

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**SELECTION COMMITTEE**

**REPORT No. 21**

Private Members' business

**4 March 2015**

## MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

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Chair	Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP, Speaker
Members	Mr S Buchholz (Chief Government Whip)
	Mr C Hayes MP (Chief Opposition Whip)
	Mr M Coulton MP (Nationals Chief Whip)
	Mr G Christensen MP
	Hon J Fitzgibbon MP
	Ms J Hall MP
	Ms N Marino MP
	Mr A Nikolic MP
	Mr D Randall MP
	Ms J Ryan MP
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	Mr B Scott MP, Deputy Speaker

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Secretary	Ms J Towner
Committee support	Mr R Selth
	Mr D Pecar
	Ms S Dinon

## Report relating to the consideration of Private Members' business

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1. The committee met in private session on Tuesday, 3 March 2015.
2. The committee determined the order of precedence and times to be allotted for consideration of private Members' business on Monday, 16 March 2015, as follows:

### Items for House of Representatives Chamber (10.10 am to 12 noon)

#### PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

##### Notices

**1 MR C. A. LAUNDY:** To move—That this House:

(1) acknowledges that:

- (a) small and medium businesses are the engine room of the Australian economy and employment;
- (b) an effective infrastructure network is essential for small businesses to survive and flourish; and
- (c) investment in improved infrastructure benefits small businesses through economic growth and job creation, and provides a boost to local and regional economies; and

(2) supports the Government in prioritising infrastructure investment to help small businesses grow and continue their vital contribution to the Australian economy.

*(Notice given 2 March 2015.)*

*Time allotted — 60 minutes.*

*Speech time limits —*

*Mr Laundry — 10 minutes.*

*Next Member — 10 minutes.*

*Other Members — 5 minutes each.*

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking  
= 2 x 10 mins + 8 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration  
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

**2 MS HALL:** To move—That this House:

(1) notes that:

- (a) 14 to 22 March is New South Wales Seniors Week, a week that acknowledges their contribution to the community;
- (b) older Australians make an enormous contribution to our communities;
- (c) all older Australians deserve to live in dignity; and

- (d) the Government is attacking the standard of living of seniors and pensioners by undermining the pension, benefits to seniors, Medicare and support services for older Australians; and
- (2) calls on the Government to reverse its anti-seniors ageist approach to government and service delivery.

*(Notice given 23 February 2015.)*

*Time allotted — remaining private Members' business time prior to 12 noon.*

*Speech time limits —*

*Ms Hall — 5 minutes.*

*Other Members — 5 minutes each.*

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking = 10 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration of this matter should continue on a future day.*

## **Items for Federation Chamber (11 am to 1.30 pm)**

### **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

#### **Notices**

**1 MS BRODTMANN:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the widespread and systematic campaign of persecution of Baha'is in Iran, with more than 110 Baha'is currently imprisoned due to their religious beliefs;
- (2) condemns the treatment of Baha'is in Iran, which includes economic and educational discrimination, strict limits on the right to assemble and worship, as well as the threat of raids, arrests and detention or imprisonment;
- (3) commends the recent resolution by the United Nations General Assembly in which it expressed its 'deep concern at serious ongoing and recurring human rights violations' in Iran; and
- (4) calls for an end to the persecution of the Baha'is in Iran.

*(Notice given 24 February 2015.)*

*Time allotted — 30 minutes.*

*Speech time limits —*

*Ms Brodtmann — 5 minutes.*

*Other Members — 5 minutes each.*

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking = 6 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration of this matter should continue on a future day.*

**2 MS VAMVAKINO**: To move—That this House:

(1) notes that:

- (a) since 1999, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has recognised International Mother Language Day (IMLD) on 21 February;
- (b) on 16 May 2007 the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution A/RES/61/266 called upon Member States ‘to promote the preservation and protection of all languages used by peoples of the world’;
- (c) IMLD has been observed every year since its inception to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism; and
- (d) 21 February represents the day in 1952 when students demonstrating for recognition of their language, Bangla (as one of the two national languages of the then Pakistan), were shot and killed by police in Dhaka, the capital of what is now Bangladesh;

(2) recognises:

- (a) the importance of languages and their benefits in the broader Australian community;
- (b) that languages are the most powerful instruments for preserving and developing our tangible and intangible heritage; and
- (c) that all moves to promote the dissemination of mother tongues will serve not only to encourage linguistic diversity and multilingual education but to develop fuller awareness of linguistic and cultural traditions throughout the world and inspire solidarity based on understanding, tolerance and dialogue;

(3) acknowledges and commends the Speak Greek in March campaign;

(4) acknowledges that the Speak Greek in March campaign aims to encourage the greater use of the Greek language at home, in the month of March; and

(5) in collaboration with relevant organisations of the Greek community, undertakes a campaign to establish March as the month during which individuals and organisations endeavour to conduct most of their communications at home and in public in the Greek language.

*(Notice given 23 February 2015.)*

*Time allotted — 30 minutes.*

*Speech time limits —*

*Ms Vamvakinou — 5 minutes.*

*Other Members — 5 minutes each.*

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking  
= 6 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration  
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

**3 MS MARINO:** To move—That this House acknowledges that:

- (1) small and medium businesses are the engine room of the Australian economy and employment;
- (2) all Australians, including small business people, should have access to fast, affordable and reliable broadband;
- (3) regional small businesses often encounter greater difficulty accessing broadband and often receive a lower standard of broadband service; and
- (4) the Government has a plan to prioritise getting areas of most need connected to fast reliable broadband sooner, especially in regional areas.

*(Notice given 3 March 2015.)*

*Time allotted — 60 minutes.*

*Ms Marino — 10 minutes.*

*Next Member — 10 minutes.*

*Other Members — 5 minutes each.*

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking  
= 2 x 10 + 8 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration  
of this matter should continue on a future day.*

**4 MS L. M. CHESTERS:** To move—That this House:

(1) notes that:

- (a) the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) has announced it will end its television coverage of the Women's National Basketball League (WNBL) at the end of the 2014/15 season;
  - (b) this decision will end a 35 year partnership between the ABC and WNBL;
  - (c) the ABC has been a leader in the broadcast of women's sport, which has provided a significant boost to the development of women's sport in Australia;
  - (d) any decision to cancel the television broadcast of women's sport will have a detrimental effect on the participation in the sport, which will reduce the pool of talent available within Australia and therefore the strength and viability of women's sports such as the WNBL; and
  - (e) the basketball statement on the ABC/WNBL partnership on 24 November 2014 as a result of the Australian Government cuts to ABC funding, means that the 2014/15 Wattle Valley WNBL season will be the last shown on ABC TV live around Australia;
- (2) recognises the strong role models elite women sports athletes are to young women and the positive value this has on young women, and that without such television broadcast coverage such positive role models will disappear; and

(3) calls on:

- (a) the Australian Government to restore the \$254 million in budget cuts to the ABC budget; and
- (b) the ABC Board to continue the television broadcasting of women's sport including the WNBL.

*(Notice given 23 February 2015.)*

*Time allotted — remaining private Members' business time prior to 1.30 pm.*

*Ms Chesters — 5 minutes.*

*Other Members — 5 minutes each.*

[Minimum number of proposed Members speaking  
= 6 x 5 mins]

*The Committee determined that consideration of this matter should continue on a future day.*

**THE HON BRONWYN BISHOP MP**

Speaker of the House of Representatives

4 March 2015