks the "inappropriate foreign interference in our democratic system"; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Acting Special Minister of State, **by no later than 6.30 pm on 7 December 2017**, documents relating to all donations to the Liberal Party of Australia and state branches, made between 1 January 2015 and 5 December 2017, by Chinese national Ms Sally Zou or by entities owned or operated by her.

Statement made: 6 December 2017

Document tabled: 6 December 2017

Asylum seekers—Construction of West Lorengau Haus

General business notice of motion: 662

Moved by: Senators Griff and McKim

Date agreed to: 7 December 2017

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) the Manus Island Regional Processing Centre was formally shutdown on 31 October 2017,
 - (ii) more than 600 men refused to leave the centre, for reasons including fears for their safety, and were forcibly removed on 24 November 2017,
 - (iii) the detainees were transferred to the expanded East Lorengau Refugee Transit Centre and West Lorengau Haus, with non-refugees housed at Hillside Haus,
 - (iv) from the time of the processing centre's closure, until at least 17 November 2017, a number of media reports, photographs and eyewitness accounts indicated the accommodation at West Lorengau Haus – meant to house up to 300 men – was still incomplete, and
 - (v) according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and media reports, West Lorengau Haus had intermittent power and water and incomplete security fencing up to mid-November;
- (b) further notes that:
- (i) during supplementary Budget estimates in October 2017, the Department of Immigration and Border Protection advised that the Government's contract with the International Health and Medical Services (IHMS) would be extended to 28 February 2018,
 - (ii) refugee advocates have raised concerns about what appears to be a reduced level of medical and health services provided to detainees during this transition period,
 - (iii) the Australian Medical Association has asked the Government to allow its doctors to treat detainees on the island, but its offer has been rejected by the Government, and

- (iv) Médecins Sans Frontières (Doctors Without Borders) has also called for access to the men in the transit centres, expressing concern the medical and psychological needs of the men are not being met; and
- (c) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, **by 9 am on 20 December 2017**:
 - (i) any correspondence with contractors, reports, memos or photographs relating to the progress of the construction of West Lorengau Haus accommodation, fencing and essential services, made since 1 October 2017 until 6 December 2017,
 - (ii) any correspondence between the Department of Immigration and Border Protection and its contractors seeking extensions of time or budget to deliver the accommodation, security or essential services at West Lorengau Haus, or regarding difficulties in providing agreed services,
 - (iii) the parts of any existing contract, MOU, letter of intent or agreement made with IHMS, with regard to the health and medical services to be provided to detainees, including the type of services to be provided, the specialities (such as psychiatric, general practice, counselling, etc) to be made available at each of the three facilities and the number of practitioners within each, provision of medication, hours to be worked, and the range and limits of responsibilities to be exercised by practitioners,
 - (iv) any variations, in respect of paragraph (c)(iii), to the previous contract or agreement,
 - (v) the parts of any existing contract, MOU, letter of intent, memo or agreement made with Palladin, with regard to the services to be provided, the timeframes in which they are to be provided, obligations on staff, and any requirement or prohibition on using or allowing access to external service providers (such as MSF),
 - (vi) any variations, in respect of paragraph (c)(v), to the previous contract or agreements,
 - (vii) the parts of any existing contract, MOU, letter of intent, memo or agreement made with the following providers, with regard to the range and quality of services to be provided, the timeframes in which they are to be provided, any requirement or prohibition to use local subcontractors: JOA Wokman, Toll Group and NKW, and
 - (viii) any variations, in respect of paragraph (c)(vii), to previous contracts or agreements.

Statement made: 7 December 2017

Document received: 17 January 2018

2018

Defence—Future Frigate project—Tender documentation—Compliance with Senate order nos 432 and 449

General business notice of motion: 667

Moved by: Senators Patrick and Carr

Date agreed to: 6 February 2018

- (1) The Senate notes that:
 - (a) on 4 September 2017, the Senate agreed to an order for production of documents directed at the Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry for all unclassified portions of the Future Frigate tender documentation set;
 - (b) on 5 September 2017, the Senate agreed to an order for production of documents directed at the Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry for, amongst other things, any other documentation held by the Future Frigate project that discusses Australian Industry Capability the partnering or use of Australian shipyards, and how Techport and other Australian facilities might be used in the program;
 - (c) on 7 September 2017, the Minister tabled a letter in response to both orders for production claiming public interest immunity, and stated that release of such documents would potentially damage national security, damage international relations and adversely affect the Department of Defence's negotiation position in respect of future contracts;

- (d) on 12 September 2017, the Senate declared that it did not accept the minister's public interest immunity claim, and required either full compliance with the orders for production or that the minister attend the Senate at the end of question time on 13 September 2017 to provide the Senate with further explanation;
 - (e) on 13 September 2017, the minister gave a further explanation to the Senate claiming that release of the documents during an active tender would affect commercial arrangements that are able to be achieved during negotiations with any successful tenderer, damage national security, defence damage international relations; and
 - (f) on 25 January 2018, the Department of Defence released 292 pages of the Future Frigate Program in full to former Senator Xenophon – the public interest immunity claims asserted by the minister, were, in her own department's view, mistaken.
- (2) Orders for the production of documents are a key Senate tool used to ensure effective oversight of Government and must be responded to by ministers with utmost consideration, care and accuracy.
 - (3) The Senate requires the minister to table documents in full compliance with orders for the production of documents nos 432 and 449 **by the commencement of business on 12 February 2018**.
 - (4) That the Minister for Defence be required to attend the Senate at **9.30 am on 8 February 2018** to make a statement of not more than 20 minutes, addressing why the Senate should accept the minister's explanation as to why she made written and verbal claims to the Senate that her own Department has found unsustainable.
 - (5) That any senator may move a motion to take note of the minister's statement and any such motion may be debated for no longer than 1 hour, and have precedence over all other government business until determined.

Document tabled: 12 February 2018

Murray-Darling Basin Authority—Adjustment mechanism projects— Assessments

General business notice of motion: 685

Moved by: Senator Patrick

Date agreed to: 7 February 2018

That—

- (1) The Senate notes that:
 - (a) the Sustainable Diversion Limit Adjustment Assessment Committee (SDLAAC) plays an important role in assessing and advising the Basin Officials Committee (BOC) on proposed measures which may provide an opportunity to adjust Sustainable Diversion Limits (SDL);
 - (b) the SDLAAC also advises the BOC on constraint measures which remove or ease constraints on the capacity to deliver environmental water;
 - (c) in June 2017, the BOC endorsed a package of 36 measures to be included for modelling assessment of SDL adjustment contribution; and
 - (d) in order to make a considered decision on any changes to the SDL, the Senate requires access to the assessments of the 36 adjustment mechanism projects.
- (2) There be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 15 February 2018**, all assessments of the 36 adjustment mechanism projects completed by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA), including all individual proposal assessment information given to SDLAAC or BOC by the MDBA to inform their decision to support or not support an SDL adjustment or constraints proposal.

Document tabled: 22 March 2018

Asylum seekers—West Lorengau Haus—Compliance

General business notice of motion: 698

Moved by: Senators Griff and Patrick

Date agreed to: 8 February 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) on 7 December 2017, the Senate passed a motion for an order for the production of documents (OPD) relating to correspondence between the Commonwealth and its Australian contractors on Papua New Guinea's Manus Island, and
 - (ii) the OPD related to parts of contracts, correspondence, reports, memos or photographs relating to accommodation and services being delivered at West Lorengau;
- (b) further notes that:
 - (i) the documents were sought following concerns expressed by advocates and eyewitnesses regarding the standards of accommodation at West Lorengau, including incomplete fencing and plumbing, intermittent power and water, and the sufficiency of the health and other services being delivered, particularly as compared to previous services delivered at the Manus Island regional processing centre,
 - (ii) according to the UNHCR's fact sheet on Manus Island, updated on 21 January 2018, many of these concerns are ongoing,
 - (iii) on 17 January 2018, the then-Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs and the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection (Senator Birmingham) released a two-page response from the Minister for Home Affairs (Mr Dutton), but no documents were returned, and
 - (iv) the response stated that the release of the documents would be contrary to the public interest, and "should be done on the grounds that the disclosure could be reasonably expected to cause damage to Australia's international relations with PNG";
- (c) acknowledges the question of what constitutes a reasonable expectation of damage to international relations has been the subject of proceedings in the Federal Court, specifically in *Secretary, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade v Paul Whittaker (2005)*, where the court stated that "Damage to international relations might reasonably be expected where the disclosure of a document may disclose sensitive information so as to cause, or reasonably be expected to cause, actual and significant damage...the test is not whether there is a risk of damage to international relations; the test requires a higher degree of certainty of damage";
- (d) does not accept that the order for the production of documents made on 7 December 2017 has been adequately dealt with, insofar as the material requested would, by necessity, include a range of information that has no bearing on Australia's relationship with Papua New Guinea;
- (e) does not accept that public interest immunity has been appropriately advanced, and calls on the Minister to review the nature of the documents ordered on 7 December 2017, and apply a higher test of real risk rather than hypothesised risk; and
- (f) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Home Affairs and the Minister for Immigration and Border Protection, **by 9 am on 19 March 2018**, any correspondence requested on 7 December 2017 which meets the proper test.

Statement made: 8 February 2018

Document tabled: 19 March 2018

Future Submarine Project—Australian Industry Capability Plan

General business notice of motion: 700

Moved by: Senator Patrick

Date agreed to: 12 February 2018

That—

- (1) The Senate notes that:
 - (a) in April 2016, former Australian CEO of Future Submarine designer DCNS (now known as Naval Group), Mr Sean Costello, stated to the media that “over 90 per cent” of the \$50 billion submarine build would take place in Australia;
 - (b) shortly after, the Minister for Defence Industry (Mr Pyne) reiterated those comments on ABC’s Q&A program;
 - (c) in June 2017, Mr Brent Clark, CEO of DCNS Australia, told a Senate committee that “an aim point of greater than 60 per cent would be something that [DCNS] would aim for”;
 - (d) in October 2017, it was reported by Fairfax media that the Minister made public comments at the Pacific 2017 Naval Conference clarifying the definition of a local build to be 60 per cent, and confirming that at least 60 per cent of the work on the submarines would be done by Australian firms;
 - (e) in February 2018, Mr Costello confirmed that the 90 per cent build figure “absolutely” went into the tender response presented to the Australian Government, “down to the percentile” and it is reasonable to presume that this 90 per cent build figure would have influenced the Australian Government’s decision to award the contract to DCNS;
 - (f) the level of Australian industry involvement and local content in the Future Submarine Project is critical to Australia’s defence industry, Australian jobs, and the economic benefit that the Future Submarine Project brings; and
 - (g) there needs to be clarity on the minimum level of Australian industry involvement in the Future Submarine Project.
- (2) There be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 14 February 2018**, the Australian Industry Capability Plan submitted by DCNS to the Department of Defence in its response to the Future Submarine Competitive Evaluation Process (CEP).

Statements made: 12 February 2018 [[Senator Patrick](#), [Minister McGrath](#)]

Document tabled: 15 February 2018

Rotation of senators—Section 13 of the Constitution

Government business notice of motion: 1

Moved by: Minister for Education and Training (Senator Birmingham)

Date agreed to: 13 February 2018

That—

- (a) as soon as practicable, after the High Court orders a special count of the ballots from the 2016 Senate election for any state and makes an order declaring that a person identified by that count is duly elected as a senator for that state, there be laid on the table a copy of the statement of results report for that count; and

- (b) if such a report is tabled, in relation to any state, then the order of the Senate of 31 August 2016, made pursuant to section 13 of the Constitution, have effect in relation to senators from that state as if a reference to the certificate of election were a reference to the most recent statement of results report.

Statements made: 13 February 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

[Document](#) received: 21 February 2018

Murray-Darling Basin Plan—Northern Basin Review

General business notice of motion: 708

Moved by: Senator Hanson-Young

Date agreed to: 13 February 2018

That—

- (1) The Senate notes that:
 - (a) reports of allegations of water theft, corruption and bureaucratic misadministration have been a blow to community confidence that the Basin Plan is on track;
 - (b) in his first speech in 2016, the current Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources argued that “The balance [of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan] has been weighted disproportionately, without an understanding of the social and economic impacts on our communities”;
 - (c) the former Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, in a leaked recording, said to a group of NSW irrigators, regarding the merging of the portfolios of agriculture and water resources, “We’ve taken water and put it back into agriculture so we can look after you and make sure we don’t have the greenies running the show basically sending you out the back door”;
 - (d) downstream communities, such as those in South Australia, rely on upstream users to do the right thing and for the rules to be applied without favour to any one group; and
 - (e) the wisdom of this reliance is jeopardised when allegations of theft and corruption are not adequately addressed.
- (2) There be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by 6.30 pm on 13 February 2018:**
 - (a) any correspondence received by the Chief Executive of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority, or representatives thereof, from the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, or representatives thereof, between 1 November 2017 and 12 February 2018;
 - (b) any internal and external correspondence, reports (including drafts), presentations (including drafts) regarding the Northern Basin Review between 17 November 2016 and 24 November 2016, between:
 - (i) members of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority board,
 - (ii) the Murray-Darling Basin Authority,
 - (iii) the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources,
 - (iv) the office of the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources,
 - (v) the office of the Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, and
 - (vi) the office of the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder.

[Statement](#) made: 13 February 2018

[Document](#) tabled: 15 February 2018

[Document](#) received: 22 May 2018

National Partnership Agreement on Remote Housing

General business notice of motion: 716

Moved by: Senator Dodson

Date agreed to: 14 February 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes the failure of the Minister for Indigenous Affairs (the Minister) to:
 - (i) provide a clear statement on the future of the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Housing,
 - (ii) detail future plans, for the states of South Australia, Western Australia and Queensland and the Northern Territory, on the available funding for remote housing, and
 - (iii) give a clear account of negotiations with those jurisdictions on future funding arrangements;
- (b) orders that all correspondence between the Minister and his Department and state and territory Ministers, and all correspondence between officials on the National Partnership Agreement on Remote Housing, since the beginning of December 2017, be laid on the table by 5 pm on 15 February 2018;
- (c) requires the Minister to attend the Senate at 12 pm on 20 March 2018 so that, prior to government business being called on, any senator may ask for an explanation for the failure to engage in detailed consultations with the states and territories on remote housing; and
- (d) resolves that:
 - (i) in the event that the Minister provides an explanation, any senator may, at the conclusion of the explanation, move without notice—That the Senate take note of the explanation, or
 - (ii) in the event that the Minister does not provide an explanation, any senator may, without notice, move a motion with regard to the Minister's failure to provide an explanation, and
 - (iii) any motion to take note under paragraphs (d) (i) or (ii) have precedence over all other government business for a period of no more than 2 hours.

Statements made: 14 February 2018 [[Senator Dodson](#), [Minister McGrath](#)]

Document tabled: 15 February 2018

Document tabled: 19 March 2018

Matter debated: 20 March 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Federal Circuit Court of Australia and the Family Court of Australia—Funding

General business notice of motion: 733

Moved by: Senators Griff, Pratt, Hanson and Hinch

Date agreed to: 20 March 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes:
 - (i) the failure of the Government to adequately fund the Federal Circuit Court of Australia and the Family Court of Australia,
 - (ii) that the Government's neglect of the Family Court of Australia and the Federal Circuit Court of Australia means that families facing the most serious family law issues can wait up to three years before a final trial,
 - (iii) that the continued failure by the Government to adequately resource the family law system has served to create a snowballing effect, the social and economic cost of which will continue to be felt by the community for years to come,

- (iv) that the Government has failed to consult with the courts and the legal profession to formulate a clear plan for the future,
 - (v) that, in March 2014, a report by KPMG, commissioned by the Attorney-General's Department, into the funding of federal courts was presented to the Government but has still not been released,
 - (vi) that the KPMG report, obtained by *The Australian* in 2014, warned of significant cuts to service and staffing levels potentially leading to increased delays in litigation, the closure of smaller registries and cutbacks to services in regional Australia,
 - (vii) that the warnings in the KPMG report appear to have gone unheeded by the Government,
 - (viii) that, in 2014-15, as part of the response to the KPMG report, the Attorney-General's Department undertook additional work with Ernst & Young to develop costings scenarios involving federal courts, and
 - (ix) that KPMG's comprehensive report confirming the financial crisis facing federal courts and proposing a range of possible solutions, along with the Ernst & Young costings in response to the KPMG report, should be released prior to the Senate voting on the Family Law Amendment (Parenting Management Hearings) Bill 2017; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Attorney-General, **by 9.30 am on 22 March 2018**:
- (i) the KPMG report into the funding of federal courts, and
 - (ii) the Ernst & Young costings in response to the KPMG report.

Statement made: 20 March 2018

Australian Building and Construction Commissioner

General business notice of motion: 751

Moved by: Senator Cameron

Date agreed to: 21 March 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes the claim of public interest immunity grounded on legal professional privilege made by the Minister for Jobs and Innovation in correspondence of 15 February 2018 to the Chair of the Education and Employment Legislation Committee in relation to questions taken on notice by the Minister, the former Department of Employment and the Australian Building and Construction Commission during the 2017-18 supplementary Budget estimates, in relation to the following matters:
 - (i) advice received by the Minister pertaining to the character of the conduct of the former Australian Building and Construction Commissioner relating to his contravention of section 503 of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Question No. EMSQ17- 004346),
 - (ii) documents held by the former Department of Employment in relation to litigation involving the former Australian Building and Construction Commissioner concerning a contravention of section 503 of the *Fair Work Act 2009* (Question No. EMSQ17-004483),
 - (iii) details of telephone conversations between the former Acting Australian Building and Construction Commissioner and the Chief Counsel, Workplace Relations Legal, Department of Employment (Question Nos EMSQ17-004483 and EMSQ17-004485),
 - (iv) documents and details of communications between the Australian Building and Construction Commission and the Minister and her office relating to a claim for legal indemnity made by the former Australian Building and Construction Commissioner (Question No. EMSQ17-004486),
 - (v) issues other than legal advice canvassed in telephone conversations between the former Acting Australian Building and Construction Commissioner (Question No. EMSQ17-004494), and

- (vi) discussions between the former Acting Australian Building and Construction Commissioner and the former Department of Employment pertaining to potential claims for public interest immunity to be made during the course of 2017-18 supplementary Budget estimates (Question Nos EMSQ17-004484 and EMSQ17-004495);
- (b) notes that, on 28 February 2018, the Education and Employment Legislation Committee accepted the Minister's claim of public interest immunity;
- (c) notes that it has never been accepted in the Senate, nor in any comparable representative assembly, that legal professional privilege provides grounds for a refusal of information in a parliamentary forum;
- (d) notes the resolution of the Senate of 11 October 2016, in which, among other things, the Senate affirmed the following principles:
 - (i) there is no general public interest immunity that allows ministers or departments to withhold legal advice, but rather that each claim of public interest immunity is assessable by the Senate and that information of the particular potential harm should be provided to the Senate to make this assessment,
 - (ii) while the Senate may permit claims of public interest immunity to be advanced, it reserves the right to determine whether a particular claim will be accepted, and
 - (iii) Australian courts have acknowledged that for the Parliament to undertake its duties it must be able to require the Executive to produce documents, and that the justification for legal professional privilege does not apply;
- (e) notes that the litigation in Federal Court matter No. NSD 1379 of 2016, involving the former Australian Building and Construction Commissioner has concluded; and
- (f) does not accept the public interest immunity claim made by the Minister for Jobs and Innovation in relation to the matters referred to in paragraph (a), and orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for Jobs and Innovation, **by not later than the conclusion of question time on 26 March 2018**, the advice, documents and details of discussions, communications and conversations requested in the questions taken on notice at the 2017-18 Supplementary Budget estimates by the Minister, the former Department of Employment and the Australian Building and Construction Commission.

Statements made: 21 March 2018 [[Senator McGrath](#); [Senator Patrick](#)]

Document tabled: 28 March 2018

Document tabled: 8 May 2018

Regional Forest Agreements—Forestry Ministers Meetings

General business notice of motion: 756

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 22 March 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by no later than 9.30 am on 28 March 2018**, documents related to Regional Forest Agreements as considered by, or arising from, the Forestry Ministers Meetings held on 14 December 2016 in Melbourne, on 31 March 2017 in Sydney, and on 30 August 2017 in Launceston, and any subsequent meetings, including agendas, minutes, appendices, attachments and documents resulting from actions arising in those meetings.

Document tabled: 28 March 2018

National Health Reform Agreement funding—Queensland

General business notice of motion: 772

Moved by: Senator Chisholm

Date agreed to: 27 March 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Health, **by no later than noon on 28 March 2018**, documents held or prepared by the Department of Health, National Health Funding Administrator, the office of the Minister for Health and/or the office of the Prime Minister:

- (a) listing for each of the years 2014-15, 2015-16, and 2016-17, the amount:
 - (i) remitted by the Commonwealth for block funded public hospital services in Queensland under the National Health Reform Agreement,
 - (ii) remitted by the Commonwealth for activity-based funded public hospital services in Queensland under the National Health Reform Agreement,
 - (iii) remitted by Queensland for block funded public hospital services in Queensland under the National Health Reform Agreement, and
 - (iv) remitted by Queensland for activity-based funded public hospital services in Queensland under the National Health Reform Agreement;
- (b) listing for each of the years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20, the amount projected to be paid by the Commonwealth in respect of public hospital services in Queensland and incorporated in the current budget forward estimates;
- (c) source documentation and data for the information in (a) and (b), including documents disclosing any workings or calculations required to provide the information; and
- (d) documents, including briefing notes, internal memoranda, and emails disclosing evidence for the claim by government members that Queensland reduced public hospital expenditure by \$63.8 million in the 2017-18 state budget.

Statement made: 27 March 2018

Document tabled: 28 March 2018

Federal courts—Funding—Attendance by minister

General business notice of motion: 774

Moved by: Senators Griff, Hanson and Hinch

Date agreed to: 27 March 2018

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
 - (i) on 20 March 2018, the Senate agreed to an order for the production of documents directing that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Attorney-General, by 9.30 am on 22 March 2018:
 - (A) the March 2014 KPMG report into the funding of federal courts, and
 - (B) the Ernst & Young costings in response to the KPMG report, and
 - (ii) to date, the Minister has failed to comply with the order for the production of documents;
- (b) the Senate requires the Minister to **table documents in full compliance with the above order for the production of documents by 5 pm on 27 March 2018**; and

- (c) in the event that the Minister does not table documents in full compliance with the order, the Senate orders that:
- (i) the Minister representing **the Attorney-General is required to attend the Senate at 9.30 am on 28 March 2018** and, prior to government business being called on, to explain why the Minister has not complied with the order of the Senate of 20 March 2018,
 - (ii) in the event that the Minister provides an explanation, any senator may, without notice, move a motion to take note of the Minister's statement,
 - (iii) in the event that the Minister does not provide an explanation, any senator may, without notice, move a motion with regard to the Minister's failure to provide an explanation, and
 - (iv) any motion under paragraph (c)(ii) or (iii) may be debated for no longer than 1 hour, and have precedence over all government business until determined.

Statement made: 27 March 2018

Document tabled: 28 March 2018

Matter debated: 28 March 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Future Submarine Project—Australian Industry Capability Plan—Compliance and attendance by minister

General business notice of motion: 775

Moved by: Senator Patrick

Date agreed to: 27 March 2018

That—

- (1) The Senate notes that:
- (a) on 12 February 2018, the Senate agreed to an order for the production of documents directed at the Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry, for the Australian Industry Capability Plan submitted by DCNS (now Naval Group) to the Department of Defence in its response to the Future Submarine Competitive Evaluation Process (CEP);
 - (b) the order followed a lack of clarity as to the minimum level of Australian industry involvement expectations of Government for the Future Submarine Project;
 - (c) on 15 February 2018, the duty minister tabled a letter in response to both orders for production claiming public interest immunity and stated that release of the document would:
 - (i) affect the commercial interests of Naval Group, and
 - (ii) adversely affect Australia's international relations,and advised the Senate that the Government was awaiting the outcome of an Information Commissioner Review into freedom of information (FOI) exemptions claimed over the same document;
 - (d) it was conceded by government in 1992, that the fact that a freedom of information request for information has been or could be refused under the FOI Act is not a legitimate basis for a claim of public interest immunity in a parliamentary forum;
 - (e) on 25 June 2014, the Senate passed a resolution declaring that declining to provide documents or answer questions on the basis that an FOI request has been made for the same information is an unacceptable response, is not supported by the FOI Act and shows a profound lack of respect for the Senate and its committees;
 - (f) a Senate claim of commercial confidentiality must be carefully advanced and claimed narrowly so as to recognise the public interest that lies in openness and transparency on this very important project;

- (g) the claim that the release of the documents will affect international relations is not properly made out and is flawed (and has not even been advanced by the Department of Defence as a concern in the Information Commissioner Review) because the document which is the subject of the order is a document of a French-law Public Limited Company, not a document of the French State; and
 - (h) orders for the production of documents are a key Senate tool used to ensure effective oversight of Government, and must be responded to by Ministers with utmost consideration, care and accuracy.
- (2) The Minister for Defence **be required to attend the Senate at the conclusion of question time on 10 May 2018 to make a statement**, of not more than 20 minutes, addressing why the Minister:
- (a) has advanced a claim showing a profound lack of respect for the Senate;
 - (b) offered a broad confidentiality claim that does not correctly balance the public interest in knowing what DCNS promised, in respect of Australian industry involvement in our largest ever Defence project; and
 - (c) has advanced a claim that releasing the document to the Senate would affect Australia's international relations knowing that this claim is inconsistent with the position of her own Department.
- (3) Any senator may move a motion to take note of the Minister's statement, and any such motion may be debated for no longer than 1 hour, and have precedence over all other government business until determined.

Statements made: 27 March 2018 [[Senator McGrath](#); [Senator Patrick](#); [Senator Whish-Wilson](#)]

Matter debated: 10 May 2018 [first speaker: [Minister Payne](#)]

Document tabled: 10 May 2018

Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority digital strategy

General business notice of motion: 785

Moved by: Senator Brown

Date agreed to: 28 March 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Finance, **by no later than 5 pm on 28 March 2018:**

- (a) all correspondence between the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources relating to the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) Digital Strategy; and
- (b) a copy of the APVMA Digital Strategy.

Document tabled: 28 March 2018

National Broadband Network

General business notice of motion: 793

Moved by: Senator Urquhart

Date agreed to: 9 May 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) in its response to question on notice no. 197 from the October supplementary estimates, NBN Co provided breakdowns on the number of premises expected to be ready for service in each state by 2020, broken down by technology type, as well as the number of premises expected to be in design and construction in each state by 2020, broken down by technology type,

- (ii) the Senate asked for an update to this information as question on notice no. 145 at the 2018 additional estimates hearings,
 - (iii) NBN Co responded to question on notice no. 145 with reference only to its response to question on notice no. 197 from the 2017-18 supplementary Budget estimates and to other public documents that do not contain the specific information sought,
 - (iv) the Senate sought a clarification of NBN Co's response to question on notice no. 145 on 24 April 2018 and requested a response by 4 May 2018, and
 - (v) the NBN Co response has not been received; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for Communications, **by 9.30 am on 10 May 2018**, an updated response with information current to 13 March 2018.

Document received: 14 May 2018

Murray-Darling Basin Authority—Adjustment mechanism projects

General business notice of motion: 798

Moved by: Senator Patrick

Date agreed to: 9 May 2018

That—

- (1) The Senate notes that:
- (a) on 7 February 2018, the Senate agreed to an order for the production of documents concerning all assessments of the 36 adjustment mechanism projects completed by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA);
 - (b) on 22 March 2018, the Minister for Resources and Northern Australia (Senator Canavan) tabled documents within the scope of the order in full; and
 - (c) on 23 March 2018, the MDBA wrote to Senator Patrick advising that the documents they had provided do not, in isolation, provide a good representation of how the final agreed package of projects was put together by jurisdictions, and the strength of the assessment process undergone by all proposals brought forward by Basin states, but advised that there was a final modelled notified package that included all issues raised by jurisdictions in their assessments.
- (2) There be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 15 May 2018:**
- (a) the final modelled notified package for all adjustment mechanism projects; and
 - (b) the current project status of all adjustment mechanism projects.

Statement made: 9 May 2018

Document received: 4 June 2018

Document tabled: 27 June 2018

Overseas departmental and agency staff

General business notice of motion: 803

Moved by: Senator Wong

Date agreed to: 9 May 2018

That there be laid on the table, **by no later than 11.45 am on 10 May 2018**, outstanding answers to the questions on notice listed, relating to department or agency staff based overseas, asked of the following ministers:

- (a) Senator Cormann, Minister representing the Prime Minister, question on notice no. 698;

- (b) Senator Payne:
 - (i) Minister for Defence, question on notice no. 710,
 - (ii) Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry, question on notice no. 723, and
 - (iii) Minister representing the Minister for Defence Personnel, question on notice no. 728; and
- (c) Senator Cash, Minister representing the Attorney-General, question on notice no. 702.

Statement made: 9 May 2018

Document tabled: 10 May 2018

Questions on notice— Minister representing the Prime Minister—Answers

General business notice of motion: 804

Moved by: Senator Wong

Date agreed to: 9 May 2018

That there be laid on the table, **by no later than 11.45 am on 10 May 2018**, outstanding answers to the 23 questions on notice listed, asked of the Minister representing the Prime Minister (Senator Cormann):

- (a) nos 358, 359, 360, 361, 362 and 363 (asked on 10 February 2017);
- (b) no. 473 (asked on 5 May 2017);
- (c) nos 502, 503 and 506 (asked on 17 July 2017);
- (d) nos 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585 and 586 (asked on 30 October 2017); and
- (e) nos 690, 691 and 692 (asked on 5 February 2018).

Statement made: 9 May 2018

Document tabled: 10 May 2018

2017-18 additional estimates—Unanswered questions on notice

General business notice of motion: 811

Moved by: Senator Collins

Date agreed to: 9 May 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Cormann), **by no later than 11.45 am on 10 May 2018**, all outstanding answers to questions on notice as at 26 April 2018 from the 2017-18 additional estimates hearings in the following portfolios:

- (a) Health (141 answers);
- (b) Human Services (16 answers);
- (c) Jobs and Innovation (Industry, Innovation and Science), in which no questions have been answered (91 answers);
- (d) Treasury (48 answers);
- (e) Education and Training (118 answers);
- (f) Jobs and Innovation (Jobs and Small Business) (73 answers);
- (g) Environment and Energy (126 answers);
- (h) Prime Minister and Cabinet (including cross portfolio Indigenous matters and agencies) (74 answers);
- (i) Defence, including Veterans' Affairs (60 answers);

- (j) Agriculture and Water Resources (including cross portfolio Murray-Darling Basin Plan matters), in which no questions have been answered (212 answers); and
- (k) Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities, in which no questions have been answered (128 answers).

Statement made: 9 May 2018

Document tabled: 10 May 2018

Genetic Control of Invasive Rodents Program—Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation involvement

General business notice of motion: 812

Moved by: Senator Bartlett

Date agreed to: 10 May 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Assistant Minister for Science, Jobs and Innovation, **by no later than 10 am on 5 June 2018:**

- (a) all documents relating to Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation's (CSIRO) involvement in the Genetic Control of Invasive Rodents Program (GBIRD), except those documents that are already public documents;
- (b) all correspondence between CSIRO staff and the Australian Academy of Science regarding its report on gene drives; and
- (c) all documents relating to CSIRO's Australian Stakeholder/Community/Public Engagement Plan on synthetic biology.

Document received: 4 June 2018

Thalidomide—Australian survivors—Government responsibility

General business notice of motion: 837

Moved by: Senator Steele-John

Date agreed to: 19 June 2018

(a) the Senate notes that:

- (i) in May 2016, Maddocks Lawyers completed a report for the then Minister for Health, Ms Ley, and the Department of Health in relation to the Australian survivors of thalidomide, focusing on the relationship and responsibility of the Australian Government towards these survivors,
- (ii) in October 2016, Thalidomide Group Australia submitted an application to the Department of Health seeking access to this report under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982*, and
- (iii) in November 2016, the Department of Health refused access to this document to Thalidomide Group Australia, citing that the document is subject to legal professional privilege; and

(b) there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Health, **by no later than 3 pm on 20 June 2018**, a copy of the report prepared by Maddocks Lawyers for former Minister Ley and the Department of Health in May 2016.

Statements made: 19 June 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Document tabled: 21 June 2018

Document tabled: 16 August 2018

Great Barrier Reef Foundation

General business notice of motion: 857

Moved by: Senator Carr

Date agreed to: 20 June 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Jobs and Innovation, **by no later than 9.30 am on 27 June 2018**, documents relating to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation generated since 1 July 2017 and held by:

- (a) the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation; and
- (b) the Australian Institute of Marine Science.

Statements made: 27 June 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Documents tabled: 13 August 2018

Future Submarine Project-Final cost estimate template

General business notice of motion: 862

Moved by: Senator Patrick

Date agreed to: 20 June 2018

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
 - (i) in respect of the cost estimates of the Future Submarine Project:
 - (A) the Auditor-General has stated, in the Future Submarine Competitive Evaluation Process (CEP) report, that the Defence White Paper 2009 signalled an approximate spend of \$50 billion dollars on the construction and sustainment of the Future Submarine over its life,
 - (B) the 2016 Defence White Paper Integrated Investment Plan indicated the future submarine design and build would be \$50 billion on an out-turned price basis,
 - (C) on 20 May 2018, Defence gave evidence at Estimates that the future submarine design and build cost will be \$50 billion in constant dollars and, additionally, sustainment costs will be \$50 billion in constant dollars, and
 - (D) on 6 June 2018, the Australian Strategic Policy Institute indicated that the estimates figures used by Defence equated to a design and build cost of \$79 billion and a sustainment costs of \$124 billion in out-turned dollars,
 - (ii) as part of its CEP response DCNS (now Naval Group) provided an estimate of the cost of an all-Australian build of eight pre-concept design submarines and a cost of sustainment over a 40 year period,
 - (iii) the submarine CEP has concluded Naval Group is the strategic partner,
 - (iv) there are no other strategic partner commercial contenders,
 - (v) pricing offered was for a pre-concept design submarine which does not accurately reflect the price of the final design, which will be settled in 2022, and
 - (vi) knowledge of the CEP offered price is a valuable marker for future scrutiny of this vital defence project by the Senate; and

(b) there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Defence Industry, **by no later than 12.30 pm on 26 June 2018**, the following from the Final Cost Estimate Template that DCNS submitted in response to the Future Submarine Competitive Evaluation Process:

- (i) the summary sheet total 'Australian Build Price', and
- (ii) the total sustainment cost from year 1 to year 40 including labour, material and other costs.

Document tabled: 26 June 2018

Further resolution agreed to: 28 June 2018 (no. 919), and **statements made** [\[first speaker\]](#)

Further resolution agreed to: 22 August 2018 (no. 981), and **statements made** [\[first speaker\]](#)

Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder

General business notice of motion: 908

Moved by: Senator Hanson-Young

Date agreed to: 27 June 2018

That there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources (Senator Canavan), **by no later than 8 pm on 28 June 2018**, documents provided as an incoming brief to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, Ms Jody Swirepik.

Document received: 10 July 2018

Minister explanation and matter debated: 17 September 2018

Special purpose flights

General business notice of motion: 915

Moved by: Senator Farrell

Date agreed to: 28 June 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Defence, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 28 June 2018**, the schedule of special purpose flights for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2017.

Statements made: 28 June 2018 [\[first speaker\]](#)

Document tabled: 28 June 2018

Document received: 3 August 2018

National Partnership Agreement on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray-Darling Basin

General business notice of motion: 926

Moved by: Senator Burstson

Date agreed to: 28 June 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources (Senator Canavan), **by no later than 10 am on 20 July 2018**, all documents and correspondence:

- (a) relating to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources 2016-2017 assessment of NSW compliance with the National Partnership Agreement on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray-Darling;

- (b) from the Murray-Darling Basin Authority to the NSW Government or the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources relating to the 2016-2017 assessment of NSW compliance with the National Partnership Agreement on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray-Darling; and
- (c) from the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder to the NSW Government or the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources relating to the 2016-2017 assessment of NSW compliance with the National Partnership Agreement on Implementing Water Reform in the Murray-Darling.

Document tabled: 20 September 2018

National Energy Guarantee

Moved by: Senator Di Natale, by leave

Date agreed to: 13 August 2018

- (1) That the Senate notes the failure of the Energy Security Board and the Commonwealth to release the full modelling for the proposed final design of the National Energy Guarantee.
- (2) That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Energy, **by no later than 9 am on 14 August 2018**, so as to ensure it is available to all members of Parliament to allow party room and caucus consideration of the information provided, a copy of all documents within the Minister's or the Department's possession or control relating to the full modelling of the final design of the National Energy Guarantee conducted by or on behalf of the Energy Security Board.

Document received: 14 August 2018

Financial sector entities—Tax information

General business notice of motion: 937

Moved by: Senator Patrick

Date agreed to: 14 August 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) on 30 May 2018, at an estimates hearing of the Economics Legislation Committee (the Committee), Senator Patrick asked the Australian Tax Office (ATO) whether Goldman Sachs' Australian entities had filed a tax return between 2000 and 2012,
 - (ii) in responding to the Committee, the Commissioner of Taxation submitted that information about identifiable taxpayers is subject to public interest immunity and that tax return lodgement information of the kind sought is "protected information" under taxation confidentiality laws in Division 355 of Schedule 1 to the *Taxation Administration Act 1953*,
 - (iii) this is not an accepted ground of public interest immunity – the Senate derives its inquiry powers directly from the Constitution,
 - (iv) section 355-60 of Schedule 1 to the *Taxation Administration Act 1953* places a legislative restraint on information being disclosed by the ATO to ministers "whether or not provided to a Minister in the course of, or for the purposes of or incidental to, the transacting of the business of a House of the Parliament or of a committee of one or both Houses of the Parliament", however, that provision includes a note that states "This subsection does not limit the operation of section 16 of the *Parliamentary Privileges Act 1987* in any other respect" – that section continues to operate, for example, to enable taxation officers to disclose protected information to a committee of one or both Houses of the Parliament, and
 - (v) in circumstances where a company does not lodge a tax return, they are in breach of the law, and their entitlement to any "unreasonable invasion of privacy" public interest immunity claim is extinguished; and

- (b) orders the Commissioner of Taxation to provide to the Economics Legislation Committee, **by 5 pm on 15 August 2018**, information regarding which financial sector entities that at some stage between 2000 and 2016 had an annual turnover of \$100 million or greater, and any related entities of those financial sector entities regardless of turnover, which:
- (i) did not lodge tax returns during that period, and
 - (ii) did not report nil tax payable during that period.

Statements made: 14 August 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Document tabled: 15 August 2018

Further resolution agreed to: 16 October 2018 (no. 1108); **Document tabled:** 18 October 2018; **Document tabled:** 13 November 2018

Further resolution [2] agreed to: 26 November 2018 (no. 1225) and **statements made:** 26 November 2018 [[first speaker](#)]; **document tabled:** 29 November 2018

Further resolution [3] agreed to: 5 December 2018 (no. 1322) and **statements made** [[first speaker](#)]; **matter debated:** 6 December 2018 [[first speaker](#)]; **document received:** 7 December 2018

Community Development Program—Modelling

General business notice of motion: 951

Moved by: Senator Siewert

Date agreed to: 15 August 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, **by the adjournment on 20 August 2018**, the modelling of the impact of the Targeted Compliance Framework on CDP jobseekers that was undertaken by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet as part of the development of the reforms to the CDP, and the historical data used as part of this modelling, and the regional breakdown of the employment outcomes for CDP for the period 1 July 2015 to 31 May 2018.

Document tabled: 20 August 2018

Great Barrier Reef Foundation—Partnership

General business notice of motion: 954

Moved by: Senator Carr

Date agreed to: 15 August 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Jobs and Innovation, **by no later than 9.30 am on 21 August 2018:**

- (a) documents held by the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science relating to the announcement, establishment and implementation of the partnership with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation; and
- (b) documents held by the Australian Institute of Marine Science (AIMS) relating to the announcement, establishment and implementation of the partnership with the Great Barrier Reef Foundation.

Document tabled: 21 August 2018

Matter debated: 22 August 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Document tabled: 10 September 2018

Documents tabled: 20 September 2018 ([Department of Industry, Innovation and Science](#); [Australian Institute of Marine Science](#))

Murray-Darling Basin Plan—*Water Act 2007* and the Basin Plan

General business notice of motion: 960

Moved by: Senator Patrick

Date agreed to: 15 August 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that transparency, in relation to the Murray-Darling Basin Plan and its implementation, is critical to public confidence; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by 23 August 2018:**
 - (i) advices requested in a letter from the Murray-Darling Basin Royal Commission to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources of 3 May 2018, namely, all prior advice provided to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources of 3 May 2018, concerning:
 - (A) the construction and proper interpretation of the *Water Act 2007* and the Basin Plan,
 - (B) the lawfulness of the proposed amendment to the Basin Plan disallowed by the Senate on 6 February 2018,
 - (C) the lawfulness of the proposed amendment to the Basin Plan disallowed by the Senate on 14 February 2018,
 - (D) the lawfulness of the adjustment made to the Basin Plan, the subject of a disallowance motion defeated in the Senate on 8 May 2018, and
 - (E) the constitutional validity of the *Water Act 2007* and the Basin Plan,
 - (ii) all documents, including any minutes of meetings made in accordance with section 196 of the *Water Act 2007*, evidencing the reasoning behind the change of reductions in diversions required to achieve environmental watering requirements of 3856 GL (high uncertainty) and 6983 GL (low uncertainty), down to a reduction in diversions to 2750 GL in the report, *The proposed 'environmentally sustainable level of take' for surface water of the Murray-Darling Basin: Methods and outcomes*, dated November 2011, and the Basin Plan, as enacted on 23 November 2012,
 - (iii) all documents, including any minutes of meetings made in accordance with section 196 of the *Water Act 2007*, relating to the incorporation of social and economic outcomes into the determination of the long-term average sustainable diversion limit reflecting an environmentally sustainable level of take between 8 October 2010 and 23 November 2012,
 - (iv) all documents, including any minutes of meetings made in accordance with section 196 of the *Water Act 2007*, evidencing the further analysis conducted by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority to investigate the ability of alternative SDL options and water recovery strategies to achieve environmental objectives which lead to the adjustment of the recovery target from 2800 GL to 2750 GL,
 - (v) all documents, including any minutes of meetings made in accordance with section 196 of the *Water Act 2007*, referring to the analysis of the equivalent environmental outcomes as required by section 7.15(1)(c) of the Basin Plan of each of the 36 supply measures,
 - (vi) record of any agreement to use another method within the meaning of section 7.15 of the Basin Plan for any of the 36 supply measures, and
 - (vii) the peer review of the report, *Guide to the proposed Basin Plan*, dated October 2010.

Document received: 26 October 2018

Great Barrier Reef Foundation—Grant

General business notice of motion: 978

Moved by: Senator Keneally

Date agreed to: 21 August 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Energy (Senator Birmingham), **by no later than 10 am on 10 September 2018**, documents held by the Department of the Environment and Energy that demonstrate that, before the grant of \$444 million to the Great Barrier Reef Foundation (the Foundation) was approved:

- (a) due diligence was carried out on the Foundation; and
- (b) evidence was provided of the capacity of the Foundation to manage a grant of this size and to reduce its administration costs by approximately 50 per cent.

Document tabled: 10 September 2018

Further resolution agreed to: 17 September 2018 (no. 1050); **statement** made (17 September 2018)

Department of Human Services—Child support system upgrade (Cuba)

General business notice of motion: 982

Moved by: Senator Patrick

Date agreed to: 21 August 2018

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
 - (i) since 2013, the Department of Human Services (the Department) has had a program underway to upgrade its child support system ('Cuba') – the approved budget was \$102.3 million,
 - (ii) during the 2015-16 financial year, the total budget was exhausted without the project being completed,
 - (iii) since the 2015-16 financial year, funding to complete the system has come from the Department's internal investment fund and ICT BAU budget,
 - (iv) in response to questions taken on notice during the inquiry of the Finance and Public Administration References Committee into digital delivery of government services, the Department advised that it was unable to determine how much had been spent on the project,
 - (v) in response to questions asked at Budget estimates, the Department could provide no indication of the total spend on the project or provide a target completion date, and
 - (vi) in response to a freedom of information request – Department Reference LEX 37339 – the Department indicated there are 49 documents in existence that fit within the description of 'final versions of all formal executive briefings submitted to the Secretary, Department of Human Services between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018, where the topic of one or all of the executive briefings cover the cost, resource allocation and/or progress of the Child Support System redesign Programme'; and
- (b) there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services, **by no later than 10 am on 10 September 2018**, the 49 documents identified by the Department in FOI Department Reference LEX 37339.

Statements made: 21 August 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Document tabled: 10 September 2018

Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder—Induction briefing

General business notice of motion: 989

Moved by: Senator Hanson-Young

Date agreed to: 21 August 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) on 27 June 2018, the Senate agreed to an order for the production of documents (number 908), ordering that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources (Senator Canavan), by no later than 8 pm on 28 June 2018, documents provided as an incoming brief to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, Ms Jody Swirepik, and
 - (ii) on 10 July 2018, Senator Canavan advised the President of the Senate that the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources did not provide an incoming brief to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, Ms Jody Swirepik;
- (b) further notes that, in response to questions from Senator Patrick on 25 May 2018 during additional estimates hearings of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on cross-portfolio Murray-Darling Basin Plan matters, Ms Swirepik confirmed she had received an induction briefing prepared by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office; and
- (c) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by not later than 11.30 am on 23 August 2018**, all documents provided to Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, Ms Jody Swirepik, as an induction briefing, including its cover brief and all attachments.

Document tabled: 23 August 2018

NBNCo—Evidence provided to a committee

General business notice of motion: 995

Moved by: Senator O'Neill

Date agreed to: 22 August 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
- (i) on 15 August 2018, NBNCo conceded before a hearing of the Joint Standing Committee on the National Broadband Network (the Committee), that it had made a decision to charge regional Australians \$20 more per month than what a user who lives in the city would have to pay for access to the same 50 Mbps broadband speed,
 - (ii) according to Australian Competition and Consumer Commission data, this price increase would impact 9 in 10 regional Australians on the fixed-wireless network if they sought to order a 50 Mbps service over the NBN,
 - (iii) on 16 August 2018, at 10.38 am, NBNCo retrospectively modified an online record of its statement to the Committee, that had been posted to the NBN website, to include a new passage, which did not previously exist, and was not spoken by NBN executives at the committee hearing,
 - (iv) on 16 August 2018, at 11.29 am, the Minister for Communications claimed the regional price increases were still under consultation and had not been decided, and
 - (v) on 17 August 2018, media reports sighting NBN documents reported NBNCo had presented the price increase to industry stakeholders as a done deal;

- (b) calls on the Federal Government to:
 - (i) stop unfairly pushing up broadband prices on households, and
 - (ii) improve the unacceptable lack of transparency in relation to NBNCo decision-making;
- (c) requires the Minister for Communications to table, **by 2 pm on 23 August 2018**:
 - (i) a statement concerning the alteration of the NBNCo opening statement on the NBN website, including why NBNCo altered its statement on its website but has not notified the Committee of a change to its evidence, and
 - (ii) a copy of the presentation and materials given by NBNCo to the telecommunications industry on the afternoon of 15 August 2018, in relation to charging \$65 per month for a 50 Mbps fixed-wireless plan; and
- (d) requires NBNCo to either formally correct the evidence that was given to the Committee, or ensure its website accurately reflects the evidence that was given to the Committee.

Document tabled: 23 August 2018

Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder—Induction briefing

General business notice of motion: 1026

Moved by: Senator Hanson-Young

Date agreed to: 11 September 2018

That—

- (1) The Senate notes that, in response to questioning from Senator Patrick, during the additional estimates hearings of the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee on cross-portfolio Murray-Darling Basin Plan matters on 25 May 2018, Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, Ms Jody Swirepik confirmed she had received an induction briefing prepared by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office.
- (2) There be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, **by no later than 6.30 pm on 14 September 2018**, all documents provided to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, Ms Jody Swirepik, as an induction briefing, including its cover brief and all attachments.

Statement made: 11 September 2018

Document tabled: 17 September 2018

Document received: 21 September 2018

Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority—Adverse Experience Reporting Program

General business notice of motion: 1038

Moved by: Senator Griff

Date agreed to: 12 September 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) has an Adverse Experience Reporting Program (AERP) through which purported adverse effects from registered veterinary medicines and agricultural chemicals are reported,

- (ii) while adverse events can be reported by anyone, which includes farmers, vets, animal owners and handlers, and state or territory authorities, however, holders of the registration or permit for a registered product are legally required to report adverse events,
 - (iii) the AERP provides annual reports which document these events,
 - (iv) these annual reports, in their current form, date from 2005 to 2013 and are publicly available on the APVMA website – reports dating back to 1995 are also available on the website,
 - (v) since 2013, there have been no annual Adverse Experience annual reports published on the APVMA website, and
 - (vi) reporting, classification, assessment and action from these adverse events ensures the ongoing safety, quality and effectiveness of agricultural and veterinary products following their registration, and as an example of this, in the 2013 annual report the APVMA assessed, classified and took action when necessary on 3 733 adverse event reports from veterinary medicines, 50 adverse event reports from agricultural chemicals, and 135 reports related to human health adverse events; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table, by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by 5 pm on 13 September 2018**, all the Adverse Experience Reporting Program annual reports produced by the APVMA for the year 2014 and every year following, to date.

Statement made: 12 September 2018

Document tabled: 13 September 2018

Religious Freedom Review Expert Panel—Final report

General business notice of motion: 1077

Moved by: Senators McKim, Rice, Pratt, McAllister, Keneally, Kitching and Griff

Date agreed to: 19 September 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Prime Minister, **by no later than 9.30 am on 20 September 2018**, the final report of the Religious Freedom Review Expert Panel.

Statements made: 19 September 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Document tabled: 19 September 2018

Further resolution agreed to: 20 September 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Document tabled: 20 September 2018

Home care packages—Waiting lists

General business notice of motion: 1097

Moved by: Senator Siewert

Date agreed to: 20 September 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Senior Australians and Aged Care, **by 5 pm on 28 September 2018**, the most recent data on the number of people in the national prioritisation queue who have been waiting longer than 12 months to receive home care packages.

Statement made: 20 September 2018

Document received: 2 October 2018

Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody—Implementation of recommendations

General business notice of motion: 1104

Moved by: Senator Siewert

Date agreed to: 15 October 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, **by 10 am on 24 October 2018**, any reviews or reports relating to the implementation of the recommendations made by the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

Document received: 24 October 2018; document **debated:** 12 November 2018

Community Development Program—Final evaluation reports

General business notice of motion: 1111

Moved by: Senator Siewert

Date agreed to: 16 October 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, **by 10 am on 18 October 2018**, the final evaluation reports of the Community Development Program.

Document tabled and matter debated: 18 October 2018

Religious Freedom Review Expert Panel—Final report

General business notice of motion: 1121

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 16 October 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that the Government has repeatedly claimed public interest immunity in response to the orders of the Senate of 19 September and 20 September 2018 for the production of a document, namely, the final report of the Religious Freedom Review Expert Panel;
- (b) further notes that, despite these claims of public interest immunity, significant portions of the final report have been leaked to the media, including its recommendations;
- (c) in light of the leaking of significant portions of the document, is of the view that there can be no legitimate claim that the public interest is served by withholding the balance of the document;
- (d) insists that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Prime Minister, **by no later than 7.20 pm on 16 October 2018**, the final report of the Religious Freedom Review Expert Panel; and
- (e) orders that, **if the final report is not tabled by the specified time**, then:
 - (i) the Minister be required to **attend the Senate on Wednesday, 17 October 2018, before government business is called on**, to explain why the minister has not complied with this order for the production of a document,
 - (ii) at the conclusion of the minister's explanation, any senator may, without notice, move a motion to take note of the minister's explanation, and
 - (iii) any senator may speak to any motion moved under subparagraph (e)(ii) for not more than 10 minutes, and the motion may be debated for no longer than 2 hours and shall have precedence over all government business until determined.

Document tabled: 16 October 2018

Matter debated (in respect of paragraph (e)): 17 October 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Australia's National Greenhouse Gas Inventory—Quarterly update

General business notice of motion: 1142

Moved by: Senator Di Natale

Date agreed to: 17 October 2018

- (1) That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, **by not later than 5 calendar months after each:**
 - (a) 31 March;
 - (b) 30 June;
 - (c) 30 September; and
 - (d) 31 Decemberthe quarterly update of Australia's National Greenhouse Gas Inventory.
- (2) If the Senate is not sitting when a quarterly update is ready for presentation, the statement is to be presented to the President under standing order 166.
- (3) This order is of continuing effect.

Statement made: 17 October 2018

Document tabled: 3 December 2018

Document received: 1 March 2019

Australian Research Council—Incoming ministers brief

General business notice of motion: 1174

Moved by: Senator Carr

Date agreed to: 13 November 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Education, **by no later than 9.30 am on 15 November 2018**, the most recent incoming ministers brief from the Australian Research Council.

Statements made: 13 November 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Document tabled and debated: 15 November 2018

Indigenous Advancement Strategy—Grant applications

General business notice of motion: 1175

Moved by: Senator McCarthy

Date agreed to: 13 November 2018

- (1) That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Indigenous Affairs, **by no later than 9.30 am on 15 November 2018:**
 - (a) the advice provided by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet to the Minister regarding the grants to the Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association (NTCA), the Amateur Fishermen's Association of the Northern Territory (AFANT) and the Northern Territory Seafood Council (NTSC) that were referred to during the 2018-19 supplementary Budget estimates cross-portfolio hearings of the Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee on 26 October 2018;
 - (b) copies of the grant applications by the NTCA, AFANT and NTSC for funding from the Indigenous Advancement Strategy; and

- (c) any correspondence, or any other information including briefs, meeting and file notes from or to the Minister for Indigenous Affairs about these grants.
- (2) At the conclusion of question time on 15 November 2018, and any day after that period, a senator may ask the relevant minister for an explanation of the response to the order contained in paragraph (1) or for an explanation of the failure to respond, and:
 - (a) the senator may, at the conclusion of the explanation, move without notice—That the Senate take note of the explanation; or
 - (b) in the event that the minister does not provide an explanation, the senator may, without notice, move a motion in relation to the minister’s failure to provide either a response or an explanation.

Statement made: 13 November 2018

Matter debated, pursuant to paragraph (2) above: 15 November 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Document tabled: 15 November 2018

Document received: 22 November 2018

Australian and Children’s Screen Content Review—Report

General business notice of motion: 1182

Moved by: Senator Urquhart

Date agreed to: 13 November 2018

- (1) That the Senate notes that:
 - (a) the Government announced the Australian and Children’s Screen Content Review (the Review) 18 months ago in May 2017;
 - (b) public consultation for the Review concluded over a year ago in September 2017;
 - (c) the report of the Review was delivered to the Minister for Communications and the Arts almost a year ago in December 2017;
 - (d) the Government has not tabled a response to the report of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Communications and the Arts inquiry into factors contributing to the growth and sustainability of the Australian film and television industry, tabled in December 2017; and
 - (e) the delay in the release of the report of the Review is hampering public debate on policy options and causing uncertainty for the screen production and interactive games sector in Australia.
- (2) That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Communications and the Arts, **by no later than 9.30 am on 15 November 2018**, the report of the Australian and Children’s Screen Content Review.

Document tabled: 15 November 2018

Government responses to committee reports—private health insurance and funding into cancers

General business notice of motion: 1185

Moved by: Senator Griff

Date agreed to: 13 November 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) the report of the Select Committee into Funding for Research into Cancers with Low Survival Rates was tabled on 28 November 2017,
 - (ii) the report made 25 recommendations to improve outcomes for people diagnosed with rare and low-survival cancers, and
 - (iii) on 16 October 2018, Senator Bilyk successfully moved a motion, which Senator Griff co-sponsored, asking the Government to table its overdue response to this important report – the government response has not been tabled;
- (b) further notes that:
 - (i) the report of the Community Affairs References Committee, *Value and affordability of private health insurance and out-of-pocket medical costs*, was presented on 19 December 2017,
 - (ii) the report made 19 recommendations designed to ease the burden of rising medical costs on consumers, such as recommending that the Minister for Health instruct the Department of Health to publish the fees of individual medical practitioners in a searchable database, and
 - (iii) the Government has yet to table a response to this report; and
- (c) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Health, **by the start of business on 15 November 2018**, the Government's responses to the recommendations contained in the reports on:
 - (i) value and affordability of private health insurance and out-of-pocket medical costs, and
 - (ii) funding for research into cancers with low survival rates. (*general business notice of motion no. 1185*)

Statement made: 13 November 2018

Document tabled: 15 November 2018

Senator McKim—Visa application—Correspondence

General business notice of motion: 1189

Moved by: Senator McKim

Date agreed to: 13 November 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, **by 5 pm on 14 November 2018**, all documents or correspondence between the Government of the Republic of Nauru, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Department of Home Affairs, the Office of the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and/or the Office of the Minister for Home Affairs, which relate to Senator McKim's application for a Nauru visa.

Statement made: 13 November 2018

Document tabled: 14 November 2018

Document tabled: 26 November 2018

Centrelink—Serco pilot program—Independent review by KPMG

General business notice of motion: 1194

Moved by: Senator Siewert

Date agreed to: 14 November 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Human Services and Digital Transformation, **by 10 am on 26 November 2018**, the independent review by KPMG of the Serco pilot program, which saw an additional 250 staff engaged to answer phone calls at Centrelink through Serco.

Statement made: 14 November 2018

Document tabled and debated: 26 November 2018

Further resolution agreed to: 3 December 2018 (no. 1277) and **statement made**

Document tabled: 5 December 2018

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park—Cruise ship pollution

General business notice of motion: 1201

Moved by: Senator Waters

Date agreed to: 14 November 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development, **by 26 November 2018**:

- (a) all documents or correspondence between the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA) and Carnival Australia, or its cruise line brand P&O Cruises Australia, in relation to the spilling of 27,000 litres of food waste and grey water into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park on or around 26 August 2018, since the date of the incident;
- (b) all documents or correspondence between AMSA and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, in relation to the spilling of 27,000 litres of food waste and grey water into the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park on or around 26 August 2018, since the date of the incident; and
- (c) all notifications, breaches and compliance actions taken by AMSA in relation to shipping pollution incidents for the last two years.

Statement made: 14 November 2018

Document tabled: 26 November 2018

Gretals Australia Pty Ltd—Grant

General business notice of motion: 1204

Moved by: Senator Carr

Date agreed to: 14 November 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Prime Minister, Senator Cormann, **by 10 am on 26 November 2018**, all documents regarding the application, and decision to award government funding to Gretals Australia Pty Ltd.

Document tabled and debated [first speaker]: 26 November 2018

Gretals Australia Pty Ltd—Global Connections Fund Bridging Grants

General business notice of motion: 1229

Moved by: Senator Carr

Date agreed to: 27 November 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology, **by 9.30 am on 29 November 2018**: all documents regarding the application, and decision to award, and withdrawal of funding to Gretals Australia Pty Ltd for 'Combating resistance: novel and natural compounds for use in animal health' under the Global Connections Fund Bridging Grants, announced in August 2017.

Document tabled: 29 November 2018

Menindee Lakes—Water releases

General business notice of motion: 1231

Moved by: Senator Waters

Date agreed to: 27 November 2018

- (1) The Senate notes that:
 - (a) Menindee Lakes are the water source for irrigators, graziers, riparian land owners and communities in the lower Darling River valley;
 - (b) Menindee Lakes are culturally imperative to Aboriginal people, including the Barkandji as native title owners;
 - (c) water levels in Menindee Lakes have a direct financial relationship with property values and businesses in the lower Darling River valley;
 - (d) Menindee Lakes were at full capacity in 2014 and late 2016;
 - (e) releases from Menindee Lakes in the 2013-14 and 2016-17 water years by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority have emptied the Lakes twice in 3 years;
 - (f) environmental water was released from Menindee Lakes in the 2016-17 water year; and
 - (g) Menindee Lakes are currently at 7% storage capacity.
- (2) That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by 30 November 2018**, all documents and correspondence, including meeting minutes, relating to:
 - (a) releases from Menindee Lakes between 1 May 2013 and 28 February 2014; and 1 December 2016 and 31 December 2017; and
 - (b) environmental watering releases from Menindee Lakes between 1 December 2016 and 31 December 2017.

Statements made: 27 November 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Document received: 15 February 2019

Live animal exports—Review

General business notice of motion: 1238

Moved by: Senator Faruqi

Date agreed to: 28 November 2018

That the following documents be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **no later than 9.50 pm on 3 December 2018**:

- (a) any draft versions of the 'Review of the Regulatory Capability and Culture of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources in the Regulation of Live Animal Exports' provided to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources or the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources; and
- (b) any correspondence between any or all of the following regarding this report or draft versions of the report: the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, and Mr Philip Moss, AM.

Statement made: 28 November 2018

Matter debated: 4 December 2018 [[first speaker](#)]

Document tabled: 5 December 2018

Document received: 8 January 2019

Financial Wellbeing and Capability activity—Tender process for grants

General business notice of motion: 1256

Moved by: Senator McAllister

Date agreed to: 28 November 2018

- (1) That the Senate notes that:
 - (a) the Department of Social Services recently completed the tender process for grants for the Financial Wellbeing and Capability activity, and began notifying applicants of the results in October and November 2018;
 - (b) the tender decisions resulted in a number of organisations receiving real cuts to their funding;
 - (c) these cuts were scheduled to take effect in a matter of weeks; and
 - (d) over the last fortnight, the Minister for Families and Social Services has back flipped and extended selected organisations' existing funding.
- (2) That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Families and Social Services, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 4 December 2018**, any documents containing the following information:
 - (a) the list of applicants who were successful in the 2018 tenders for each of the grant programs within the Financial Wellbeing and Capability activity, including the amount of funding received and the service area to which it relates;
 - (b) any variations or amendments to the tender outcome;
 - (c) the list of existing grant holders who were unsuccessful or received real cuts in funding in the 2018 tenders for each of the grant programs within the Financial Wellbeing and Capability activity, including the amount of funding lost and the service area to which it related;
 - (d) the list of organisations who were offered extensions of their existing funding after the conclusion of the 2018 tenders for the Financial Wellbeing and Capability grants, including the amount of funding received, the length of the funding extension, and the service area and grant program to which it relates; and

- (e) any correspondence between the Department and the Minister's office relating to paragraphs (a) to (d) above.

Statement made: 28 November 2018

Document tabled: 5 December 2018

Tourism Australia—Contracts

General business notice of motion: 1260

Moved by: Senator Chisholm

Date agreed to: 29 November 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Prime Minister, **by no later than 10 am on 3 December 2018**, all documents regarding contracts entered into by Tourism Australia between 1 January 2004 and 31 January 2006.

Statement made: 29 November 2018

Document tabled: 3 December 2018

Document received: 12 December 2018

Adani Carmichael mine—Departmental investigation

General business notice of motion: 1302

Moved by: Senator Di Natale

Date agreed to: 4 December 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, **on 6 December 2018**, documents relating to the Department of the Environment (the Department) investigation into alleged breaches by the Adani Corporation at its Carmichael mine site, including:

- (a) records of any site inspection, including any photographs or videos taken;
- (b) any brief of evidence prepared to enable the Department to conclude its investigation;
- (c) any advice sought and received on the scope of the definition of 'mining operations';
- (d) any correspondence between the Department and Adani;
- (e) any matters of national environmental significance plan/s for the management of direct and indirect impacts of mining operations on the Doongmabulla Spring Complex or Black-throated Finch; and
- (f) any correspondence between the office of the Minister for the Environment and the Department.

Statement made: 4 December 2018

Document received: 7 December 2018

Document received: 9 January 2019

Regional Forest Agreements—New South Wales

General business notice of motion: 1310

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 5 December 2018

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by no later than 9.30 am on 6 December 2018**, any documents relating to the variation, renewal, roll-over or extension of the following Regional Forest Agreements:

- (a) New South Wales – Eden;
- (b) New South Wales – North East; and
- (c) New South Wales – Southern.

Statement made: 5 December 2018

Document received: 7 December 2018

Mount Gambier—Drug and alcohol treatment services—funding

General business notice of motion: 1325

Moved by: Senators Griff and Farrell

Date agreed to: 6 December 2018

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) according to the 2016 National Drug Strategy Household Survey:
 - (A) 6.3% or 1.3 million Australians over the age of 14 reported having used methamphetamines,
 - (B) among recent methamphetamine users, more than half (57%) reported using crystal methamphetamine,
 - (C) of those who had used methamphetamines, including ice, in the past 12 months, 20.4% used these drugs weekly or daily,
 - (D) rates of methamphetamine use were 2.5 times as high among people living in remote or very remote areas, compared to rates among those living in major cities or regional areas, and
 - (E) young people aged 18-24 years old living in rural areas are more likely to report recent drug use, compared to their city counterparts,
 - (ii) on 23 November 2018, the Minister for Health, Mr Hunt, announced a \$20 million funding package to boost drug and alcohol treatment services in South Australia, particularly in regional and rural areas,
 - (iii) this funding will be available over three years and will be provided as grants of up to \$2.5 million in locations specified as 'areas of need', comprising the Fleurieu region, Peterborough and the Mid North, Port Augusta, Ceduna, Murray Bridge, Playford, Port Adelaide and Onkaparinga,
 - (iv) all other areas of South Australia, including Mount Gambier, have been locked out of applying for this funding,
 - (v) there is no detox service offered in the Mount Gambier Hospital,
 - (vi) rehabilitation facilities are offered only in shared houses or family houses,
 - (vii) clients wishing to detox must travel nearly 500km to Adelaide to do so,

- (viii) counselling staff are under-resourced with some seeing up to 7 clients per day, leaving little time for follow-up letters for their clients to doctors, lawyers or other relevant ongoing referrals, and
 - (ix) the wait time for a person to see a drug or alcohol counsellor in the Mount Gambier region is up to three to four weeks; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Health, **by 9 am on 20 December 2018**, the information and sources it relied on to make the decision to exclude Mount Gambier-based services from applying for this funding.

Statement made: 6 December 2018

Document received: 20 December 2018

2019

Universal Service Obligation reform options—cost modelling

General business notice of motion: 1335

Moved by: Senator Griff

Date agreed to: 12 February 2019

That the Senate—

- (a) notes that:
 - (i) independent reviews conducted by the Regional Telecommunications Review Committee, the Productivity Commission and the Australian National Audit Office have all issued critical reports on the Universal Service Obligation (USO),
 - (ii) the Productivity Commission has found the number of Australian payphones has almost halved over the last decade,
 - (iii) the Department of Communications and the Arts estimates that 22% of copper services and 9% of payphones have been phased out since 2012,
 - (iv) Telstra is currently paid almost \$300 million a year to maintain these services under the USO,
 - (v) the Department of Communications and the Arts estimates the equivalent universal broadband delivery obligation on NBNCo for fixed wireless and satellite in regional areas will cost the entity in excess of \$800 million per annum, if operating on a full cost-recovery basis, and
 - (vi) on 5 December 2018, the Minister for Communications and the Arts announced that the Government does not intend to change current USO arrangements, despite the Minister's report stating: "Network Strategies concluded that the delivery of voice services using wireless (mobile and fixed) and satellite technologies would be more cost effective than the current arrangements", and "Potential savings in the hundreds of millions of dollars over the period from 2020 to 2032 were identified"; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister for Communications and the Arts, **by midday on 14 February 2019**:
 - (i) the high-level cost modelling of the USO reform options, that does not impinge on commercial sensitivities, and
 - (ii) the advice provided by NBNCo about the financial costs of servicing additional ADSL customers.

Statement made: 12 February 2019

Document received: 15 February 2019

Further resolution agreed to: 3 April 2019 (no. 1428) and **statement made**

Document received: 5 April 2019

Australian Complementary Medicine industry—Correspondence

General business notice of motion: 1356

Moved by: Senator Carr

Date agreed to: 12 February 2019

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology, **by no later than 3.30 pm on 13 February 2019:** any correspondence between the Prime Minister and the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology regarding the Australian Complementary Medicine industry.

Document received: 15 February 2019

Unanswered estimates questions on notice—2018-19 supplementary Budget estimates hearings

General business notice of motion: 1379

Moved by: Senator Collins

Date agreed to: 13 February 2019

That there be laid on the table by the Leader of the Government in the Senate (Senator Cormann), **by no later than 3.30 pm on 14 February 2019**, all outstanding answers to questions on notice as at 31 January 2019 from the 2018-19 supplementary Budget estimates hearings in the following portfolios:

- (a) Health (210 answers);
- (b) Human Services (91 answers);
- (c) Industry, Innovation and Science (7 answers);
- (d) Treasury (14 answers);
- (e) Education and Training (22 answers);
- (f) Jobs and Small Business (4 answers);
- (g) Communications and the Arts (1 answer);
- (h) Environment and Energy (2 answers);
- (i) Prime Minister and Cabinet (including cross-portfolio Indigenous matters and agencies) (8 answers);
- (j) Defence, including Veterans' Affairs (75 answers);
- (k) Foreign Affairs and Trade (1 answer); and
- (l) Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities (1 answer).

Statement made: 13 February 2019

Association for the Conservation of Threatened Parrots—Permission to export birds

General business notice of motion: 1381

Moved by: Senator Hanson-Young

Date agreed to: 14 February 2019

That—

- (a) the Senate notes that:
 - (i) the German-based Association for the Conservation of Threatened Parrots (ACTP) received permission to export 232 birds between 2015 and November 2018 for exhibition purposes,
 - (ii) among the birds exported were endangered Carnaby's black cockatoos, vulnerable Baudin's black cockatoos, naretha bluebonnets, gang-gang cockatoos and mutation varieties of king parrots and galahs,
 - (iii) the legal import and export of rare and endangered birds is governed by the 1975 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), of which Australia and Germany are signatories, and
 - (iv) the ACTP has no facilities freely open to the public; and
- (b) there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment, **by 15 February 2019**, all documents and correspondence, including meeting minutes, that set out the owners of parrots that were supplied for the ACTP prior to the consignments being collated for export.

Statement made: 14 February 2019

Documents received: [15 February 2019](#) and [1 March 2019](#)

Gene Technology Regulations 2001—Proposed amendments—Draft advice

General business notice of motion: 1385

Moved by: Senator Rice

Date agreed to: 14 February 2019

That there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by no later than 9.30 am on 18 February 2019**: draft advice issued to states and territories by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources in relation to proposed amendments to the Gene Technology Regulations 2001, discussed at the Legislative and Governance Forum on Gene Technology meeting in October 2018.

Statement made: 14 February 2019

Document received: 4 April 2019

Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority—Proposed Armidale site—Arson investigation

General business notice of motion: 1413

Moved by: Senator Brown

Date agreed to: 2 April 2019

That the Senate—

- (a) notes Coroner Michael Holmes has found the property at 91 Beardy Street in Armidale, the site later chosen for the premises of the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority, had been destroyed by fire on or around 16 September 2016 in an arson attack caused when an unknown person or persons poured petrol in the building and ignited it; and
- (b) orders that there be laid on the table by the Minister representing the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, **by no later than noon on 3 April 2019:**
 - (i) all internal departmental documents held by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and its agencies about the New South Wales Police investigation into arson at 91 Beardy Street, Armidale, and
 - (ii) any correspondence between the Department for Agriculture and Water Resources and the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, or his office, about the New South Wales Police arson investigation.

[Document](#) received: 4 April 2019

[Document](#) received: 5 April 2019

[OPDs from previous Parliaments can be found on [StatsNet](#)]