

1998

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 2

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 1998

The House meets this day at 9.30 a.m.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**Notices**

- *1 **MR REITH:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Workplace Relations Act 1996*.
- *2 **MR DOWNER:** To present a Bill for an Act to implement the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on their Destruction, and for related purposes.
- *3 **MR McGAURAN:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Telstra Corporation Act 1991*, and for other purposes.
- *4 **MR McGAURAN:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to telecommunications, and for other purposes.
- *5 **MR McGAURAN:** To present a Bill for an Act about telecommunications, and for related purposes.
- *6 **MR WILLIAMS:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901* in relation to references in Acts to Ministers, and for related purposes.
- *7 **MR M. A. J. VAILE:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the law relating to agriculture, fisheries and forestry, and for related purposes.
- *8 **MR M. A. J. VAILE:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Wool Research and Promotion Organisation Act 1993*, and for related purposes.
- *9 **DR KEMP:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian National Training Authority Act 1992*, and for other purposes.
- *10 **MR RUDDOCK:** To present a Bill for an Act for the protection of areas and objects of particular significance to Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders, and for related purposes.
- *11 **MR TRUSS:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Social Security Act 1991* and the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, and for related purposes.

* Notifications to which an asterisk (*) is prefixed appear for the first time

- *12 **MR TRUSS:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Social Security Act 1991* and the *Veterans' Entitlements Act 1986*, and for related purposes.
- *13 **MR McGAURAN:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Telecommunications Act 1997*, and for related purposes.
- *14 **DR WOOLDRIDGE:** To present a Bill for an Act to provide incentives for private health insurance, and for related purposes.
- *15 **DR WOOLDRIDGE:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Private Health Insurance Incentives Act 1997*, and for related purposes.
- *16 **MR SLIPPER:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend certain Acts relating to superannuation, and for related purposes.
- *17 **MR SLIPPER:** To present a Bill for an Act to establish a Board to administer certain legislation relating to superannuation, and for related purposes.
- *18 **MR SLIPPER:** To present a Bill for an Act to enact saving and transitional provisions in consequence of the enactment of certain provisions of the *Superannuation Legislation (Commonwealth Employment) Repeal and Amendment Act 1998*.
- *19 **MR SLIPPER:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend certain Acts in consequence of the enactment of the *Superannuation Legislation (Commonwealth Employment) Repeal and Amendment Act 1998*, and for other purposes.
- *20 **MR SLIPPER:** To move—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Development of the Eastern Region Operations Centre at RAAF Base Williamtown, NSW.
- *21 **MR SLIPPER:** To move—That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and on which the committee has duly reported to Parliament: Redevelopment of facilities at RAAF Base Amberley, Qld.
- *22 **MR ANDERSON:** To move—That, in accordance with section 5 of the *Parliament Act 1974*, the House approves the following proposal for work in the Parliamentary Zone which was presented to the House on 10 November 1998, namely: Erection of identification signs in front of Old Parliament House.

Orders of the day

- *1 **WOOL INTERNATIONAL AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr O'Connor*).
- 2 **ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr Bevis*) on the proposed Address in Reply.

Notices—continued

- *23 **MRS B. K. BISHOP:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Aged Care Act 1997*.

Orders of the day—continued

- *3 **FINAL BUDGET OUTCOME 1997-98—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *4 **COMMONWEALTH GRANTS COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *5 **WOOL INTERNATIONAL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *6 **DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND ENERGY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *7 **AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL AUDIT OFFICE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *8 **COMMISSIONER FOR SUPERANNUATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *9 **PUBLIC SECTOR SUPERANNUATION SCHEME—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *10 **COMMONWEALTH SUPERANNUATION SCHEME—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *11 **MILITARY SUPERANNUATION AND BENEFITS BOARD—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *12 **DEFENCE FORCE RETIREMENT AND DEATH BENEFITS AUTHORITY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- *13 **COMMISSIONER OF TAXATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *14 **DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND TOURISM—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *15 **OFFICE OF ASSET SALES AND IT OUTSOURCING—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *16 **DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *17 **CENTRELINK—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *18 **OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *19 **ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *20 **MARITIME INDUSTRY FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *21 **COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND INFORMATION PROGRAM ON TAXATION REFORM—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *22 **JOINT COAL BOARD—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *23 **ADVANCE TO THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE, JUNE 1998—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- *24 **PROVISION FOR RUNNING COSTS BORROWINGS, JUNE 1998—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- *25 **NATIONAL COMPETITION COUNCIL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 11 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 26 **PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS BROADCASTING AMENDMENT BILL 1998:** Second reading (*from 10 November 1998*).

Bills to be reported from the Main Committee

- *1 **AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY BILL 1998** (*Minister for Aged Care*): To be reported without amendment (*from 11 November 1998*).
- *2 **AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY (LICENCE CHARGES) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Aged Care*): To be reported without amendment (*from 11 November 1998*).
- *3 **AUSTRALIAN RADIATION PROTECTION AND NUCLEAR SAFETY (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Aged Care*): To be reported without amendment (*from 11 November 1998*).
- *4 **STATES GRANTS (PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ASSISTANCE) AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): To be reported without amendment (*from 11 November 1998*).
- *5 **HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): To be reported with an amendment (*from 11 November 1998*).
- *6 **FILM LICENSED INVESTMENT COMPANY BILL 1998** (*Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): To be reported without amendment (*from 11 November 1998*).
- *7 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (FILM LICENSED INVESTMENT COMPANY) BILL 1998** (*Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): To be reported without amendment (*from 11 November 1998*).
- *8 **CHILD SUPPORT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Community Services*): To be reported without amendment (*from 11 November 1998*).
- *9 **STATES GRANTS (GENERAL PURPOSES) AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): To be reported without amendment (*from 11 November 1998*).

Contingent notices of motion

Contingent on any bill being brought in and read a first time: Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the second reading being made an order of the day for a later hour.

Contingent on any report relating to a bill being received from the Main Committee: Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Contingent on any bill being agreed to at the conclusion of the consideration in detail stage: Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the motion for the third reading being moved without delay.

Contingent on any message being received from the Senate transmitting any bill for concurrence: Minister to move—That so much of the standing orders be suspended as would prevent the bill being passed through all its stages without delay.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Notice given for Thursday, 12 November 1998

*1 **MR SERCOMBE:** To move—That this House notes:

- (1) the special relationship between Australia and Turkey, which developed out of mutual respect engendered by the horrific experiences of the First World War;
- (2) that Turkey is a modern, secular state with which Australia should further enhance relations;
- (3) the importance of Turkey as a trade and investment partner in its own right and as a base for Australian trade efforts in the Middle East and Central Asia;
- (4) the significant contribution of Turkish migration to Australia's economic, social and cultural development; and
- (5) that Turkish speaking residents of Australia have contributed significantly to the Australian community by their approach to potentially divisive issues that could undermine harmony in our multicultural society. (*Notice given 11 November 1998.*)

Notices

1 **MR PRICE:** To move—

- (1) That a Standing Committee on Appropriations and Staffing be appointed to inquire into:
 - (a) proposals for the annual estimates and the additional estimates for the House of Representatives;
 - (b) proposals to vary the staff structure of the House of Representatives, and staffing and recruitment policies; and
 - (c) such other matters as are referred to it by the House;
- (2) That the committee shall:
 - (a) in relation to estimates—
 - (i) determine the amounts for inclusion in the parliamentary appropriation bills for the annual and the additional appropriations; and
 - (ii) report to the House upon its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill; and

- (b) in relation to staffing—
 - (i) make recommendations to the Speaker; and
 - (ii) report to the House on any matter its determinations prior to the consideration by the House of the relevant parliamentary appropriation bill;
 - (3) That the committee consist of the Speaker and 11 other members, 6 members to be nominated by the Chief Government Whip or Whips and 5 members to be nominated by the Chief Opposition Whip or Whips or any independent Member;
 - (4) That the committee elect a Government member as its chair;
 - (5) That the committee elect a deputy chairman who shall act as chair of the committee at any time when the chair is not present at a meeting of the committee, and at any time when the chair and deputy chair are not present at a meeting of the committee the members present shall elect another member to act as chairman at that meeting;
 - (6) That the committee have power to appoint subcommittees consisting of 3 or more of its members and to refer to any subcommittee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine;
 - (7) That the committee appoint the chair of each subcommittee who shall have a casting vote only, and at any time when the chair of a subcommittee is not present at a meeting of the subcommittee the members of the subcommittee present shall elect another member of that subcommittee to act as chair at that meeting;
 - (8) That the quorum of a subcommittee be a majority of the members of that subcommittee;
 - (9) That members of the committee who are not members of a subcommittee may participate in the public proceedings of that subcommittee but shall not vote, move any motion or be counted for the purpose of a quorum;
 - (10) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to send for persons, papers and records;
 - (11) That the committee or any subcommittee have power to move from place to place;
 - (12) That a subcommittee have power to adjourn from time to time and to sit during any sittings or adjournment of the House;
 - (13) That the committee have leave to report from time to time; and
 - (14) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the standing orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the standing orders. (*Notice given 10 November 1998.*)
- 2 **MR PRICE:** To move—
- (1) That standing order 28B be amended by inserting the following paragraph after paragraph (b):
 - (*ba*) annual and additional estimates contained in the appropriation bills presented to the House shall stand referred for consideration by Members of the relevant committee (as determined in accordance with

the provisions of paragraph (b) for the consideration of annual reports), and, for the purposes of this consideration:

- (i) six Members of each committee, determined by the committee in each case, shall consider the estimates;
- (ii) the Members of the committee selected to consider the estimates shall meet with Members of the relevant Senate legislation committee so that the Members and Senators may meet together for the purposes of considering the estimates;
- (iii) members of the relevant House and Senate committees, when meeting together to consider estimates, shall choose a Member or a Senator to chair the joint meetings;
- (iv) the provisions of Senate standing order 26 shall, to the extent that they are applicable, apply to the consideration of estimates under this paragraph, and
- (v) that, upon the completion of joint meetings at which evidence is received or written answers or additional information considered, it shall then be a matter for the Members of the relevant committee to consider the terms of any report to the House on the estimates.

(2) That a message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly. (*Notice given 10 November 1998.*)

3 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by amending standing order 94 to read as follows:

Closure of Member

94 A motion may be made that a Member who is speaking, except a Member giving a notice of motion or formally moving the terms of a motion allowed under the standing orders or speaking to a motion of dissent (from any ruling of the Speaker under standing order 100), “be not further heard”, and such question shall be put forthwith and decided without amendment or debate. (*Notice given 10 November 1998.*)

4 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing order 129 be omitted and the following standing order substituted:

Presentation of petitions

129 At the time provided for the presentation of petitions, the following arrangements shall apply to the presentation of petitions certified to be in conformity with the standing orders:

- (a) in respect of each petition, the petitioner, or one of the petitioners, may present the petition to the House by standing at the Bar of the House and reading to the House the prayer of the petition, and
- (b) where a petitioner is not able to present the petition in accordance with paragraph (a) of this standing order, the Member who has lodged the petition may present it to the House by reading to the House the prayer of the petition. (*Notice given 10 November 1998.*)

- 5 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by inserting the following standing order after standing order 143:

Questions to committee chairs

143A Questions may be put to a Member in his or her capacity as Chair of a committee of the House, or of a joint committee, in connection with the work or duties of the committee in question. (*Notice given 10 November 1998.*)

- 6 **MR PRICE:** To move—That the standing orders be amended by inserting the following standing order after standing order 145:

Questions without notice—Time limits

145A During question time:

- (a) the asking of each question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each question may not exceed 4 minutes;
 - (b) the asking of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute and the answering of each supplementary question may not exceed 1 minute; and
 - (c) the time taken to make and determine points of order is not to be regarded as part of the time for questions and answers. (*Notice given 10 November 1998.*)
- 7 **MR PRICE:** To move—That standing order 275A be omitted and the following standing order be substituted:

Statements by Members

275A Notwithstanding standing order 275, when the Main Committee meets on a Thursday, the business before the Committee shall be interrupted at 1 p.m. and the Chair shall call for statements by Members. A Member, other than a Minister, may be called by the Chair to make a statement for a period not exceeding 3 minutes. The period for Members' statements may continue for a maximum of 1 hour. Any business under discussion at 1 p.m. and interrupted under the provisions of this standing order shall be set down on the Notice Paper for the next sitting. (*Notice given 10 November 1998.*)

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS (standing orders 102A and 102C): Presentation and consideration of committee and delegation reports has precedence until 1.15 p.m. each Monday.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS (standing orders 104 and 101) has precedence from the conclusion of consideration of committee and delegation reports, but commencing no later than 1.15 p.m., being interrupted at 1.45 p.m. and then continuing for 1 hour after the presentation of petitions each Monday.

The **SELECTION COMMITTEE** is responsible for determining the order of precedence and allotting time for debate on consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business. Any private Members' business not called on, or consideration of which has been interrupted and not re-accorded priority by the Selection Committee on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays, shall be removed from the Notice Paper (standing order 104B).

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

On the first sitting day of each week, a complete Notice Paper is published containing all unanswered questions. On subsequent days, only new questions for the week are included on the Notice Paper.

First appeared on date shown

11 November 1998

- 1 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer—
 - (1) What percentage of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) budget is directed to (a) compliance activity, (b) audit activity and (c) research into and implementation of tax reform projects.
 - (2) Has the Government directed the ATO to concentrate more staff and funds in the area of tax reform; if so, has extra funding been provided to the ATO for the purpose.
 - (3) Will the Government provide more funding to the ATO for compliance and audit activities.
- 2 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer—Will the Government act to curb the number of bank closures in regional and suburban centres; if so, how.
- 3 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
 - (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2249 (*Hansard*, 30 October 1998, page 10431), has more comprehensive data been made available by the Atlanta authorities regarding passenger and aircraft movements during and after the Atlanta Olympics; if so, (a) is he able to provide estimated passenger and aircraft movements at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport during and immediately after the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and (b) has he or his Department prepared a draft schedule to accommodate additional flights without breaching the hourly cap or night curfew; if not, will he ensure that a schedule is prepared urgently.
 - (2) If the comprehensive data referred to in part (1) has not been made available by the Atlanta authorities, will he pursue the matter.
- 4 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Is the Sydney Airports Corporation Limited seeking tenders for the provision of security services at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport; if so, will the Commonwealth Government's competitive neutrality principles apply to the tendering process and, if so, what are the implications of the principles.
- 5 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Do Commonwealth legislation or regulations require members of the Australian Public Service to retire upon reaching a certain age; if so, (a) what provisions apply, (b) what retirement ages are specified and (c) will the Government amend or abolish the provisions.
- 6 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to the answer to question No. 3061 (*Hansard*, 15 July 1998, page 6263), (a) what human rights issues were placed on the agenda for the meeting of the Standing Committee of

Attorneys-General in Adelaide on 29 to 30 October 1998 by each Attorney-General, (b) what was the outcome of each item on the agenda and (c) where and when will the next meeting of the standing committee be held.

- 7 **MR McCLELLAND** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
- (1) What are the voting rights of prisoners in Australia.
 - (2) Is the Minister able to say whether the Supreme Court of Canada has found the disfranchisement of prisoners to be unconstitutional; if so, is the Minister able to say what was the basis of the finding.
- 8 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What sum did the Commonwealth contribute towards funding Victoria's public hospitals in 1991-92 and each subsequent financial year.
 - (2) Is he able to say what sum the Victorian Government contributed towards funding Victoria's public hospitals in 1991-92 and each subsequent financial year.
 - (3) Is he also able to say what total sum was spent on funding Victoria's public hospitals in 1991-92 and each subsequent financial year.
- 9 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) How many companies pay company tax in Australia.
 - (2) How many companies referred to in part (1) paid company tax at (a) 30, (b) 25, (c) 20, (d) 15, (e) 10 and (f) 5 cents in the dollar in (i) 1992-93, (ii) 1993-94, (iii) 1994-95, (iv) 1995-96 and (v) 1996-97.
- 10 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Did he undertake in the 1997-98 Budget to publish a discussion paper on the taxation of trusts.
 - (2) Has he acted to prepare and publish a discussion paper on the taxation of trusts; if so, (a) what action has he taken and (b) at what cost; if not, why not.
 - (3) Has the Government established a backbench consultative committee on taxation; if so, (a) who are its members, (b) on how many occasions did it meet, (c) how many meetings did (i) he and (ii) the Minister for Finance and Administration attend, (d) what resources did (i) his Department and (ii) the Department of Finance and Administration supply to the committee and (e) at what cost to the Commonwealth.
 - (4) How do discretionary family trusts operate and is it possible for a Member of Parliament to have his or her salary and electorate allowance paid into a family trust to minimise taxation.
- 11 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Did the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) act early on 8 April 1998 to garnishee child support payments from the redundancy payments to Patrick Stevedores employees dismissed on 7 April 1998; if so, did the (a) action accord with the Child Support Charter and (b) ATO adhere to normal procedures with respect to the operation of section 72A notices to recover arrears from redundancy payments.

- (2) When were (a) he and (b) the ATO advised of Patrick Stevedores' intention to dismiss its employees.
 - (3) Was the ATO consulted concerning the dismissal of the employees and the associated tax treatment of their redundancy payments.
 - (4) Does the ATO usually act within 12 to 24 hours to seek recovery from redundancy payments of arrears in accordance with section 72A notices.
- 12 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) For what social security entitlements are New Zealand citizens in Australia eligible under the terms of the International Social Security Agreement between Australia and New Zealand.
 - (2) Does the waiting period for social security entitlements for New Zealand citizens in Australia differ from that applying to citizens from other nations; if so, (a) how and (b) why.
 - (3) Are persons entering Australia from Pacific island nations covered by the International Social Security Agreement between Australia and New Zealand.
 - (4) Under the agreement, what are the entitlements of Australian citizens entering New Zealand.
 - (5) What is the basis of the entitlements referred to in part (4) and how do they differ from those of New Zealand citizens entering Australia.
 - (6) Does the basis of the entitlements of Australian citizens entering New Zealand differ from citizens of other nations.
 - (7) For each category of social security entitlement for persons entering Australia and covered by the agreement, (a) how many recipients are there (i) in total and (ii) from each nation if the entitlement extends to Pacific island nations beyond New Zealand and (b) what was the cost to Australia in 1996-97.
 - (8) Is the Minister able to say how the costs to Australia referred to in part (7) compare with the corresponding costs in 1996-97 to New Zealand (a) in total and (b) for each comparable entitlement.
- 13 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) Will he provide a list showing for each (a) office or (b) outreach office established after 1 May 1998 by (i) Employment National and (ii) a Job Network member the (A) exact address, (B) telephone number, (C) federal electoral division in which it is located, (D) name of the manager and (E) days and hours of opening.
 - (2) Will he provide a list showing which (a) office or (b) outreach office originally established by (i) Employment National and (ii) a Job Network member was not fully operating at 3 October 1998.
- 14 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) What is the period of contract for each organisation participating in the Job Network.
 - (2) When will the Department release tender notices for the next round of contracts.

- (3) What was the cost of the tender process to the Department.
 - (4) How was the cost apportioned and was it subsumed within the Budget allocation for this tender round.
 - (5) What additional costs did the Department incur as a result of companies and organisations rejecting the Department's tender offer and how many tender offers were rejected.
 - (6) What is the Budget allocation for the next round of tendering.
 - (7) How many participants selected to take part in the Job Network have subcontracted their work to other organisations;
 - (8) With respect to each participant referred to in part (7), (a) who is the participant, (b) in which regions was the participant contracted to supply services, (c) what level of flex services was the participant contracted to supply, (d) what are the names of the subcontracting companies or organisations who will complete the work, (e) has his Department approved each subcontracted company or organisation, (f) has his Department agreed to allow the participant to retain a portion of the sum provided under the original contract; if so, what is the (i) name of the participant and (ii) sum being retained in each case, (g) what additional costs did his Department incur as a result of the participant subcontracting work won in the initial tender process and (h) will his Department allow the participant to submit tender proposals in subsequent rounds.
- 15 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) Which participants in the Job Network failed to open all services and activities for which they were contracted on 1 May 1998.
 - (2) At which localities were full services and activities not operating on 1 May 1998.
 - (3) Does the Job Network contract contain penalties for participants unable to meet a commitment to start operating on 1 May 1998; if not, why not; if so, has his Department invoked the penalties.
- 16 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—Has a telephone hot line been established in his, or his immediate predecessor's office or Department since the inception of the work-for-the-dole scheme; if so, were complaints received on the hotline about the scheme or its projects; if so, (a) how many complaints have been registered about (i) the scheme and (ii) its projects and (b) will he provide details of the nature and extent of the complaints.
- 17 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) How many Job Network agencies accepted the Government's Job Network \$10 000 business marketing plan bonus offered before the 1998 federal general election.
 - (2) Did any agencies refuse to accept the offer; if so, (a) on what basis did each refuse, (b) what are the implications for an agency who has refused the offer and (c) is his Department involved in a legal dispute over the offer in a federal court or tribunal.

- (3) Is his Department involved in a legal dispute over Freedom of Information interpretations to do with the tendering for the first round of the Job Network in a federal court or tribunal.

MR LATHAM: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 18-35)—

- (1) What measures has the Minister's Department undertaken which are categorised as positive discrimination programs, that is, providing preference to certain citizens on the basis of their gender, sexuality, age, race, place of birth or some other personal characteristic.
- (2) What are the details and funding commitments involved in each case.
- 18 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister.
- 19 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Trade.
- 20 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Treasurer.
- 21 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 22 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 23 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.
- 24 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business.
- 25 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- 26 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 27 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Defence.
- 28 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care.
- 29 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 30 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs.
- 31 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources.
- 32 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 33 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 34 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.
- 35 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- 36 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Trade—Further to the answer to question No. 2166 (*Hansard*, 23 September 1997, page 8272), what are the details of the Export Market Development Grants paid in 1997-98 to companies in the (a) textile, clothing and footwear, (b) automobile, (c) music, (d) ship building, (e) book printing, (f) steel and metal fabrication, (g) pulp and paper, (h) food processing, (i) pharmaceuticals, (j) biotechnology, (k) mechanical and scientific instruments, (l) information technology, (m) building and construction, (n) environmental technology and (o) resource processing industries.

- 37 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to proposals by prominent Australian economists to reduce Australia's unemployment rate by freezing minimum wage movements; if so, does he support their proposal.
 - (2) Is his Department able to advise as to when earned income tax credits were first introduced in the USA; if so, what movements have there been in the minimum wage rate in the USA since that date.
- 38 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Further to the answer to question No. 2630 (*Hansard*, 28 May 1998, page 4225), will he ensure that any proposed rail link route between Glenfield, NSW, and the proposed second Sydney airport at Badgerys Creek will not involve land covering the Hurlstone Agricultural High School site at Glenfield.
- 39 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—What funding has the Government provided to the Macarthur Business Enterprise Centre since 1996 and what programs were involved.
- 40 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—What were the (a) names, (b) positions and (c) qualifications of the persons who represented Australia at the 22nd session of the World Heritage Bureau which commenced in Paris on 22 June 1998.
- 41 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Did the World Heritage Bureau at its 22nd session in Paris in June 1998 review Australian properties which have been inscribed on the World Heritage List; if so, with what outcome.
 - (2) Did the Bureau consider Australian properties which have been nominated for the List but not inscribed on it; if so, with what outcome.
- 42 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Defence—Further to the answer to question No. 2413 (*Hansard*, 27 November 1997, page 11589), (a) have the front gates of the Ingleburn Army Camp, NSW, facing Old Campbelltown Road been identified for their historical significance; if so, what arrangements have been made for their preservation, and (b) has consideration been given to renaming the site if it is developed for other purposes; if so, what are the details.
- 43 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What sum did the Commonwealth contribute towards funding New South Wales' public hospitals in 1991-92 and in each subsequent financial year.
 - (2) Is he able to say what sum the New South Wales Government contributed towards funding New South Wales' public hospitals in 1991-92 and in each subsequent financial year.
 - (3) Is he also able to say what total sum was spent on funding New South Wales' public hospitals in 1991-92 and in each subsequent financial year.
- 44 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) What was the value of (a) current investment assets, (b) non-current asset investments, (c) equity reserves and (d) investment income for each Australian university in (i) 1996 and (ii) 1997.

- (2) What types of commercial holdings constitute the definition of university investments referred to in part (1).
- 45 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) Was the conference of Arab universities held in Beirut from 2 to 5 March 1998 the last in a series of regional meetings to prepare the groundwork for the World Conference on Higher Education on the theme “Higher Education in the Twenty-First Century” which was to be held in Paris in October 1998.
- (2) When and where have regional conferences been held since the conference which was held in Tokyo from 8 to 10 July 1997.
- (3) Did Australia participate in any regional conferences other than the Tokyo conference.
- (4) Who represented Australia at the world conference in Paris.
- 46 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) For each Australian university, what proportion of students is drawn from the bottom 25 per cent of suburbs or towns, as measured by socioeconomic status.
- (2) What data other than that referred to in part (1) does his Department record for measuring the equity performance of universities and what are the details.
- 47 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—Has the Government entered negotiations with the Ford Motor Company concerning the establishment of four-wheel drive manufacturing in Melbourne; if so, what are the details.
- 48 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs— What institutions other than those mentioned in the answer to question No. 2826 (*Hansard*, 30 June 1998, page 5535), have been approached to return Aboriginal human remains to Australia but have not agreed to return them.
- 49 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Treasurer— On the most recent data, how many Child Support Agency clients reside within the postcode areas of (a) 2145, (b) 2148, (c) 2149, (d) 2160, (e) 2161, (f) 2163 (g) 2164, (h) 2165, (i) 2166, (j) 2171, (k) 2176 and (l) 2766.
- 50 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Does he support the construction of Sydney’s second international airport at Badgerys Creek on the outskirts of Sydney’s western suburbs; if so, why; if not, why not.
- (2) Has the Government’s environmental impact study (EIS) on constructing Sydney’s second international airport at Badgerys Creek been conducted in a manner which is (a) transparent, (b) comprehensive and (c) above reproach; if so, why.
- (3) Will constructing Sydney’s second international airport at Badgerys Creek add value to (a) Sydney’s, (b) NSW’s and (c) Australia’s (i) transport and (ii) tourism infrastructure; if so, why.
- (4) Did the NSW Environment Protection Agency (NSW EPA) find that (a) Badgerys Creek will have a disproportionate impact on photochemical smog

in the area and would be a major source of the air pollutant nitrogen dioxide, (b) Badgerys Creek will generate noise that would expose many persons to levels which would exceed Australian standards, and (c) the draft EIS summary on Badgerys Creek did not demonstrate the real impacts on the community for any particular site option; if so, what is his response to the finding.

- (5) Did Mr Neil Shepherd, the Director-General of the NSW EPA, state that there are serious deficiencies in the Commonwealth's approach to conducting an EIS on Badgerys Creek and that the EPA is concerned about the implications of this development for air quality in the Sydney basin; if so, what is his response to the statements.
 - (6) Have the NSW Government and Opposition both withdrawn their support from the construction of Sydney's second international airport at Badgerys Creek; if so, how will the airport be constructed without the support of the NSW Government.
 - (7) Did the independent auditor of the Badgerys Creek EIS find that the EIS was (a) deficient, (b) limited, and (c) ambiguous and that as a result of time and cost constraints imposed by the Department of Transport and Regional Development, it generally does not go into the degree of detail that could reasonably be expected for such a major proposal; if so, what is his response to the findings.
 - (8) Did the independent auditor of the Badgerys Creek EIS find that the EIS had failed to (a) examine the environmental effect of not building a new airport, (b) provide an adequate economic analysis of the development, (c) build community confidence in the EIS, (d) identify how Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport and a new airport at Badgerys Creek would operate together and (e) satisfactorily examine the impact that noise generated by the airport would have on Sydney's population, especially those living in Sydney's west; if so, what is his response.
 - (9) Will he reopen the process of evaluating proposals for building the Sydney-Canberra Very Fast Train (VFT) to ensure that the Transrapid proposal is given further consideration alongside that of the Speedrail consortium; if not, why not.
 - (10) Will he conduct an EIS into building Sydney's second international airport outside the Sydney basin and being served by the Sydney-Canberra VFT; if not, why not.
- 51 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) According to the Minister's most recent figures, how many pieces of official correspondence has the Minister received from (a) individuals, (b) organisations, and (c) companies registering (i) concern over the effect the parallel importing of CDs will have on the Australian music industry and (ii) approval of the decision to allow the parallel importing of CDs into Australia.
 - (2) Will the Minister provide the name and address of every (a) individual, (b) organisation and (c) company that has registered (i) concern with his office over the effect the parallel importing of CDs will have on the Australian

- music industry and (ii) approval of the decision to allow the parallel importing of CDs into Australia; if not, why not.
- (3) Will the Minister provide evidence that CD prices have dropped across Australia since the parallel importation of CDs was allowed; if not, why not.
 - (4) Will the Commonwealth compensate the owners of Australian (a) independent record labels, (b) recording studios, (c) music magazines and newspapers, (d) live music venues and (e) music artists who lose their businesses and livelihoods as a result of allowing the parallel importation of CDs into Australia; if not, why not.
 - (5) Are Australian CDs overpriced compared to the full-list price of CDs in other western nations; if so, why.
 - (6) Is the Minister able to say whether the cost of a full-list price CD in (a) the USA is approximately A\$30 including state sales tax, (b) the UK is approximately A\$37 before VAT has been added and (c) Japan is approximately A\$34 including tax; if so, are Australian prices better; if not, why not.
- 52 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Did the Minister attend the recent Australian Record Industry Association (ARIA) awards in Sydney; if not, (a) did the Minister send a representative, (b) why did the Minister not attend and (c) did the Minister receive an invitation to attend.
 - (2) If the Minister or a representative attended, what response did representatives and artists of the Australian music industry provide about the Government allowing the parallel importation of CDs.
 - (3) Did the Minister attend an event associated with the recent Pacific Circle Music Convention in Sydney; if not, (a) did the Minister send a representative, (b) why did the Minister not attend and (c) did the Minister receive an invitation to attend.
 - (4) If the Minister or a representative attended, what response did representatives and artists of the Australian music industry provide about the Government allowing the parallel importation of CDs.
- 53 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business— Did the 59th Labour Minister's Council (LMC) Meeting in Wellington, New Zealand, held on 1 May, 1998, consider the issue of protecting workers' entitlements in the event of their employer's insolvency; if so, (a) was it agreed to refer the matter to the Departments of Labour Standing Committee (DOLAC) for detailed consideration including consultation with all affected parties and the preparation of a report, (b) what is the current status of the report, (c) when will it be completed, (d) when will it be presented to the LMC, (e) is he able to say how long the LMC will deliberate on the report before making recommendations; if not, why not, and (f) will he provide an update on which individuals and groups have been consulted during the report's preparation; if not, why not.

- 54 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) Before the 1998 federal general election, did the Government undertake to introduce legislation designed to protect absolutely the wage entitlements of Australian workers if their employer became insolvent; if not, why not.
 - (2) Will he introduce legislation to protect absolutely the wage entitlements of Australian workers if their employer became insolvent; if not, why not; if so, when.
- 55 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Is it important after events of international significance regarding human rights for him or a representative of the Australian diplomatic corps to state the Commonwealth's view of the event; if not, why not.
 - (2) Following the arrest of the former dictator of Chile, General Augusto Pinochet, in London on 17 October 1998, has (a) he, (b) the Australian High Commissioner to the UK or (c) a member of his Department expressed the Government's support to the British Government for the action it had taken; if not, why not.
 - (3) Has (a) he, (b) the Australian Ambassador to Spain or (c) a member of his Department expressed the Government's support to the Spanish Government for the steps it is taking to bring General Pinochet to trial on charges of mass murder; if not, why not.
 - (4) Has (a) he, (b) the Australian Ambassador to Chile or (c) a member of his Department expressed the Government's support of the steps the British and Spanish Governments have taken to bring General Pinochet to trial on charges of mass murder to the Chilean Government; if not, why not.
 - (5) What is the Government's position on the arrest of General Pinochet and the attempt by the Spanish Government to extradite him to Spain to stand trial for the mass murder of Spanish citizens during his rule.
 - (6) Does the Government support in principle a judicial inquiry by either the Spanish or Chilean Governments into General Pinochet's role in the disappearances and deaths of over 3000 persons in Chile between 1973 and 1990.
- 56 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) On the most recent data, how many recipients of (a) Job Search Allowance, (b) Newstart Allowance, (c) Mature Age Allowance, (d) age pension, (e) wife pension, (f) disability support pension, (g) carer pension, (h) youth training allowance, (i) sole parent pension, (j) widow allowance, (k) partner allowance and (l) rent assistance reside within the postcode areas of (i) 2145, (ii) 2148, (iii) 2149, (iv) 2160, (v) 2161, (vi) 2163 (vii) 2164, (viii) 2165, (ix) 2166, (x) 2171, (xi) 2176 and (xii) 2766.
 - (2) How many of the persons referred to in part (1)(l) were either on (a) disability support pension or (b) carer pension within each postcode area referred to.

- 57 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many staff were employed at the (a) Fairfield and (b) Cabramatta offices of the Department of Social Security on 2 March 1996.
 - (2) How many staff were employed at the (a) Fairfield and (b) Cabramatta offices of the Department of Social Security (i) immediately before and (ii) following the restructuring of the offices into the Centrelink network.
 - (3) How many staff are employed at the (a) Fairfield and (b) Cabramatta offices of Centrelink.
- 58 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) On the most recent data, how many community based child care centres are there in the electoral division of Prospect.
 - (2) What is the name and address of each centre.
 - (3) How many children are enrolled at each centre.
 - (4) What sum in Commonwealth funding did each centre receive in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97 and (c) 1997-98.
 - (5) What sum will each centre receive in 1998-99.
 - (6) On the most recent data, how many families residing within the postcode areas of (a) 2145, (b) 2148, (c) 2149, (d) 2160, (e) 2161, (f) 2163 (g) 2164, (h) 2165, (i) 2166, (j) 2171, (k) 2176 and (l) 2766 receive some level of financial childcare support from the Commonwealth and which payments do families receive.
- 59 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) On the most recent data, how many participants in work-for-the-dole schemes reside within the postcode areas of (a) 2145, (b) 2148, (c) 2149, (d) 2160, (e) 2161, (f) 2163 (g) 2164, (h) 2165, (i) 2166, (j) 2171, (k) 2176 and (l) 2766.
 - (2) Will the Minister also provide the name of each organisation running work-for-the-dole schemes which employ residents of each postcode area together with (a) the objectives and (b) location of each scheme.
 - (3) On the most recent data, how many recipients of (a) Austudy and (b) Abstudy reside within the postcode areas of (i) 2145, (ii) 2148, (iii) 2149, (iv) 2160, (v) 2161, (vi) 2163 (vii) 2164, (viii) 2165, (ix) 2166, (x) 2171, (xi) 2176 and (xii) 2766.
- 60 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) How many staff were employed at the (a) Fairfield and (b) Cabramatta offices of the Commonwealth Employment Agency (CES) on 2 March 1996.
 - (2) How many staff were employed at the (a) Fairfield and (b) Cabramatta offices of the CES (i) immediately before and (ii) following the restructuring of the offices into the Employment National network.
 - (3) How many staff are employed at the (a) Fairfield and (b) Cabramatta offices of Employment National.

- 61 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Is the Minister able to say, according to the most recent figures, (a) how many pirate CDs Australian Customs has seized coming into Australia and (b) the estimated value of the material seized, since the Government approved the parallel importation of CDs; if not, why not.
 - (2) Has the Government allocated extra resources or funding to Australian Customs for the detection and confiscation of imported pirate CDs; if not, why not.
 - (3) Is Australian Customs conducting an operation specifically designed to detect and seize imported pirate CDs; if not, why not; if so, (a) what is the name of the operation, (b) when did it begin, (c) how many staff have been allocated to work on the operation, (d) is the operation ongoing or does it have a scheduled end-date and (e) what is its budget.
 - (4) Has the Minister directed Australian Customs to be alert specifically for imported pirate CDs since the Government approved parallel importation; if so, when was the direction made; if not, (a) why not and (b) will the Minister direct them accordingly.
 - (5) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to comments by Mr Michael Speck, Manager of Music Industry Piracy Investigations (MIPI), that triad gangs controlling CD distribution in Asia have unwittingly been granted an entry into the Australian music market by the Government's approval of parallel importation; if so, what is the Minister's response; if not, will the Minister examine the comments and respond; if not, why not.
 - (6) Has Australian Customs or the Australian Federal Police uncovered or detected any evidence to suggest that organised crime is importing pirate CDs following the Government's approval of parallel importation; if so, will the Minister provide details.
 - (7) Is Australian Customs' staff working with staff of MIPI, on any level, to detect and seize imported pirate CDs being imported into Australia; if not, (a) why not and (b) will the Minister direct Australian Customs to work with MIPI and coordinate its operations more closely with the agency; if not, why not.
- 62 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation—Did he attend (a) the recent Australian Record Industry Association (ARIA) awards in Sydney or (b) an event associated with the recent Pacific Circle Music Convention in Sydney; if not, (i) did the Minister send a representative, (ii) why did the Minister not attend and (iii) did the Minister receive an invitation to attend.
- 63 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Sport and Tourism—
- (1) Is it the Government's position that the construction of Sydney's second airport at Badgerys Creek is an important part of (a) expanding and (b) improving Australia's tourism infrastructure; if so, (i) why and (ii) does she support the position.
 - (2) Does she support the construction of Sydney's second international airport at Badgerys Creek for tourism reasons; if not, why not; if so, why.

- (3) Is there strong support within the Australian tourism sector for building Sydney's second airport at Badgerys Creek; if not, why not.
 - (4) Will she draw the attention of the Australian tourism industry of the (a) negative consequences for the people of western Sydney of building a 24 hour international airport at Badgerys Creek and (b) merits of other proposals for Sydney's second airport; if not, why not.
 - (5) Did she state in the House on 9 March 1998 that she supported the construction of Sydney's second international airport offshore on pylons outside Botany Bay and adjacent to La Perouse; if so, does she continue to support that position; if not, why not; if so, will she promote the position to Australia's tourism industry; if not, why not.
- 64 **MR JULL:** To ask the Attorney-General—What is the average time from date of filing to date of hearing for matters filed in each registry of the Family Court for (a) property matters not exceeding a trial of one day's duration, (b) property matters with a trial of more than one day's duration, (c) child related matters of one day's duration and (e) child related matters of more than one day's duration.
- 65 **MR JULL:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Have some registries of the Family Court, such as Brisbane, fallen behind others in dealing with property and child matters; if so, why.
 - (2) Is the Family Court meeting its own time standards; if not, what is it doing to rectify the problems.
- 66 **MR JULL:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) On how many days did each justice and judicial registrar of the Family Court sit in the duty list and trial division in (a) 1996-97 and (b) 1997-98.
 - (2) How many judicial days were available for the Family Court calendar to hear matters in (a) 1996-97 and (b) 1997-98.
 - (3) For each Family Court registry, how many Fridays had listings comparable with other days of the week.
 - (4) Is it a fact that in some Family Court registries very few matters are listed for trial or hearing in the judicial duty list on Fridays; if so, why.
 - (5) Were most Family Court registries closed for a fortnight during October 1998 to enable judges to attend a judges conference in Melbourne and subsequently the National Family Law Conference in Hobart.
 - (6) Could both conferences referred to in part (5) have been held simultaneously or one immediately following the other; if not, why not.
- 67 **MR JULL:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) During judges conferences, is a judge available at each Family Court to hear interim matters.
 - (2) How many judges were on duty at each location of the Family Court during the conference in (a) 1997 and (b) 1998.
- 68 **MR JULL:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Are interim hearings for all matters within the Family Court, including decision on the interim residence of children, restricted to one hour's duration.

- (2) Is it a fact that litigants may wait for up to 18 months for a final determination following an interim hearing; if so, is it also a fact that when matters are listed for final determination often they are not reached at the times set down for trial.
 - (3) When a matter is not reached are litigants required to wait a further 6 months for dates in which they can be heard even with priority given to certain matters.
 - (4) Is it a fact that adjourned hearings cost litigants considerable sums because of the material the Family Court requires to be filed.
- 69 **MR JULL:** To ask the Attorney-General—Will the Government amalgamate the Federal and Family Courts as a cost saving and streamlining of the administration of the existing system; if not, why not.
- 70 **MR JULL:** To ask the Attorney-General—Will federal magistrates appointed to the Family Court be properly selected from the ranks of experienced practitioners to quell fears expressed from some sections of the Family Court.

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- *71 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What sum did the Commonwealth contribute towards funding Tasmania's public hospitals in 1991-92 and each subsequent financial year.
 - (2) Is he able to say what sum the Tasmanian Government contributed towards funding Tasmania's public hospitals in 1991-92 and each subsequent financial year.
 - (3) Is he able to say what total sum was spent on funding Tasmania's public hospitals in 1991-92 and each subsequent financial year.
- *72 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What criteria is the Government using to judge the success or failure of its law enforcement strategy to reduce the availability of illicit drugs.
 - (2) Does the Government undertake research on the market for illicit drugs; if so, what (a) methods are used and (b) research results are (i) publicly available, (ii) of restricted availability and (iii) not publicly available at all.
 - (3) If information is restricted or not publicly available, why is it withheld.
 - (4) What is the Government's estimate for (a) 1996-97 and (b) 1997-98 of:
 - (i) the total street value of illicit drugs sold in Australia;
 - (ii) volume and street value of (A) illicit heroin, (B) cannabis, (C) 'ecstasy', (D) amphetamines, (E) anabolic steroids and other performance enhancing drugs and (F) all other illicit drugs imported into Australia; and
 - (iii) volume and street value of (A) illicit heroin, (B) cannabis, (C) 'ecstasy', (D) amphetamines, (E) anabolic steroids and other performance enhancing drugs and (F) all other illicit drugs grown or manufactured for sale within Australia;
 - (5) What was the effect on the street price of heroin in (a) Sydney, (b) Melbourne, (c) Adelaide, (d) Perth, (e) Darwin, (f) Hobart and (g) Brisbane

of the seizure of 400 kg of heroin by the Australian Federal Police in New South Wales in mid-October 1998 and how was the effect ascertained in each case.

- (6) What was the effect on the street price of 'ecstasy' in (a) Adelaide, (b) Melbourne, (c) Sydney, (d) Perth, (e) Darwin, (f) Hobart and (g) Brisbane of the seizure of 23 000 'ectstasy' tablets by the Australian Federal Police in Adelaide on 5 November 1998 and how was the effect ascertained in each case.
- (7) Is it a fact that 'starter packs' of heroin are available on the streets of Melbourne for about the same price as a packet of cigarettes.
- (8) How many Australians seek assistance from (a) Commonwealth, (b) State and (c) community sector agencies for assistance with ending dependency on heroin.
- (9) How many persons referred to in part (8) (a) are able to gain access and (b) cannot be accommodated without delay, or at all, in detoxification programs.
- (10) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to the opinions of Major Watters, the Chair of its Drug Taskforce, on Ansett's decision to introduce needle disposal units in its airfleet; if so, what is the Government's response.
- (11) If the Minister is unable to supply the data requested in the preceding parts of this question because insufficient information is available to the Government, what action will the Government take to ensure that adequate information is available upon which to make public policy.

*73 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) How many social security pensioners and allowance recipients, by type of payment, are recorded as being in receipt of a disability pension from the Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- (2) How many persons referred to in part (1) receive reduced social security payments because they receive a Department of Veterans' Affairs disability pension.
- (3) Has the Minister's Department conducted a joint review with the Department of Veterans' Affairs of the income test treatment of disability pension recipients; if so, (a) what were the conclusions and recommendations of the review and (b) what action has the Government taken in response.

*74 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many personnel, by rank, have been (a) discharged and (b) advised they will be discharged under the Chief of Air Staff Directive on RAAF Fitness Policy to the date of answering this question.
- (2) How many personnel, by rank, have been (a) discharged and (b) advised they will be discharged under the Chief of the General Staff Directive on Army Individual Readiness to the date of answering this question.
- (3) What specific medical conditions led to the discharge of the personnel referred to in parts (1) and (2).

- (4) How many of the discharged personnel referred to in parts (1) and (2) (a) were members of the (i) Defence Force Retirement and Death Benefits Scheme (DFRDB) and (ii) Military Superannuation and Benefits Scheme (MSBS), (b) by class of benefit, have received invalidity benefits from the (i) DFRDB and (ii) MSBS and (c) are awaiting determination of their invalidity entitlements from the (i) DFRDB and (ii) MSBS.
- (5) What assistance does the ADF provide to personnel who are medically discharged to deal with the termination of their military career, relocate housing and families and, where applicable, obtain suitable civilian employment.

*75 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Defence—

- (1) How many applications for the Australian Active Service Medal 1945-75 had been received at (a) 31 December 1997, (b) 31 March 1998, (c) 30 June 1998 and (d) 30 September 1998.
- (2) How many veterans had (a) been granted and (b) received the medal at (i) 31 December 1997, (ii) 31 March 1998, (iii) 30 June 1998 and (iv) 30 September 1998.
- (3) How many medals have been awarded for each war or conflict to the date of answering this question.
- (4) What is the average time taken to finalise an application.
- (5) When the medal was announced in September 1997, did his Department purchase sufficient medals to satisfy the number of eligible applicants; if not, (a) when were further medals ordered and (b) at what cost.
- (6) How many (a) civilian and (b) military staff were involved in processing medal applications by serving and former Defence personnel at (i) 31 December 1995, (ii) 31 December 1996 and (iii) 31 December 1997.
- (7) Is there a delay in processing applications for medals; if so, what action will be taken to address the delays.

*76 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) How many Vietnam veterans live in the Far North Queensland region.
- (2) Is there an outposted office of the Vietnam Veterans' Counselling Service at Smithfield in Cairns; if so, (a) when was it established and (b) has a full-time staff position at the office become vacant; if so, (i) when and (ii) has the Government decided not to fill the position; if so, why.
- (3) What is the location of the nearest office of the Vietnam Veterans' Counselling Service to residents of Cairns.
- (4) If there is an office at Smithfield, (a) who owns the premises, (b) what annual rent is paid and (c) what is the duration of the lease.

*77 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation—

- (1) According to the most recent information, what sum has been approved for projects under the Federation Fund (a) in total and (b) for each electoral division.

- (2) Will he provide a list showing the (a) name of each project for which funding has been approved, (b) date of approval and (c) sum to be received; if not, why not.
- (3) When will the process of approving projects for the allocation of funds under the Federation Fund be completed.
- (4) Will he explain the selection process by which each successful Federation Fund project is approved; if not, why not; if so, (a) is there a selection panel involved, (b) who are the individuals on the selection panel, (c) who chairs the selection panel, (d) are members on the panel remunerated for their work or do they participate in an entirely voluntary capacity and (e) if remuneration occurs, (i) what form does it take, (ii) what sum does each receive and (iii) how regularly is it received.

*78 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) What sum did the Commonwealth contribute towards funding Queensland's public hospitals in 1991-92 and each subsequent financial year.
- (2) Is he able to say what sum the Queensland Government contributed towards funding Queensland's public hospitals in 1991-92 and each subsequent financial year.
- (3) Is he able to say what total sum was spent on funding Queensland's public hospitals in 1991-92 and each subsequent financial year.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

SPEAKER'S PANEL

Mr Adams, Mr K. J. Andrews, Mrs Crosio, Mr Hollis, Mrs D. M. Kelly, Mr Mossfield,
Mr Quick.

APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY BODIES

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES: *(Member to be appointed).*

COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA: *(Member to be appointed).*

PARLIAMENTARY RETIRING ALLOWANCES TRUST: Mr Charles *(appointed 24 June 1996)* and *(Member to be appointed).*