

1998

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 8

TUESDAY, 1 DECEMBER 1998

The House meets this day at 2 p.m.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS
Orders of the day

- 1 **PAYMENT PROCESSING LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' ENTITLEMENTS) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 November 1998—Mr Price, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Truss—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Swan, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “whilst not declining to give the Bill a second reading, the House condemns the Government for:
 - (1) reducing the period in which many social security recipients will have to advise Centrelink of changes in their circumstances from 14 to 7 days while not adequately addressing Centrelink’s inability to deal with the number of people attempting to contact them;
 - (2) failing to provide Centrelink with sufficient resources, causing it to cut 5,000 staff positions and further reducing its capacity to provide an adequate service;
 - (3) cutting the Social Security Budget by \$2.6 billion dollars over three budgets; and
 - (4) abolishing the Commonwealth Dental Program, and increasing the cost of pharmaceuticals and hearing services, in direct contradiction of the Prime Minister’s pre-1996 election commitment that his Government would not cut social security pensions and entitlements”.
- 2 **SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (RESOLUTION OF COMPLAINTS) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 November 1998—Mr Swan*).
- 3 **SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION (COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT) REPEAL AND AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the*

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

Minister for Finance and Administration): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 12 November 1998—*Mr Martin*).

- 4 **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*).
- 5 **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*).
- 6 **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*).
- 7 **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*).
- 8 **ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 26 November 1998—*Mr Swan*).
- 9 **EDUCATION SERVICES FOR OVERSEAS STUDENTS (REGISTRATION OF PROVIDERS AND FINANCIAL REGULATION) AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (from *Senate*): Second reading (from 23 November 1998).
- 10 **RURAL ADJUSTMENT AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 26 November 1998—*Mr Swan*).
- 11 **MIGRATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (STRENGTHENING OF PROVISIONS RELATING TO CHARACTER AND CONDUCT) BILL 1998** (from *Senate*): Second reading (from 26 November 1998).
- 12 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1998** (*Minister for Health and Aged Care*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (from 26 November 1998—*Mr Swan*).
- 13 **ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH**: Resumption of debate (from 30 November 1998—*Mr Abbott*) on the proposed Address in Reply.
- 14 **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*).
- 15 **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*).
- 16 **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*).

- 17 **REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENTS BILL 1998** (*Minister for Forestry and Conservation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 November 1998—Mr Swan*).
- 18 **PETROLEUM RETAIL LEGISLATION REPEAL BILL 1998** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 25 November 1998—Mr Horne*).
- 19 **CLASSIFICATION (PUBLICATIONS, FILMS AND COMPUTER GAMES) AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 25 November 1998—Mr Horne*).
- 20 **CLASSIFICATION (PUBLICATIONS, FILMS AND COMPUTER GAMES) CHARGES BILL 1998** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 25 November 1998—Mr Horne*).
- 21 **ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS (NORTHERN TERRITORY) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1998** (*Minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 25 November 1998—Mr Horne*).
- 22 **WORKPLACE RELATIONS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (YOUTH EMPLOYMENT) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 26 November 1998—Mr Bevis*).
- 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 **CENTRELINK**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 2 (*from 12 November 1998*).
- 25 **MEDICAL TRAINING REVIEW PANEL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 26 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 26 **PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE OMBUDSMAN—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 26 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 27 **COMMISSIONER OF TAXATION—CORRIGENDA—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 26 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 28 **NATIONAL RAIL CORPORATION LTD—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 25 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 29 **NUCLEAR SAFETY BUREAU—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- 30 **CONTROLLED OPERATIONS—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 31 **OPERATIONS OF THE REGISTERED HEALTH BENEFIT ORGANISATIONS—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 32 **PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 33 **AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF MARINE SCIENCE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 34 **ROYAL AUSTRALIAN MINT—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 35 **MEDIBANK PRIVATE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 36 **MEDIBANK PRIVATE—STATEMENT OF CORPORATE INTENT—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 37 **HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 24 November 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 38 **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.
- 39 **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.
- 40 **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.
- 41 **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.
- 42 **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.

- 43 **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.
- 44 **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.
- 45 **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.
- 46 **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.
- 47 **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.
- 48 **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.
- 49 **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.
- 50 **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.
- 51 **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.
- 52 **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.
- 53 **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.
- 54 **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.

- 55 **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.
- 56 **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.
- 57 **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.
- 58 **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.
- 59 **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.
- 60 **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.
- 61 **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.
- 62 **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.
- 63 **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.
- 64 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr Slipper*):
 Customs Tariff Proposals Nos. 6 to 10 (1998)—*moved 24 November 1998*—Resumption of debate (*Mr K. J. Thomson*).
- 65 **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, 1 December 1998

*1 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To move—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges the importance of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and reaffirms the commitment of the Australian people to that Declaration;
- (2) affirms the principle that those guilty of gross abuses of human rights, especially genocide, torture and arbitrary killing of political opponents should be brought to account before the international community;
- (3) welcomes, on the basis of this principle, the decision of the British House of Lords not to grant immunity from prosecution to the former Chilean dictator, Augusto Pinochet, who has been accused of many crimes during the period of his reign;
- (4) calls upon the British Government to now act to expedite the extradition of Mr Pinochet to Spain, where the courts are seeking to prosecute him for such crimes; and
- (5) acknowledging that there are many Chilean Australians whose relatives have been killed or disappeared under Pinochet's rule, calls on the Australian Government to actively support the extradition of Mr Pinochet to Spain and to support all actions to ensure Mr Pinochet is brought to account for his actions. (*Notice given 30 November 1998.*)

*2 **MR NEHL:** To move—That this House:

- (1) regrets that the action of the NSW Government in progressing the regional forest agreements for north-east and lower north-east New South Wales has forced the Commonwealth Government to withdraw funding of \$40 million; and
- (2) calls on the NSW Government to act with responsibility to protect the future of the forest industry. (*Notice given 30 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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 1998.*)

9 **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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 1998.*)

10 **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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 1998.*)
- 11 **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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 1998.*)
- 12 **MR ALBANESE:** To present a Bill for an Act to amend the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993*, and for related purposes. (*Notice given 24 November 1998. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 1998.*)
- 13 **MR ANDREN:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the discrepancies and contradictions in expert assessments of Australia's optimum population;
 - (2) recognises the damage caused to the nation's social fabric by ill-informed and emotive comments on the nation's immigration program;
 - (3) notes that population growth is ultimately a product of fertility rates and levels of net immigration, while acknowledging that Australia has a limited carrying capacity, both ecologically and economically;
 - (4) notes that without a population policy Australia risks a continuation of the divisive scapegoating of minority ethnic groups; and
 - (5) calls for the convening of a national population forum to consider and propose a population policy for Australia and the social and concrete infrastructure required to sustain that population. (*Notice given 24 November 1998. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 7 December 1998.*)

Orders of the day

- *1 **INSURANCE INDUSTRY:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 November 1998—Mr Snowden, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Martin—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 December 1998.*)
- *2 **IRANIAN BAHA'I COMMUNITY:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 November 1998*) on the motion of Mrs Gallus—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 December 1998.*)
- *3 **LABELLING OF AUSTRALIAN GOODS:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 November 1998*) on the motion of Mrs Bailey—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 7 December 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).



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

1-5, 7, 8, 10-17, 19-31, 33-41, 43-216.

30 November 1998

217 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a report in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 7 October 1998 stating that he would review the federal politicians' superannuation scheme.
- (2) Will the Government review the superannuation scheme for members of the Commonwealth Parliament; if so, (a) when will the review commence, (b) which body will conduct it, (c) which aspects of the scheme will be reviewed and (d) when will the report be delivered.

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

- (1) How many countries are a party to the Unesco Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (The Hague, 1954).
- (2) Which countries have become a party since 1988.
- (3) Which parties to the convention are not parties to the companion protocol.
- (4) Did Australia send comments to the meeting of experts held in Vienna from 11 to 13 May 1998 to consider revision of the convention.
- (5) Who will represent Australia at the Diplomatic Conference that is being convened at The Hague from 14 to 26 March with a view to adopting a new instrument complementing the provisions of the convention.
- (6) Did Australia in July 1994 assure the USA that it was still considering whether to become a party to the protocol and that the matter was being reviewed by relevant Commonwealth and State departments.
- (7) On what occasions and with what results has (a) Australia consulted with States and Territories and (b) his Department consulted with other Commonwealth departments concerning the protocol.

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

- (1) Did the Unesco Executive Board at its 155th session (19 October – 6 November 1998) decide to invite member states to participate, during the first six months of 1999, in the second meeting of governmental experts on the draft convention on the protection of underwater cultural heritage in order to report to the General Conference at its 30th session in October – November 1999.

- (2) Will Australia participate; if so, what are the (a) names, (b) positions and (c) qualifications of the persons who will represent Australia at the meeting.
- 220 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Is he able to say whether the Victorian Government intends to change within 12 months the funding source of many nonprofit human services, or charities, from an operating grant to winning a competitive tender.
- (2) Will the source of funding affect the GST-free status of a charity.
- 221 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—Is it a fact that the GST-free status of charities will apply only to their non-commercial activities; if so, what will be the GST status of cakes, sausages, fairy bread and similar goods sold for fundraising in direct competition with other charities.
- 222 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—Is it a fact that charities and other low turnover nonprofit organisations will pay GST and subsequently receive reimbursement; if so, how will they be able to maintain financial liquidity.
- 223 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—Will the Government compensate charities similarly to commercial business to enable them to implement the GST.
- 224 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—Will the Government release the advice it has given to or received from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission about how it intends to monitor the price changes that will occur because of the implementation of the GST.
- 225 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—Will the Government provide advice it has received concerning the effect of the GST on interest rates.
- 226 **MR HORNE:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Does the Army keep accurate records of travel by Army personnel on civilian commercial flights at Commonwealth expense.
- (2) How are bookings on civilian commercial flights made for Army personnel travelling on official business.
- (3) If a centralised booking system is used, are preferences shown towards particular carriers.
- (4) Does the Army negotiate with various carriers for the least expensive service when approving travel on official business for Army personnel.
- (5) How many journeys did Army personnel travelling on official business make from (a) Canberra to Newcastle and (b) Newcastle to Canberra (i) in total, (ii) by direct route and (iii) through Sydney, (A) in 1995-96, (B) in 1996-97, (C) in 1997-98 and (D) from 1 July to 31 October 1998.
- (6) What was the (a) arrival time in and (b) departure time from Sydney for each flight by Army personnel travelling on official business from (i) Canberra to Newcastle and (ii) Newcastle to Canberra (A) in 1995-96, (B) in 1996-97, (C) in 1997-98 and (D) from 1 July to 31 October 1998.
- 227 **MR HORNE:** To ask the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Does the RAAF keep accurate records of travel by RAAF personnel on civilian commercial flights at Commonwealth expense.

- (2) How are bookings on civilian commercial flights made for RAAF personnel travelling on official business.
 - (3) If a centralised booking system is used, are preferences shown towards particular carriers.
 - (4) Does the RAAF negotiate with various carriers for the least expensive service when approving travel on official business for RAAF personnel.
 - (5) How many journeys did RAAF personnel travelling on official business make from (a) Canberra to Newcastle and (b) Newcastle to Canberra (i) in total, (ii) by direct route and (iii) through Sydney, (A) in 1995-96, (B) in 1996-97, (C) in 1997-98 and (D) from 1 July to 31 October 1998.
 - (6) What was the (a) arrival time in and (b) departure time from Sydney for each flight by RAAF personnel travelling on official business from (i) Canberra to Newcastle and (ii) Newcastle to Canberra (A) in 1995-96, (B) in 1996-97, (C) in 1997-98 and (D) from 1 July to 31 October 1998.
- 228 **MR HORNE:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) Does his Department keep accurate records of travel by Members, Senators and their staff on civilian commercial flights at Commonwealth expense.
 - (2) How are bookings on civilian commercial flights made for Members, Senators and their staff travelling on official business.
 - (3) If a centralised booking system is used, are preferences shown towards particular carriers.
 - (4) Does the Department negotiate with various carriers for the least expensive service when approving travel on official business for Members, Senators and their staff.
 - (5) How many journeys did Members, Senators and their staff travelling on official business make from (a) Canberra to Newcastle and (b) Newcastle to Canberra (i) in total, (ii) by direct route and (iii) through Sydney, (A) in 1995-96, (B) in 1996-97, (C) in 1997-98 and (D) from 1 July to 31 October 1998.
 - (6) What was the (a) arrival time in and (b) departure time from Sydney for each flight by Members, Senators and their staff travelling on official business from (i) Canberra to Newcastle and (ii) Newcastle to Canberra (A) in 1995-96, (B) in 1996-97, (C) in 1997-98 and (D) from 1 July to 31 October 1998.
- 229 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did studies undertaken in the 1970s underpin the 1984 site selection environmental impact statement for Sydney's second airport; if so, (a) which studies and (b) have any been updated; if not, why not.
 - (2) Was distance from the central business district an important criterion in the selection process.
 - (3) Were sites precluded under the distance criterion; if so, which sites.
- 230 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Does his Department use ANEF/ANEC methodology to forecast levels of aircraft noise; if so, since when.

- (2) Was ANEF/ANEC methodology used in the preparation of the environmental impact statement for the proposed airport at Badgerys Creek; if so, was it the most appropriate and up-to-date methodology to forecast airport noise levels and minimise the impact on residents in and around airports and flight paths.
 - (3) Does the ANEF/ANEC methodology sufficiently allow for the impact and disturbance cause by noise at night and has it been criticised for this deficiency.
 - (4) Is it a fact that the USA is discarding the ANEF/ANEC methodology; if so, what methodology does it use to forecast airport noise levels.
 - (5) Does the use of ANEF/ANEC methodology sufficiently satisfy important social and environmental concerns.
- 231 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Does the Badgerys Creek environmental impact statement (EIS) base the assessment of noise impacts on average noise levels; if so, why.
 - (2) Does the averaging technique smooth out peak noise levels.
 - (3) Has his attention been drawn to international criticism of averaging noise levels to determine noise impacts.
 - (4) Is it a fact that residents are affected more by peak than by average noise levels.
 - (5) If the EIS is based on average noise levels, does it understate the noise impacts on residents of western Sydney; if not, why not.
- 232 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did the Badgerys Creek environmental impact statement (EIS) consider the contribution of airport and aircraft noise to sleep disturbance; if so, how.
 - (2) Did the EIS canvass international literature on aircraft noise and sleep disturbance; if so, with what conclusion.
 - (3) Did the EIS identify noise levels at night that cause sleep disturbance, leading to physiological and psychological harm; if so, what levels; if not, why not.
- 233 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did the Commonwealth's environmental auditor criticise the Badgerys Creek environmental impact statement (EIS) on the matter of the potential of elevated noise levels to harm health; if so, did he accept the criticism; if not, why not; if so, what action has he taken to address the criticism.
 - (2) If the EIS was in error on the potential of elevated noise levels to harm health, who was responsible, his Department or the consultants who prepared the EIS.
- 234 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Does the Badgerys Creek environmental impact statement adequately address the impact of aircraft noise on the education process in educational facilities.
 - (2) Did the EIS canvass international literature on the impact of aircraft noise on the education process; if not, why not.

- (3) Has his attention been drawn to studies indicating that the performance of children learning at school or home is more sensitive to noise impact than most other sectors of the community; if so, were the studies taken into consideration during the preparation of the EIS; if not, why not.
 - (4) Did the NSW Environment Protection Agency estimate that children in as many as 300 schools in western Sydney could be adversely affected by aircraft noise at a Badgerys Creek airport.
- 235 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Has the NSW Environment Protection Agency developed a sophisticated model of the Sydney airshed; if so, was the model used in preparing the Badgerys Creek environmental impact statement (EIS); if not, why not.
 - (2) Were inadequate methodologies adopted as a basis for the air quality assessment in the EIS; if so, (a) why and (b) what action will he take to rectify the use of inadequate methodologies.
- 236 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did the assessment of air quality impacts in the Badgerys Creek environmental impact statement (EIS) allow for an estimated 70 000 motor vehicle movements per day associated with airport traffic; if not, why not.
 - (2) Did the EIS present a misleading understatement of the impact on air quality; if not, why not.
- 237 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Would the development of a second Sydney airport at Badgerys Creek and the associated aircraft and ground vehicle emissions lead to a significant increase in the concentration of oxides of nitrogen in western Sydney's air.
 - (2) Are oxides of nitrogen known to increase the incidence of respiratory problems such as asthma.
 - (3) Did the Badgerys Creek environmental impact statement allow for increased concentration of oxides of nitrogen; if not, why not.
- 238 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—In view of Australia's agreement to restrict greenhouse emissions following the Kyoto conference, did the Badgerys Creek environmental impact statement consider the contribution of the airport and associated ground traffic to greenhouse gas emissions; if not, why not.
- 239 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Do pollutants such as reactive organic chemicals and fine particles which are produced in motor vehicle and aircraft exhaust streams contribute to increases in the incidence of various cancers.
 - (2) Did the Badgerys Creek environmental impact statement ignore the impact on health of reactive organic chemicals and fine particles; if so, why.
- 240 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) What award or other provisions for Defence Reserve leave apply to Telstra employees.

- (2) Has Telstra management indicated that Defence Reserve leave is under review and that it is proposed to restrict each employee to a maximum of two weeks leave each year.
- (3) Is it a fact that the system of common induction training for the Army which was introduced by the Government requires new Army Reservists to be absent from civilian employment for up to seven weeks.
- (4) Will the circumstances described in the previous parts of this question discourage Telstra employees from enlisting in the Army Reserve; if so, is this consistent with the Government's intentions for the Army Reserve.

1 December 1998

- *241 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many (a) permanent and (b) contract positions are to be filled in the 1998-99 Centrelink IT graduate intake.
 - (2) Will all (a) permanent and (b) contract positions referred to in part (1) be located in (i) Canberra and (ii) the National Support Office in Tuggeranong, ACT.
 - (3) Will normal Australian Public Service conditions apply to the contract positions; if not, what conditions will apply.
 - (4) What will be the duration of the contract positions.
- *242 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—How many private health insurance members resided in the post code areas of (a) 2600, (b) 2603, (c) 2605, (d) 2606, (e) 2607, (f) 2900, (g) 2901, (h) 2902, (i) 2903, (j) 2904, (k) 2905 and (l) 2906 on 25 November 1998.
- *243 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Will the Government (a) support Mr Luciano Arias, an Australian citizen of Chilean background, in his quest to achieve justice for the killing of his brother, Luis Arias, by the Pinochet regime in Chile on 19 February 1975 and (b) ensure that the case is brought before any international court which seeks to judge Mr Pinochet for his alleged crimes.
 - (2) Has his attention been drawn to the plight of the indigenous people of Chile, known as the Mapuche-Pehuenche, who are in danger of being eradicated because of the policies being pursued by the Chilean Government, including the attempt to destroy the natural environment in which these people live through the construction of a dam and hydro-electric power stations in the upper Bio-Bio River.
 - (3) Will the Government make representations to the Government of Chile on protecting the cultural heritage and natural environment of the Mapuche-Pehuenche people.
- *244 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Will he ensure that operators of licensed post offices will not face competition from the introduction of rural transaction centres.

- *245 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—Has the Government raised the maximum weight limit of semitrailers from 42.5 to 45.5 tonnes; if so, will the Government compensate councils who need to upgrade their bridges as a result; if not, why not.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

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.

COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise shown, appointed for life of 39th Parliament

Standing

Pursuant to standing orders

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

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*).