

1998

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## NOTICE PAPER

No. 4

TUESDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 1998

*The House meets this day at 2 p.m.*


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 GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

## Orders of the day

- 1 **ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 November 1998—Mr Katter, in continuation*) on the proposed Address in Reply.
- 2 **PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE INCENTIVES BILL 1998** (*Minister for Health and Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Ms Macklin*).
- 3 **PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE INCENTIVES AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Health and Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Ms Macklin*).
- 4 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Health and Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Ms Macklin*).
- 5 **ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES CONVENTION BILL 1998** (*Minister for Foreign Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Mr Edwards*).
- 6 **ACTS INTERPRETATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Ms Macklin*).
- 7 **AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1998** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Ms Macklin*).
- 8 **1998 BUDGET MEASURES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' ENTITLEMENTS) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 9 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998** (*Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the*

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

*Arts*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Mr Martin*).

- 10 **DATA-MATCHING PROGRAM (ASSISTANCE AND TAX) AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (from *Senate*): Second reading (from 12 November 1998).
- 11 **TELSTRA (TRANSITION TO FULL PRIVATE OWNERSHIP) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 23 November 1998—*Dr Nelson, in continuation*).
- 12 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Ms Macklin*).
- 13 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS (UNIVERSAL SERVICE LEVY) AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Ms Macklin*).
- 14 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS (CONSUMER PROTECTION AND SERVICE STANDARDS) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Ms Macklin*).
- 15 **NRS LEVY IMPOSITION AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Ms Macklin*).
- 16 **PAYMENT PROCESSING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' ENTITLEMENTS) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Mr Martin*).
- 17 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Mr Martin*).
- 18 **AGED CARE AMENDMENT (ACCREDITATION AGENCY) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Mr Lee*).
- 19 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS AMENDMENT (UNFAIR DISMISSALS) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Ms Macklin*).
- 20 **AUSTRALIAN WOOL RESEARCH AND PROMOTION ORGANISATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Ms Macklin*).
- 21 **AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL TRAINING AUTHORITY AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Ms Macklin*).
- 22 **ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER HERITAGE PROTECTION BILL 1998** (*Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Mr Martin*).
- 23 **SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (CHOICE OF SUPERANNUATION FUNDS) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Mr Martin*).

- 24 **SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION (COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT) REPEAL AND AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 25 **COMMONWEALTH SUPERANNUATION BOARD BILL 1998** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 26 **SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION (COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT—SAVING AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1998** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 27 **SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION (COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT) REPEAL AND AMENDMENT (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 1998** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Mr O'Connor*).
- \*28 **EDUCATION SERVICES FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS (REGISTRATION OF PROVIDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATION) AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*from Senate*): Second reading (*from 23 November 1998*).
- 29 **CENTRELINK**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 2 (*from 12 November 1998*).
- 30 **AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENT COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 31 **LAND AND WATER RESOURCES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 32 **ADVANCE TO THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE, JULY 1998—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS**: Resumption of debate (*from 12 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 33 **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.
- 34 **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.
- 35 **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.
- 36 **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.

- 37 **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.
- 38 **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.
- 39 **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.
- 40 **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.
- 41 **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.
- 42 **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.
- 43 **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.
- 44 **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.
- 45 **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.
- 46 **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.
- 47 **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.
- 48 **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.

- 49 **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.
- 50 **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.
- 51 **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.
- 52 **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.
- 53 **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.
- 54 **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.
- 55 **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.
- 56 **PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS BROADCASTING AMENDMENT BILL 1998:** Second reading (*from 10 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

### Notices given for Tuesday, 24 November 1998

\*1 **MRS BAILEY:** To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises the importance of labelling to both industry and consumers;
- (2) acknowledges that the label 'Product of Australia' is the premium label for Australian goods; and
- (3) calls on the Government to ensure that there is clear definition and understanding of the 'Made in Australia' label by both industry and consumers. (*Notice given 23 November 1998.*)

\*2 **MRS GALLUS:** To move—That this House:

- (1) strongly condemns the recent grave attacks on the Iranian Baha'i community, including the brutal execution of Mr Ruhullah Rawhani in July in the absence of due legal process, raids on 500 Baha'i homes in an orchestrated nation-wide attempt to prevent Baha'i youth from receiving education, confirmation of death sentences against two Baha'i men and the detention and imprisonment of 16 other Baha'is for practising their faith;
  - (2) calls on the Government of Iran to end its oppression of the Baha'i community, ensure the safety and early release of all those Baha'is imprisoned in Iran, immediately take steps to implement UN resolutions defining steps required of the Iranian Government and calling for the emancipation of the Baha'is and respect the principles of the International Covenants on Human Rights to which Iran is a party; and
  - (3) expresses its deep disappointment that despite the consideration of this matter by both Houses of the Australian Parliament last year, the Iranian Government, far from taking action to remedy the situation, has intensified its persecution of Baha'is. (*Notice given 23 November 1998.*)
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### 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.*)

- 8 **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.*)

9 **MR MARTIN:** To move—That this Parliament calls for the referral of an inquiry into the Australian insurance industry to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Financial Institutions and Public Administration and the issues to be considered to include:

- (a) the moral and legal responsibility of insurance companies to honour policies in respect of storm damage and flood;
- (b) necessary legislative change to ensure pedantic definitional arguments are not used by companies to negate payments to policy holders;
- (c) the examination of the legislative base in the provision of flood insurance in the USA and UK and its potential relevance to Australia;
- (d) the ways in which insurance companies approached the interpretation of storm and flood damage in recent disasters in Wollongong, Katherine, Coffs Harbour and Townsville; and
- (e) existing Commonwealth and State or Territory government legislative support mechanisms to assist areas and victims affected by such disasters and whether changes are necessary to ensure rapid and effective relief. (*Notice given 12 November 1998.*)

10 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the increasing number of closures of bank branches within the Australian community;
- (2) agrees to refer the issue of bank closures to the Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs to take evidence as appropriate and consider appropriate recommendations to place before the House; and
- (3) determines that, as well as the general reference, the standing committee also inquire into and report on the increasing number of service reductions within communities and the increasing difficulties with which remaining services are able to be contacted by local residents where services are reduced or removed. (*Notice given 12 November 1998.*)

11 **MR ALBANESE:** To move—That this House:

- (1) recognises the importance of affordable, quality child care for Australian parents;
- (2) deplores the lack of childcare facilities available to Members, Senators and staff working at Parliament House, noting that this lack of workplace child care has led to increased difficulties for parents working at Parliament House following the Coalition's attacks on child care over the past 3 years;
- (3) condemns the Howard Government for its massive attacks on child care and notes that in the course of the first Howard Government childcare funding was slashed by a total of \$800 million; and
- (4) expresses its concern that these cuts have resulted in fee rises, the closure of childcare centres and women being forced out of the paid workforce, instead of providing families with a choice about how they care for their children. (*Notice given 12 November 1998.*)

12 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To move—That this House:

- (1) notes the decline in home ownership in Australia;
- (2) agrees to refer the issue of declining home ownership to the Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs to consider ways of increasing home ownership in Australia; and
- (3) determines that, as well as the general reference; the standing committee inquire into the feasibility of the use of the family payment for the purpose of the deposit for a first family home and particularly examine how this might assist low income families to purchase their own home. (*Notice given 12 November 1998.*)

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**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).

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## 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.

### *Questions unanswered*

1-8, 10-78.

### *23 November 1998*

79 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Is it a fact that because the Western Sydney Orbital Road System has not been constructed a huge volume of heavy transport travels through residential areas of Western Sydney.
- (2) Has funding of the Western Sydney Orbital Road System been delayed pending a decision on the construction of an airport at Badgerys Creek.
- (3) Has his attention been drawn to the hardship to residents and increasing costs to businesses and transport operations caused by the delayed construction of the Western Sydney Orbital Road System.
- (4) What steps is he or his Department taking to ensure funding is provided to allow construction of the Western Sydney Orbital Road System to proceed.

80 **MR MARTIN:** To ask the Minister for Defence—Did the ADF assist or take part in the staging of the 1998 Australian Football League (AFL) grand final; if so, (a) what form did the assistance or participation take, (b) what was the cost of each component of assistance or participation, (c) was the AFL asked to pay and (d) did the ADF or his Department receive any benefits from the AFL.

81 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) What Commonwealth funding was provided in each financial year since 2 March 1996 directly to projects or programs for which the Minister has portfolio responsibility operating in the electoral divisions of (a) Prospect, (b) Fowler, (c) Reid, (d) Chifley, (e) Lindsay, (f) Werriwa, (g) Greenway, (h) Blaxland and (i) Parramatta which are aimed at (i) combating or (ii) preventing all facets of the illicit drug trade.
- (2) With respect to each project or program referred to in part (1), (a) what is its name, (b) who operates it, (c) what are its aims and objectives, (d) what funding has it received and (e) in what year did Commonwealth funding commence.

82 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) What Commonwealth funding was provided in each financial year since 2 March 1996 directly to projects or programs operating in the electoral divisions of (a) Prospect, (b) Fowler, (c) Reid, (d) Chifley, (e) Lindsay, (f) Werriwa, (g) Greenway, (h) Blaxland and (i) Parramatta with the purpose of

- (i) combating or (ii) preventing the negative health effects of opiate addiction.
- (2) With respect to each project or program referred to in part (1), (a) what is its name, (b) who operates it, (c) what are its aims and objectives, (d) what funding has it received and (e) in what year did Commonwealth funding commence.
- (3) Has Commonwealth funding or resources been allocated to assist State and Territory governments carry out rapid detoxification trials or programs since 2 March 1996; if so, (a) what funding or resources have been allocated and (b) why did the Commonwealth allocate the funding or resources.
- (4) Will he act to regulate the proliferation in Australia of private health clinics and organisations offering opiate addicts rapid detoxification cures before clinical trials of rapid detoxificants are completed by State and Territory authorities; if not, why not; if so, what action will he take.
- (5) Has his attention been drawn to the fact that (a) opiate addicts undergoing rapid detoxification treatment in private clinics are paying up to \$10 000 for the treatment which is not recoverable under private health insurance or Medicare, (b) rapid detoxification treatments, such as Naltrexone, are being marketed to the Australian public by private health clinics as instant cures when the actual cure rate is less than 50 per cent and (c) unscrupulous profiteers are moving into the rapid detoxification treatment industry without having the necessary expertise or experience; if so, will he act to regulate the (i) proliferation and (ii) advertising claims and marketing practices of the rapid detoxification industry; if not, why not.
- (6) What legal requirements and obligations apply to operators of rapid detoxification treatment programs and how are they enforced.
- (7) Are the requirements referred to in part (a) sufficient and (b) being policed effectively; if so, why; if not, why not.
- (8) Has his attention been drawn to comments by Dr Alex Wodak, Director of Alcohol and Drug Services at St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, and NSW State MP, Mr Bill Rixon, that there is a black market in rapid opiate detoxificants such as Naltrexone; if so, will he act to combat the black market; if not, why not.
- (9) Will he provide the name of every (a) individual, (b) organisation, or (c) company that has registered concern with his office over the use of Naltrexone and other rapid detoxificants to treat opiate addicts in Australia; if not, why not.
- (10) Did he register concern with the Western Australian Government over its failure to adequately regulate a private trial of the drug Naltrexone by Dr George O'Neil; if so, (a) why did he register concern and (b) did four patients associated with Dr O'Neil's trial die.
- (11) Is the level of WA Government regulation governing Dr O'Neil's practice adequate; if so, why; if not, why not.

83 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Has he monitored the actions the Swiss Government is taking to fight opiate addiction and the trade in illicit drugs following the completion of its three year, state-provided heroin trial; if not, why not.
- (2) Is it a fact that the trial's results concluded that giving prescribed amounts of heroin to addicts (a) improved their health, (b) cut crime rates and (c) saved society money.
- (3) Is it also a fact that following the trial's completion, the Swiss Government has committed itself to operating a permanent program that prescribes heroin to certain addicts under medical supervision; if so, does he support the Swiss Government's actions.
- (4) Is it also a fact that the Netherlands Government is carrying out an organised trial of prescribing heroin to addicts; if so, (a) when did it start, (b) when will it finish, (c) is he able to provide preliminary results from the trial and (d) will he monitor its results; if not, why not.
- (5) Is he able to provide information on other national governments (a) involved in or (b) having completed a trial that prescribes heroin to addicts as a means of controlling drug addiction and limiting the illegal drug trade's impact on society.

84 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) What Commonwealth funding was provided in each financial year since 2 March 1996 directly to projects or programs for which he has portfolio responsibility operating in the electoral divisions of (a) Prospect, (b) Fowler, (c) Reid, (d) Chifley, (e) Lindsay, (f) Werriwa, (g) Greenway, (h) Blaxland and (i) Parramatta which are aimed at (i) combating or (ii) preventing all facets of the illicit drug trade.
- (2) With respect to each project or program referred to in part (1), (a) what is its name, (b) who operates it, (c) what are its aims and objectives, (d) what funding has it received and (e) in what year did Commonwealth funding commence.

85 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What was the total cost to the (a) Commonwealth and (b) Australian Taxation Office (ATO) of implementing the superannuation contributions surcharge including salaries, systems, advertising, liaison, out-ride agency costs, legal and accounting.
- (2) What is the estimated cost to the superannuation industry of implementing the surcharge provisions.
- (3) What sum was collected from surchargeable contributions in 1997-98.
- (4) What sum is estimated to be collected from surchargeable contributions in (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000 and (c) 2000-2001.
- (5) How many dead persons (a) have been levied with the surcharge and (b) will be required to pay the advance instalment.
- (6) What special arrangements have been made to allow dead persons to recover the advance surcharge instalment.

- (7) What are the details of the test cases the ATO is running on the surcharge and what will the test cases cost.
  - (8) How many due surcharge assessments had not been issued by the ATO as at 12 November 1998.
  - (9) How many surcharge assessments were issued to persons who did not provide their tax file number to their superannuation fund or the ATO.
  - (10) What is the estimated number of persons who have been issued with a surcharge assessment but who earn less than the threshold income.
- 86 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer—  
Is it a fact that a Senior Officer Grade A has been appointed to the Parliamentary Business Section of the Australian Taxation Office with effect from 14 December 1998; if so, (a) was the position advertised; if so, where, (b) what were the selection criteria and where are they recorded and (c) who determined the salary and conditions of appointment.
- 87 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What arrangements were made for representatives of the World Heritage Committee to visit Kakadu National Park.
  - (2) What were the (a) names, (b) positions and (c) qualifications of the representatives.
  - (3) Who accompanied the representatives.
  - (4) Who met the representatives on the site or in its vicinity.
- 88 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many APS staff were employed (a) in total and (b) at each APS staff level in the Centrelink National Support Office in Tuggeranong, ACT, on (i) 1 July 1998, (ii) 1 July 1997 and (iii) 1 July 1996.
  - (2) What area of office space was used by the Centrelink National Support Office in Tuggeranong on (a) 1 July 1998, (b) 1 July 1997 and (c) 1 July 1996.
  - (3) How many APS staff were employed in the Centrelink customer service centres in (a) Tuggeranong and (b) Woden on (i) 1 July 1998, (ii) 1 July 1997 and (iii) 1 July 1996.
  - (4) How many (a) Centrelink clients, (b) youth Allowance recipients, (c) Newstart allowance recipients, (d) family allowance recipients, (e) aged pension and (f) disability allowance recipients resided in the post code areas of (i) 2600, (ii) 2603, (iii) 2605, (iv) 2606, (v) 2607, (vi) 2900, (vii) 2901, (viii) 2902, (ix) 2903, (x) 2904, (xi) 2905 and (xii) 2906 on 1 July 1998.
- 89 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many case managers were employed in the Centrelink customer service centres in (a) Tuggeranong, ACT, and (b) Woden on (i) 1 July 1998, (ii) 1 July 1997 and (iii) 1 July 1996.
  - (2) How many clients were managed by each case manager employed in the Centrelink customer service centres in (a) Tuggeranong and (b) Woden on (i) 1 July 1998, (ii) 1 July 1997 and (iii) 1 July 1996.

- (3) Under the new service delivery model announced by the Minister on 9 November 1998, how many (a) case managers will be employed and (b) clients will be managed by each case manager in the Centrelink customer service centres in (i) Tuggeranong and (ii) Woden.
- 90 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—
- (1) What sum did his Department pay in (a) overtime and (b) travel allowance to (i) personal and (ii) electorate staff of each incumbent Member and Senator between 31 August and 3 October 1998.
  - (2) What was the average monthly sum of (a) overtime and (b) travel allowance paid by his Department to (i) personal and (ii) electoral staff of each sitting Member and Senator in 1997-98.
- 91 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—
- (1) Will the Government act on the Productivity Commission's proposals on the funding of nursing homes.
  - (2) Did the Productivity Commission propose in respect of nursing homes that (a) Government funding be sufficient and (b) the industry have adequate and appropriate representation to assist the Government implement changes; if so, will the Government adopt the proposals and, if so, how.
  - (3) Did the Productivity Commission propose that coalescence should not proceed in its current form; if so, will she ensure that high-care nursing homes in New South Wales are refunded for the coalescence factor implemented from 1 July 1998.
  - (4) Will the Government address an anomaly in the subsidy rates relating to Other Cost Reimbursed Expenditure for New South Wales.
  - (5) Did the Productivity Commission identify deficiencies in the hostel system similar to those in the nursing home sector; if so, how will the Government address the deficiencies.
  - (6) Did the Productivity Commission propose that additional Government funding support be provided to smaller nursing homes in rural and remote areas; if so, will she ensure that the particular needs of nursing homes in regional centres, like Bathurst and Orange, also receive additional funding.
  - (7) Is it a fact that various State-related charges are not recognised in funding but have a significant impact on the viability of aged care facilities; if so, how will the Government take the charges into account.
- 92 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—What projects did the Australia Council fund in the Melbourne metropolitan area in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97 and (c) 1997-98 and what was the (i) expenditure on, (ii) location of, and (iii) purpose of, each project.
- 93 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On most recent data, how many Child Support Agency clients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090 and (x) 3752.



- 94 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On most recent data, how many family allowance supplement recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090 and (x) 3752.
- 95 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On most recent data, how many disability support pension recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090 and (x) 3752.
- 96 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On most recent data, how many sole parent pension recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090 and (x) 3752.
- 97 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On most recent data, how many age pension recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090 and (x) 3752.
- 98 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On most recent data, how many Newstart allowance recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090 and (x) 3752.
- 99 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On most recent data, how many youth allowance recipients reside in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090 and (x) 3752.
- 100 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On most recent data, what sum in childcare assistance per child per annum was allocated to (a) family, (b) private long and (c) community long day care in (i) Australia, (ii) Victoria and (iii) the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083, (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090 and (J) 3752.
- 101 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—What percentage of Medicare services was provided at or below the scheduled fee during (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97 and (c) 1997-98 in (i) Victoria and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- 102 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—How many Medicare services were provided per capita during (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97 and (c) 1997-98 in (i) Victoria and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- 103 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—What was the total number of Medicare services provided during (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97 and (c) 1997-98 in (i) Victoria and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.

- 104 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—What sums were provided to (a) government and (b) non-government schools in (i) 1995-96, (ii) 1996-97 and (iii) 1997-98 in the postcode areas of (A) 3074, (B) 3075, (C) 3076, (D) 3082, (E) 3083, (F) 3087, (G) 3088, (H) 3089, (I) 3090 and (J) 3752 and what was the (I) expenditure on, (II) location of, and (III) purpose of, each grant.
- 105 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Trade—What sums were provided to companies in Victoria for export assistance in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97 and (c) 1997-98 and what was the (i) expenditure on, (ii) location of, and (iii) purpose of, each grant.
- 106 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Attorney-General—On most recent data, what is the incidence of reported crime by type in (a) Victoria and (b) the postcode areas of (i) 3074, (ii) 3075, (iii) 3076, (iv) 3082, (v) 3083, (vi) 3087, (vii) 3088, (viii) 3089, (ix) 3090 and (x) 3752.
- 107 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government—What sums were allocated in local government financial assistance grants in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97 and (c) 1997-98 to the (i) City of Whittlesea, (ii) City of Banyule, (iii) Shire of Nillumbuk and (iv) City of Darebin.
- 108 **MR LINDSAY:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On most recent data, how many Child Support Agency clients reside in the postcode areas of (a) 4810, (b) 4811, (c) 4812, (d) 4814, (e) 4815, (f) 4816, (g) 4817, (h) 4818 and (i) 4819.
- MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 109-126)—Did the Minister, his or her predecessor or his or her Department appoint a (a) former member of the Commonwealth Parliament or (b) member of the secretariats of the national offices of the Liberal Party of Australia, National Party of Australia, Australian Labor Party, Australian Democrats or Australian Greens as a (i) statutory appointment, (ii) consultant or (iii) other appointment to government boards or posts between 30 April 1996 and 31 August 1998; if so, in each case, (A) what was the person's name and the position to which he or she was appointed, (B) to which political party was he or she affiliated, (C) what remuneration was involved, (D) was the appointment (I) full-time, (II) part-time or (III) casual, (E) what fees were applicable and (F) with respect to (I) travel allowance, (II) vehicles, (III) telephones and (IV) attendance fees, (aa) what entitlements were claimable, (ab) how often were entitlements claimed and (ac) what sum was paid under each entitlement.
- 109 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Prime Minister.
- 110 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Trade.
- 111 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer.
- 112 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 113 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 114 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.

- 115 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business.
- 116 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- 117 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 118 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Defence.
- 119 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care.
- 120 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 121 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs.
- 122 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources.
- 123 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 124 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 125 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs.
- 126 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs.
- 127 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many staff were employed at the (a) Preston and (b) Northcote offices of the Department of Social Security on 2 March 1996.
  - (2) How many staff were employed at the (a) Preston and (b) Northcote 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 were employed at the Preston office of Centrelink on 6 November 1998.
  - (4) What changes to staffing numbers at the Preston Office of Centrelink will occur as a result of the Centrelink staffing announcement on 9 November 1998.
- 128 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) How many applications did his Department receive for the National Youth Roundtable before the original October 1998 deadline.
  - (2) What was the (a) age and (b) place and State of residence of each applicant referred to in part (1).
  - (3) Will the applications received before the October deadline be accorded priority over later applications.
- 129 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) On most recent data, how many participants in work-for-the-dole schemes reside within each federal electoral division.

- (2) What is the name of each organisation running work-for-the-dole schemes in each federal electoral division and what are the (a) objectives and (b) location of each scheme.
- 130 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs— On most recent data, how many recipients of (a) Austudy and (b) Abstudy reside within each federal electoral division.
- 131 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) On most recent data, how many participants in Green Corps schemes reside within each federal electoral division.
- (2) What was the (a) number and (b) percentage of participants in Green Corps schemes in each federal electoral division who were (i) unemployed or (ii) tertiary students before taking part in the schemes.
- (3) What is the name of each organisation running Green Corps schemes in each federal electoral division and what are the (a) objectives and (b) location of each scheme.
- 132 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) How many staff were employed at the (a) Northcote, (b) Heidelberg, (c) Coburg and (d) Epping offices of the Commonwealth Employment Service (CES) on 2 March 1996.
- (2) How many staff were employed at the (a) Northcote, (b) Heidelberg, (c) Coburg and (d) Epping 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 Preston office of Employment National.
- 133 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) What resources and funding are used to promote the code of conduct to Job Network clients.
- (2) How many staff in each region and State are allocated by his Department to monitor adherence to the code of conduct by Job Network members.
- (3) Do the staff referred to in part (2) have responsibilities other than monitoring adherence to the code of conduct; if so, (a) what are the other responsibilities and (b) what proportion of working time is spent on the other responsibilities.
- (4) What complaints have been lodged with his Department against Job Network members in each region and State on the basis of the code of conduct and what was the nature of the complaints.
- (5) How many Job Network contracts has his Department cancelled since 1 May 1998.
- (6) How many Job Network members have had allocations decreased since 1 May 1998 because of non-performance at specified milestones.

134 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) When did the (a) Government and (b) Federal Office of Road Safety become aware that (i) many Hyundai Excels in Australia have a fault in the forward right-side wheel assembly which potentially threatens safety and (ii) Hyundai Excels with the same fault were recalled in the USA in 1996 because they were considered a safety risk.
- (2) What action did the (a) Government and (b) Federal Office of Road Safety take after learning of the fault's existence to ensure that the safety of Australian road users was protected.
- (3) What mechanisms does the Government employ to ensure that information about faults in vehicles detected in other countries is immediately available to relevant Australian authorities.
- (4) Did the Government order an immediate recall of Hyundai Excels upon learning of the fault's existence and the previous action of the US Government; if not, why not.
- (5) Did he or a Government representative ask Hyundai why they did not act on the matter as soon as the cars had been recalled in the USA; if so, (a) when and (b) what was the response.

*24 November 1998*

\*135 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—

- (1) How many submissions were received in response to the public consultation paper on the West Australian Regional Forest Agreement.
- (2) How and by whom have the submissions been evaluated.
- (3) When will the agreement be signed.

**MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. \*136-\*139)—  
Did the Minister's Department or an agency for which the Minister has portfolio responsibility, or their predecessors, let or make contracts, grants or secondments between 1 July 1996 and 30 June 1998 to the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Western Australia; if so, in each case, what are the details, including (a) the Department or agency involved and (b) the (i) purpose, (ii) date of approval and (iii) value or cost of the contract, grant or secondment.

\*136 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Trade.

\*137 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business.

\*138 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Minister Education, Training and Youth Affairs.

\*139 **MS J. S. McFARLANE:** To ask the Industry, Science and Resources.

\*140 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—What were the words in the oaths of office taken by the Ministers in the second Howard Government.

\*141 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Did Australia accede on 6 August 1986 to Unesco's 1979 Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the States belonging to the Europe Region.
- (2) Was Australia the first country outside Europe to become a party to the convention.
- (3) Which other countries outside Europe have acceded to the convention and when did they do so.
- (4) Did Germany become a party to the convention on 8 December 1994.
- (5) Was Germany the last country in Europe to become a party to the convention.
- (6) Was a memorandum of understanding on recognition of academic qualifications signed in Canberra on 29 September 1998 between the Australian Commonwealth Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs and the Secretariat of the Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the German Länder.
- (7) What steps has Australia taken towards concluding such memorandums with other parties to the convention.

\*142 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Who are the members of the Productivity Commission inquiring into gambling.
- (2) What are their qualifications and from which State does each come.
- (3) What are the terms of reference of the inquiry.
- (4) How far has the inquiry advanced.
- (5) Will the inquiry conduct public hearings.
- (6) When is the final report expected to be presented.

\*143 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Do the majority of aircraft accidents occur within a 10 kilometre radius of the point of take-off; if so, what does the statistic reveal.
- (2) Have the probabilities of an aircraft accident occurring at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport been researched; if so, (a) what does the research reveal and (b) what are the probabilities of an accident occurring during (i) take-off and (ii) landing.
- (3) How many aircraft accidents have occurred at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport in the last 40 years.
- (4) What advice has his Department received on the probabilities of an aircraft accident occurring at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport during the next 40 years.
- (5) If his Department maintains that it has not received any specific advice on these matters would he provide his reply on the basis of the information of which his Department is aware.

\*144 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
Did an incident occur at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport during the afternoon of 21 March 1998 involving an Ansett aircraft which was required to abort its

landing; if so, (a) what were the circumstances in which the aircraft aborted its landing, (b) what were the cross and down wind components at the time and (c) has the appropriateness of the selected operational runway in the prevailing wind conditions been investigated; if so, with what outcome.

- \*145 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
Further to the answer to question No. 99 (*Hansard*, 20 August 1996, page 3289), would he bring up-to-date the information which was provided on the number of (a) air safety incidents at or over Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport and (b) occasions that the 11 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew has been breached since 3 May 1996.
- \*146 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2452 (*Hansard*, 2 March 1998, page 150), what were the dates of the correspondence which Airservices Australia received from the professional organisation representing air traffic controllers at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport between April 1996 and May 1997.
  - (2) Has he, his predecessor, his Department or Airservices Australia received further correspondence from the professional organisation since May 1997 regarding the operation of the Long Term Operating Plan at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport; if so, (a) what were the dates of the correspondence, (b) what was its subject matter and (c) what was the response.
- \*147 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2453 (*Hansard*, 2 March 1998, page 150), will he advise of the dates on which he, his predecessor, his Department or Airservices Australia received complaints from the Australian International Pilots Association regarding the use of the East-West runway at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport in cross wind conditions in excess of 15 knots.
  - (2) What was the nature of the complaints referred to in part (1) and what was the response in each case.
- \*148 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
Will he provide up-to-date information on the number of aborted take-offs at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport since the answer to question No. 1734 (*Hansard*, 2 March 1998, page 151).
- \*149 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
Further to the answer to question No. 2615 (*Hansard*, 28 May 1998, page 4224), in the period since the Long Term Operating Plan for Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport was adopted on how many occasions have aircraft landed in cross winds in excess of 15 knots and what were the circumstances in which the landings occurred.
- \*150 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
Further to the answer to question No. 2615 (*Hansard*, 28 May 1998, page 4224), on how many occasions have aircraft taken off in cross winds in excess of 15 knots since the Long Term Operating Plan at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport was adopted and what were the circumstances in which the take-offs occurred.

- \*151 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
Further to the answer to question No. 2616 (*Hansard*, 28 May 1998, page 4224), since the Long Term Operating Plan was adopted (a) on how many occasions have pilots nominated a runway to land their aircraft at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport which was other than that nominated by Airservices Australia and (b) what were the circumstances in each case.
- \*152 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2619 (*Hansard*, 24 June 1998, page 5280), how many failures to comply with air traffic control clearances occurred at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport in the two-year period before 4 February 1997.
  - (2) Have failures to comply with air traffic control clearances related to directions, requests or instructions made by air traffic controllers as part of their implementation of the Long Term Operating Plan occurred since 4 February 1997; if so, (a) how many and (b) in what circumstances.
- \*153 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
Is the Government aware of any independent studies which have been undertaken on the viability of the Long Term Operating Plan targets regarding flight paths over various areas of Sydney; if so, (a) what independent studies and (b) what did the studies reveal about the viability of the targets.
- \*154 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has he received submissions, representations, correspondence or other communication from Qantas Airways Limited or Ansett Australia claiming additional costs that have been incurred by the airlines as a result of the implementation of the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) for Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport; if so, (a) who made the submissions, representations, correspondence or other communications and (b) what additional costs were claimed to have been incurred by those airlines.
  - (2) Has his attention been drawn to Australian or overseas research identifying language differences between foreign pilots and air traffic controllers as being a significant safety issue.
  - (3) What steps has the Government implemented to address the issue referred to in part (2) in view of the complexities of the LTOP.
- \*155 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to studies proposing that the safest mode of operation for Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport and surrounding air space is one which maintains segregated air space; if so, (a) what studies and (b) what were the major recommendations of the studies with respect to developing segregated air space.
  - (2) Has the Government abandoned the use of segregated air space at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport; if so, why.
- \*156 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
Further to the answer to question No. 2618 (*Hansard*, 28 May 1998, page 4224), what was (a) his Department's and (b) Airservices Australia's response to the Bureau of Air Safety Investigation report published in January 1997 entitled 'An



analysis of incidents involving air crew failing to comply with air traffic clearances: June-August 1996'.

\*157 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2617 (*Hansard*, 28 June 1998, page 4224), what steps must be taken for Airservices Australia to obtain the information which I requested about how many times pilots have refused Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) based landing directions and will he direct Airservices Australia to take the steps.
- (2) Have pilots refused LTOP based take-off directions since it was implemented; if so, (a) how many times, (b) what are the details of the circumstances in which the directions were refused and (c) what reasons did pilots provide for refusing the directions.

\*158 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) What approximate quantity of fuel is carried by a Qantas Boeing 747 travelling from Sydney to Los Angeles when it takes off.
- (2) What is the average tonnage of reserve fuel carried by a Qantas Boeing 747 landing at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport.
- (3) Is there a greater risk of ground fatalities in an accident which involves an aircraft heavily laden with fuel.

\*159 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—  
Is the Civil Aviation Safety Authority responsible for reviewing the operation of the airline industry with respect to the safety of persons on the ground; if not, will he ensure that the responsibility is included in the authority's charter.

\*160 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Are Mr David Lidbetter and Mr Kevin Hill community representatives on the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) Implementation Monitoring Committee for Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport.
- (2) Is it a fact that Mr Lidbetter resides in an area affected by air traffic to the north of the parallel runways and Mr Hill in an area affected by air traffic to the south of the parallel runways.
- (3) Is it also a fact that no member of the committee resides to the east or west of the airport.
- (4) Have Messrs Lidbetter and Hill consistently and vigorously advocated implementation of the LTOP so that air traffic is removed from the parallel runways to the east-west runway.
- (5) Who would be responsible in the event of an aircraft accident occurring as a result of the implementation of the LTOP.

\*161 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—

- (1) Did his predecessor state about 28 July 1998 in connection with the fatal seaplane accident on 26 July 1998 that if persons were found to be responsible for the accident or negligent they would be dismissed.
- (2) Who accepts responsibility for the development and implementation of the Long Term Operating Plan (LTOP) for Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport.

- (3) Will he dismiss the person or persons referred to in part (2) if a fatality occurs in and around the airport as result of the operation of the LTOP.
- \*162 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Was a Qantas passenger jet forced to take evasive action to avoid a turboprop Metroliner freight plane about 10 p.m. on 22 July 1998; if so, (a) what were the circumstances and (b) will he review operating procedures for pilots crossing runways to ensure that pilots stop before crossing a runway and wait for permission to proceed from the control tower.
- \*163 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—How many suburbs north of the Parramatta River suffer from aircraft noise above 70 decibels per noise event from aircraft flying to or from Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport.
- \*164 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What infrastructure developments relating to ground or air movement of aircraft are underway at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport.
  - (2) What further developments are anticipated.
  - (3) What is the cost of the developments which are (a) underway and (b) anticipated.
  - (4) Have developments which are underway or anticipated been treated as major development proposals under the *Airports Act 1996*; if not, why not.
- \*165 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Further to the answer to question No. 2542 (*Hansard*, 5 March 1998, page 690), did Corrs Chambers Westgarth provide written advice with respect to the subject matter of its consultancy; if so, in each case, (a) on what date was the advice provided and (b) what were the major recommendations contained in the advice.
- \*166 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Further to the answer to question No. 2542 (*Hansard*, 5 March 1998, page 690), did BCG Media Pty Limited provide written advice with respect to the subject matter of its consultancy; if so, in each case, (a) on what date was the advice provided and (b) what were the major recommendations contained in the advice.
- \*167 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Further to the answer to question No. 2542 (*Hansard*, 5 March 1998, page 690), did Dr John Davies provide written advice with respect to the subject matter of his consultancy; if so, in each case, (a) on what date was the advice provided and (b) what were the major recommendations contained in the advice.
- \*168 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Further to the answer to question No. 2542 (*Hansard*, 5 March 1998, page 690), did Minter Ellison Lawyers provide written advice with respect to the subject matter of its consultancy; if so, in each case, (a) on what date was the advice provided and (b) what were the major recommendations contained in the advice.
- \*169 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Further to the answer to question No. 2542 (*Hansard*,

5 March 1998, page 690), did the National Institute of Labour Studies Incorporated provide written advice with respect to the subject matter of its consultancy; if so, in each case, (a) on what date was the advice provided and (b) what were the major recommendations contained in the advice.

- \*170 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Further to the answer to question No. 2542 (*Hansard*, 5 March 1998, page 690), did Dr David Webb provide written advice with respect to the subject matter of his consultancy; if so, in each case, (a) on what date was the advice provided and (b) what were the major recommendations contained in the advice.
- \*171 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) What was the cost to the Commonwealth of producing (a) *A guide to employers' rights in relation to industrial action, freedom of association and right of entry* and (b) the *Guide for the building and construction industry*.
  - (2) Has the Government published booklets regarding employee entitlements; if so, (a) what booklets and (b) at what cost in each case.
- \*172 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Has the Government considered ratifying ILO Convention No. 162 regarding the prevention and control of health hazards due to occupational exposure to asbestos; if so, what action will the Government take.
- \*173 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Further to the answer to question No. 2834 (*Hansard*, 28 May 1998, page 4236), while it is not possible to provide particular details of any organisation's bid or reasons for selection, will he provide details of the guidelines and or factors considered by his department in considering the bids submitted by organisations generally.
- \*174 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) In contracting with other companies or individuals to provide employment services, did his Department inquire whether the companies or individuals intended to subcontract the services; if so, (a) what inquiries were made and (b) did the inquiries include ascertaining the commission which the companies and/or individuals intended to make on the sub-contracting arrangements; if so, what commissions will be obtained by the companies or individuals.
  - (2) If he will not provide the information sought in part (1), why not.
- \*175 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Further to the answer to question No. 3048 (*Hansard*, 15 July 1998, page 6225) noting the Government's receipt of formal advice on 25 May 1998 of a complaint to the International Labour Organisation by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, is it a fact that the complaint was lodged on 7 May 1998 and the Government received notice foreshadowing the complaint; if so, when did the Government receive notice.
- \*176 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Will the Government amend the Workplace Relations Act

to reduce, diminish or restrict the remedy available to apprentices under the Act in respect of dismissal in harsh, unjust or unconscionable circumstances; if so, how.

- \*177 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Did he issue a media release dated 26 July 1998 titled “Arrogant Democrats reject reform mandate” which claimed that the Democrats had already cost 50 000 Australians a job; if so, (a) does the claim imply that 50 000 Australians have (i) been dismissed from their employment or (ii) not obtained employment, as a result of action by the Democrats and (b) how was the figure of 50 000 obtained.
- \*178 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Is it a fact that Commissioner Frank Palmer has retired from the Australian Industrial Relations Commission (AIRC); if so, (a) is it also a fact that no member of the AIRC has been based in Adelaide since his retirement and (b) what additional costs have been incurred in airfares and accommodation allowances for members of the AIRC and their staff in travelling to and staying in Adelaide to conduct AIRC hearings since his retirement.
- \*179 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) Are directors of community employment services which have been awarded employment placement contracts by the Government personally liable if the services become insolvent.
  - (2) Will the Government guarantee debts incurred by those services to ensure that their directors are not personally liable for the debts.
- \*180 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) What are the administrative costs to the date of answering this question for the payment of childcare assistance to out of school hours centres.
  - (2) What is the lowest sum per week of childcare assistance being paid to an eligible parent.
  - (3) How many applications for childcare assistance does Centrelink have on hand.
  - (4) How many applications referred to in part (3) were received before 29 May 1998.
  - (5) Will all eligible applications for childcare assistance received before 29 May 1998 be backdated.
  - (6) Has Centrelink sent out multiple notifications of eligibility for childcare assistance to the same families.
- \*181 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) What processes were established to ensure that organisations tendering for round 13 of Home and Community Care (HACC) funding had consulted with other HACC and similar providers.
  - (2) How do tenderers demonstrate that they have consulted other providers.

- (3) What checks does the Department of Family and Community Services make to ensure the requirement has been met.
  - (4) Is the Commonwealth reducing HACC funding to New South Wales by \$3 million in 1998-99.
  - (5) Is the Commonwealth insisting HACC client user-pay levels be raised to 20 per cent of the total program budget; if so, how will the client fee be collected from dementia sufferers.
- \*182 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—Further to the answer to question No. 2622 (*Hansard*, 2 April 1998, page 2488), what issues or points of disagreement precluded the arrival at a consensus on the proposed joint venture between the Hurstville Council and the Australian Taxation Office to establish a childcare centre.
- \*183 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) On what matters did Australia sponsor resolutions at the meeting of the Commission on Human Rights in April 1998.
  - (2) What was the text of resolutions which came to a vote.
  - (3) Which members (a) voted for the resolutions, (b) voted against the resolutions and (c) abstained from voting on the resolutions.
- \*184 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Has the Rockdale Medicare Office been closed; if so, (a) was the decision to close made by (i) himself, (ii) the Health Insurance Commission (HIC) or (iii) himself in consultation with the HIC and (b) what facts and circumstances were considered in reaching the decision.
  - (2) How well was the office patronised and how did it compare to similar offices which have not been closed.
  - (3) If he consulted the HIC on the decision, (a) what was the nature of consultation, (b) when did the consultations occur and (c) did the consultations occur in the context of a predetermined Government policy as to which Medicare offices should be closed.
- \*185 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Is it a fact that most private health insurers used to provide coverage for domestic nursing care but have now removed coverage from their policies.
- \*186 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Further to his answer to question No. 2236 (*Hansard*, 12 May 1998, page 3018) concerning the establishment of Medicare customer service centres, were the factors identified in the answer which are taken into account when evaluating whether to open a Medicare customer service centre applied in respect of the decision to close the Rockdale, NSW, Medicare Customer Service Centre; if so, what material facts did the Health Insurance Commission consider as relevant in applying each of the factors which they took into account; if not, (a) what factors were taken into account and (b) what were the relevant facts considered to be relevant to each factor.
- \*187 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Did his office provide any direction, guidance or indication to the Health Insurance

Commission on which Medicare customer service centres it should consider closing; if so, what are the details.

\*188 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2832 (*Hansard*, 25 May 1998, page 3625), has his attention been drawn to reports that waiting times for customers at Medicare offices have significantly increased since the recent closure of a number of Medicare customer service centres.
- (2) Will he conduct an urgent review of waiting times for Medicare offices in New South Wales.

\*189 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 2832 (*Hansard*, 25 May 1998, page 3664), did his Department or the Health Insurance Commission undertake an inquiry, review or otherwise consider the quality of service provided by Medicare customer service centres in New South Wales; if so, (a) what inquiries, reviews or consideration and (b) was the Hurstville Medicare Office included; if so, (i) when was it undertaken and (ii) what was the result.
- (2) If no study, inquiry, review or consideration has been made of Medicare customer service centres, will he ensure that one occurs and that the Hurstville Medicare Office is included and the consequent demands made upon it resulting from the closure of the Rockdale and Sylvania Medicare offices.

\*190 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Further to the answer to question No. 2942 (*Hansard*, 30 June 1998, page 5536), did the National Health and Medical Research Council in its report on attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADD) refer to an inconsistency between funding provided to parents to acquire the medication Ritalin, which is commonly prescribed in the treatment of ADD, but not to purchase the medication Dexamphetamine; if so, will the Government address the inconsistency.

\*191 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—Did the then Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs undertake at a hearing of the Senate Employment, Education and Training Legislation Committee on 25 February 1998 to provide up-to-date school funding projections in real dollar terms; if so, (a) did he issue a direction in respect of the undertaking and (b) has the undertaking been fulfilled; if not, why not.

\*192 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 3086 (*Hansard*, 15 July 1998, page 6271), will the Minister inquire into the success of the 1998 World Expo in Lisbon, Portugal, in particular the trading and tourism opportunities available to participating nations; if not, why not.
- (2) Would an inquiry similar to that referred to in part (1) assist the planning of Australia's exhibit for Expo 2000 in Hanover.

\*193 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—Further to the answer to question No. 3084 (*Hansard*,

15 July 1998, page 6270), has a program for the shipment of spent nuclear fuel from the operation of the HIFAR reactor at Lucas Heights, NSW, been developed; if so, under the program (a) how many rods will be transported, (b) how many shipments are contemplated, (c) what are the proposed dates of the shipments, (d) what will each shipment cost and (e) what is the destination of each shipment.

- \*194 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to the answer to question No. 2835 (*Hansard*, 2 June 1998, page 4236), in its submission to the review of resourcing needs of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) chaired by Mr Tony Ayers, AC, what additional resources did the AFP indicate were needed to properly undertake its duties and responsibilities.
- \*195 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—Further to the answer to question No. 2835 (*Hansard*, 2 June 1998, page 4236), has he received the report of Mr Tony Ayers, AC; if so what (a) were the major recommendations of that report and (b) is the Government's response.
- \*196 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—
- (1) Is it a fact that war widows in the USA and UK lose their benefits upon remarriage but regain them following divorce from or the death of the subsequent spouse.
  - (2) Will he introduce similar measures for Australian war widows.
- \*197 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs—What Government scrutiny takes place of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission in the election of board members and the administration of the organisation's accounts.
- \*198 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—What percentage of Medicare services by broad type of service were direct billed during (a) 1994-95, (b) 1995-96, (c) 1996-97 and (d) 1997-98 in (i) Victoria and (ii) the electoral division of Scullin.
- \*199 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a call by the NSW Farmers' Association for Medicare provider numbers to be allocated to match population numbers in specific geographic areas; if so, (a) what is the feasibility of the proposal and (b) will he introduce it.
  - (2) Is it fact that existing incentives to attract medical practitioners to rural areas have failed.

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**I. C. HARRIS**

Clerk of the House of Representatives

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**SPEAKER'S PANEL**

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

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**COMMITTEES**

*Unless otherwise shown, appointed for life of 39th Parliament*

**Standing**

*Pursuant to standing orders*

**SELECTION:** Mr Nehl (*Chair*), Mr K. J. Andrews, Mrs Elson, Mr Forrest, Mr Hollis,  
Mr McArthur, Mr McLeay, Mr Neville, Mr Ronaldson, Mr Sawford,  
Mr Sercombe.

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**APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY BODIES**

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

**COUNCIL OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA:** Dr Theophanous (*elected  
23 November 1998, for a period of 3 years from and including 23 November  
1998*).

**PARLIAMENTARY RETIRING ALLOWANCES TRUST:** Mr Charles (*appointed 24 June  
1996*) and Mr McLeay (*appointed 23 November 1998*).