

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## NOTICE PAPER

No. 22

THURSDAY, 18 FEBRUARY 1999

*The House meets this day at 9.30 a.m.*


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**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**
**Orders of the day**

- 1 **A NEW TAX SYSTEM (TRADE PRACTICES AMENDMENT) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 December 1998—Mr K. J. Thomson*).
- 2 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 3) 1998-99** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 1999—Mr Hatton, in continuation*).
- 3 **APPROPRIATION BILL (NO. 4) 1998-99** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Ms Macklin*).
- 4 **APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS) BILL (NO. 2) 1998-99** (*Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Ms Macklin*).
- 5 **HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 1999—Mr Swan*).
- 6 **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*).
- 7 **NAVIGATION AMENDMENT (EMPLOYMENT OF SEAFARERS) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Transport and Regional Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1998—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- 8 **CUSTOMS (ANTI-DUMPING AMENDMENTS) BILL 1998** (*Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Ms Macklin*).
- 9 **CUSTOMS TARIFF (ANTI-DUMPING) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998** (*Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Ms Macklin*).

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

† Debate to be adjourned to a future day at the conclusion of the time allotted.

- 10 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1998** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 11 **AIRPORTS AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 February 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 12 **LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Ms Macklin*).
- 13 **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*).
- 14 **PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (EXCISE) LEVIES BILL 1998** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 15 **PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (CUSTOMS) CHARGES BILL 1998** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 16 **PRIMARY INDUSTRIES LEVIES AND CHARGES (CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS) BILL 1998** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 17 **NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (EXCISE) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 18 **NATIONAL RESIDUE SURVEY (CUSTOMS) LEVY AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 19 **CORPORATE LAW ECONOMIC REFORM PROGRAM BILL 1998** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 20 **HEALTH LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1998** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 21 **CIVIL AVIATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Transport and Regional Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1998—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- 22 **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 February 1999—Mr Martin*).
- 23 **BOUNTY (SHIPS) AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 10 February 1999—Mr Martin*).
- 24 **TEXTILE, CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PROGRAM BILL 1999** (*Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science*

- and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 February 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 25 **CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1999** (*Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 February 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 26 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (SOFTWARE DEPRECIATION) BILL 1999** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 February 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 27 **YOUTH ALLOWANCE CONSOLIDATION BILL 1999** (*Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 February 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 28 **FURTHER 1998 BUDGET MEASURES LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SOCIAL SECURITY) BILL 1999** (*Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 February 1999—Mr Horne*).
- \*29 **ASSISTANCE FOR CARERS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Minister for Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 1999—Mr McClelland*).
- \*30 **HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 1999—Mr McClelland*).
- 31 **CENTRELINK**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 2 (*from 12 November 1998*).
- \*32 **HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSION—EQUITY AND DIVERSITY PROGRAM—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 17 February 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 33 **ADVANCE TO THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE, NOVEMBER 1998—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS**: Resumption of debate (*from 11 February 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the papers.
- 34 **MID-YEAR ECONOMIC AND FISCAL OUTLOOK 1998-99—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 9 February 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 35 **DATA-MATCHING PROGRAM—ATO'S INTERACTION WITH IN 1995-96, 1996-97 AND 1997-98—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 9 February 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 36 **GUIDE ON KEY ELEMENTS OF MINISTERIAL RESPONSIBILITY—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 9 February 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 37 **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate (*from 10 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- 38 **NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the papers.
- 39 **NUCLEAR SAFETY BUREAU—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 40 **POOLED DEVELOPMENT FUNDS REGISTRATION BOARD—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 41 **COMPANIES AND SECURITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 42 **CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES PANEL—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 43 **AUSTRALIAN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS BOARD—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 44 **AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 45 **WITNESS PROTECTION ACT—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 46 **CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 47 **INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE—CONVENTIONS CONCERNING HOME WORK—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the papers.
- 48 **OPERATION OF THE BANKRUPTCY ACT—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 2 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 49 **AUSTRALIAN NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ORGANISATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 2 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 50 **DEVELOPMENT ALLOWANCE AUTHORITY—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 2 December 1998—*

*Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- 51 **AUSTRALIA'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PROGRAM—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 2 December 1998—Mr Martin*) on the motion of Mr Downer—That the House take note of the paper.
- 52 **COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 1 December 1998—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 53 **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.
- 54 **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.
- 55 **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.
- 56 **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.
- 57 **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.
- 58 **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.
- 59 **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.
- 60 **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.
- 61 **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.
- 62 **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.

- 63 **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.
- 64 **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.
- 65 **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.
- 66 **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.
- 67 **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.
- 68 **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 papers.
- 69 **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.
- 70 **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.
- 71 **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.
- 72 **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.
- 73 **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.
- 74 **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.
- 75 **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.

- 76 **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.
- 77 **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.
- 78 **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.
- 79 **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.
- 80 **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.
- 81 **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.
- 82 **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.
- 83 **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.
- 84 **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.
- 85 **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.
- 86 **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.
- 87 **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.

- 88 **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.
- 89 **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.
- 90 **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.
- 91 **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.
- 92 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr Slipper*):  
 Customs Tariff Proposals Nos. 6 to 10 (1998)—*moved 24 November 1998*—Resumption of debate (*Mr K. J. Thomson*).
- 93 **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.





**BUSINESS ACCORDED PRIORITY FOR MONDAY,  
8 MARCH 1999, PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 331**

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

**Presentation and statements**

- 1 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE:** Interim report on Reserve Bank of Australia's annual report for 1997-98. (*Total time for statements—25 minutes.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

**Notices**

- 1 **MRS CROSIO:** To present a Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment and administration of a scheme to guarantee the payment of wages and certain other liabilities owed to employees in the event of employer insolvency and for related purposes. (*Notice given 9 December 1998; day proposed for presenting Bill changed on 15 February 1999. Time allowed—5 minutes.*)
- †2 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To move—That this House:
- (1) celebrates the 50th anniversary of Australian Citizenship;
  - (2) acknowledges the success of the postwar immigration policy and the massive contribution these new settlers have made to Australia;
  - (3) recognises the desirability of living in one of the world's most harmonious multicultural societies and applauds the diversity of our cultural mix;
  - (4) applauds those beneficiaries of our immigration program who have become citizens of this country; and
  - (5) encourages permanent residents to consider their commitments to this country and apply to take out citizenship in this, the celebratory year of the 50th anniversary of Australian Citizenship. (*Notice given 11 February 1999. Time allotted for debate—remaining private Members' business time prior to 1.45 p.m.*)
- †3 **MR CADMAN:** To move—That the House:
- (1) notes with deep concern the high level of suicide in Australia;
  - (2) expresses its dismay that young males, drug takers and residents of rural areas are particularly prone to take their lives;
  - (3) conveys its sympathy to the families and friends who have been touched by the tragedy of suicide; and
  - (4) commits itself as individuals and as a representative group of Australians to do everything possible to reduce the high level of suicide. (*Notice given 15 February 1999. Time allotted for debate—30 minutes.*)
- †4 **MRS HULL:** To move—That this House calls on the Government to make provision for recurrent funding for student hostels servicing the school access needs of students in remote areas of Australia. (*Notice given 15 February 1999. Time allotted for debate—remaining private Members' business time.*)



**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**—*continued***Notices**—*continued*

- 1 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 2 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 3 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.)*

- 4 **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. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 5 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.)*
- 5 **MR ANDREN:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes the article in the *Canberra Times* of 14 November 1998 and the feature broadcast on 3 December 1998 by 'A Current Affair' alleging the profligacy of the Parliament's corporate administration;
  - (2) notes the considerable achievements of parliamentary staff in providing support services to honourable members under the present five department structure;
  - (3) notes the history of failed attempts to amalgamate the parliamentary departments dating back to 1910 that have failed because of either political factors or bureaucratic opposition to change;
  - (4) notes the reported savings made by several Commonwealth agencies, including the Departments of Defence and the Prime Minister and Cabinet, by the use of organisational restructuring and competitive tendering and contracting arrangements for the provision of corporate support services;
  - (5) agrees that the Commonwealth Parliament, as the pre-eminent institution of public sector accountability, should have a support structure that meets the requirements of economy, efficiency and effectiveness it expects and demands of all publicly funded agencies;
  - (6) agrees that there is scope for rationalising the present five departmental structure to achieve cost savings that can be re-allocated to needy areas of public expenditure; and
  - (7) requests the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit, as the audit committee for the Parliament, to initiate an efficiency audit of the current

parliamentary corporate support arrangements. (*Notice given 9 December 1998. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)

- 6 **MR BEVIS:** To move—That the Workplace Relations Amendment Regulations, as contained in Statutory Rules 1998, Nos. 338 and 353, made under the *Workplace Relations Act 1996*, be disallowed. (*Notice given 8 February 1999. Regulations will be deemed to have been disallowed unless the motion is disposed of within 9 sitting days, including today.*)
- 7 **MR PYNE:** To move—That the House:
- (1) condemns the inappropriate use of resources by some student unions;
  - (2) opposes students being forced to fund student union political activity as a prerequisite for entry to university;
  - (3) acknowledges that all citizens, including students, should be free to choose whether or not they want to belong to a union; and
  - (4) notes the contribution that responsive and responsible student unions can make to university campuses. (*Notice given 8 February 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 8 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To move—That this House:
- (1) notes that 1999 is the International Year of the Older Persons;
  - (2) notes the large number of middle-aged persons who have been retrenched in Australia and who have little chance of obtaining further employment;
  - (3) recognises that aged care services should provide a continuity of care in which services come to the people;
  - (4) further recognises that many older persons who have been retrenched will have used up their superannuation entitlements by retiring age and will need to fall back on the aged pension; and
  - (5) agrees that more work needs to be done to preserve Australian jobs, so that people are free to make their own retirement decisions based on quality of life issues rather than be forced to retire due to a management decision of their employer. (*Notice given 10 February 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 9 **MR HOLLIS:** To move—That the Public Works Committee Amendment Regulations 1998 (No. 1), as contained in Statutory Rules 1998 No. 310, made under the *Public Works Committee Act 1969*, be disallowed. (*Notice given 11 February 1999. Regulations will be deemed to have been disallowed unless the motion is disposed of within 12 sitting days, including today.*)
- 10 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To move—That the House:
- (1) views with concern the continuing reductions in net immigration to Australia over the last few years, in particular the impact of these cuts on economic development, family reunion and humanitarian programs;
  - (2) notes that there are now calls for an increase in immigration from a diversity of sectors in the Australian community, such as industry, ethnic community organisations and political leaders;

- (3) recognises the enduring importance of immigration to the development of Australia and to the maintenance of Australia's multicultural identity; and
- (4) calls upon the Government to substantially increase immigration in this planning year and to initiate an inquiry to the viability of fixing a five year increased immigration target, as suggested by industry groups and others. *(Notice given 15 February 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.)*

11 **MR CADMAN:** To move—That the House:

- (1) endorses the continuing protection of the law to prevent discrimination in the workplace;
- (2) acknowledges the disproportionate impact of unfair dismissal laws on the confidence of small business employers to employ additional people to their workforce;
- (3) condemns the continuation of unfair dismissal laws for businesses employing fewer than fifteen people; and
- (4) calls on the Senate to reverse its opposition to the removal of unfair dismissal laws. *(Notice given 15 February 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.)*

### Orders of the day

- 1 **INSURANCE INDUSTRY:** Resumption of debate *(from 30 November 1998—Mr Snowdon, 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 5 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.)*
- 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 5 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 3 LABELLING OF AUSTRALIAN GOODS:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 November 1998*) on the motion of Ms 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 5 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 4 SUPERANNUATION (ENTITLEMENTS OF SAME SEX COUPLES) BILL 1998** (*Mr Albanese*): Second reading (*from 7 December 1998*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 5 REGIONAL FOREST AGREEMENTS:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 1998*) on the motion of Mr Nehl—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 6 AUSTRALIA-TURKEY RELATIONS:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 1998*) on the motion of Mr Sercombe—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 7 **BANK CLOSURES:** Resumption of debate (*from 7 December 1998*) on the motion of Mr Mossfield—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 8 **RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 February 1999—Mr Hardgrave, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Neville—That this House:
- (1) draws the attention of the Government to the condition of the national rail track;
  - (2) commends the Government for its commitment of \$250 million to rail infrastructure but asks that it be expanded;
  - (3) calls for the declaration of national rail highway from Brisbane to Perth; and
  - (4) seeks removal of impediments to a seamless interstate rail system. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 9 **HOUSE SITTING ARRANGEMENTS:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 February 1999*) on the motion of Ms Hoare—That the House:
- (1) reverts to the previous sitting arrangements introduced in 1994, which were abandoned by this Government in 1996, to allow for a more family-friendly workplace;
  - (2) notes the increased number of Members since the election, on both sides of the House, who have young families and/or recently formed partnerships;
  - (3) also notes the hundreds of Members' staff who are required to be here to work while the House sits until 11 p.m. on Monday and Tuesday evenings and the effect that these absurd working hours has on their families and private lives; and

- (4) also notes that if it were to revert to the previous sitting pattern which includes sitting from the day's commencement through until adjournment at 8 p.m. there will be a loss of only three sitting hours per week in the House of Representatives chamber. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 10 **PROSTATE CANCER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 February 1999*) on the motion of Mr Brough—That this House:
- (1) places on record concern about the lack of awareness in the community of prostate cancer;
  - (2) notes that the number of deaths per year ascribed to prostate cancer has nearly doubled, rising from 1355 in 1982 to 2660 in 1996; and
  - (3) calls on the Government to support the designation of one day or week per year as National Prostate Cancer Day/Week as a means of heightening awareness. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 11 **BREAST CANCER:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 February 1999*) on the motion of Mr Schultz—That this House:
- (1) places on record concern about the lack of sufficient funding for clinical trials for the treatment and prevention of breast cancer;
  - (2) notes that over 8000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 1998 and that over 2700 women will die of breast cancer in that year; and
  - (3) calls on the Government to consider infrastructure funding which will give the foundation and security for planning and completion of quality, evidence-based research. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 12 **MILITARY PERSONNEL EXPOSED TO RADIATION:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 February 1999—Mr Snowden, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr L. D. T. Ferguson—That this House:
- (1) notes that the Royal Commission into British Nuclear Tests in Australia concluded that the 1983 Survey of Health of Former Atomic Test Personnel cannot be regarded as an adequate epidemiological study;
  - (2) expresses concern that there has been no further official study into the health and mortality of Australian personnel who participated in British nuclear tests and subsequent clean-up operations;
  - (3) acknowledges that the USA accepts as radiogenic a range of cancers and other conditions experienced by military personnel who were exposed to ionising radiation;
  - (4) notes that studies of British nuclear veterans have been conducted by the UK National Radiological Protection Board in 1988 and 1993 and, more recently, through Dundee University for the British Nuclear Tests Veterans Association;



- (5) calls on the Minister for Defence to commission as a matter of urgency a rigorous health and mortality study of Australian atomic ex-service personnel and their children and grandchildren; and
  - (6) supports the involvement of independent researchers and representatives of the ex-service community in the design and conduct of such a study. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 13 **FOOD REGULATORY SYSTEM:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 February 1999*) on the motion of Ms Bailey—That this House:
- (1) recognises that food is a growth industry;
  - (2) acknowledges that the ‘food industry’ comprises primary industry production, processing and manufacturing, retail and catering; and
  - (3) calls on the Government to ensure a national uniform food regulatory system. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 14 **PROPOSED STANDING COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS AND STAFFING:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 February 1999*) on the motion of Mr Price—
- (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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 15 **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER 28B:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 February 1999*) on the motion of Mr Price—
- (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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 16 **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER 94:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 February 1999*) on the motion of Mr Price—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 17 **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER 129:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 February 1999*) on the motion of Mr Price—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 18 **PROPOSED NEW STANDING ORDER 143A:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 February 1999*) on the motion of Mr Price—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)

- 19 **PROPOSED NEW STANDING ORDER 143A:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 February 1999*) on the motion of Mr Price—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)
- 20 **PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER 275A:** Resumption of debate (*from 15 February 1999*) on the motion of Mr Price—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 8 March 1999.*)

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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. Its determinations for the next sitting Monday are shown under "Business accorded priority for Monday, 8 March 1999". 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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## BUSINESS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE

*Thursday, 18 February 1999*

*The Main Committee meets at 9.40 a.m.*

### GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

#### Orders of the day

- 1 **AUSTRALIAN SPORTS DRUG AGENCY AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Sport and Tourism*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 2 **AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 3 **MOTOR VEHICLE STANDARDS AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Transport and Regional Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Ms Macklin*).
- 4 **INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr O'Connor*).
- 5 **QUARANTINE AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Ms Macklin*).



## 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, 19, 25, 26, 29, 34, 43, 48, 61, 71, 77, 78, 82, 83, 85, 90, 91, 100, 106, 107, 109-113, 115-118, 120-124, 126, 128, 141, 146-152, 154, 155, 157, 158, 162, 164, 181, 184, 185, 187, 188, 194, 195, 197, 201, 209-216, 218, 224, 229-240, 247, 248, 252, 254, 255, 262, 264-267, 271-287, 294, 296, 299, 300, 303, 305-307, 320, 323-328, 331, 332, 334, 337, 339, 341-413.

### *15 February 1999*

414 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Have the daily subsidies paid to aged care providers to cover the cost of providing care to residents been increased since the introduction of the Resident Classification Scale (RCS); if so, (a) what increases have been made and (b) what percentage of the initial subsidy under the RCS do the increases represent.
- (2) Have the increases referred to in part (1) been provided uniformly across States and RCS levels; if not, what increases have been made in respect of each State and RCS level.
- (3) What was the cumulative percentage increase in (a) the CPI, (b) average weekly earnings and (c) nursing salaries in each State public hospital system since the introduction of the RCS.
- (4) What is the difference between nursing wage rates in the acute and aged care sectors in each State.
- (5) Has she received representations from the private nursing home industry in Western Australia about the increases in subsidies paid to providers; if so, (a) what was the basis of the representations and (b) will the Government change existing funding levels for providers in Western Australia or the overall funding mechanism following the representations.
- (6) Does the funding mechanism for aged care providers recognise increased costs incurred by providers in order to comply with (a) Commonwealth and State legislative changes and (b) arbitrated decisions of the Australian Industrial Relations Commission in terminating a bargaining period and making an order under section 170MX of the *Workplace Relations Act 1996*.
- (7) Is it a fact that residential aged care providers are finding it increasingly difficult to attract and retain qualified nursing staff because of a lack of Commonwealth funding and the difference between wage rates in the acute and aged care sectors.
- (8) Is it a fact that aged care providers are not being provided sufficient resources to enable them to achieve accreditation; if not, why not.

- 415 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) How many staff has the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business allocated to ensure that Job Network providers comply with regulations and the terms of their association with the network.
  - (2) Has the Department received complaints about the operations of Job Network providers; if so, what is the nature of the complaints.
  - (3) How many on-site inspections has the Department made of Job Network providers' premises specifically to (a) ensure that a register of complaints is maintained and (b) inspect financial accounts and records, records of employees and job seekers' records for monitoring and evaluation to protect Commonwealth interests.
  - (4) How many inspections referred to in part (3) were conducted in the electoral division of Swan.
- 416 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Financial Services and Regulation—Does the Government endorse the draft rulings in the National Competition Council's draft report on subsections 52(2) and 52(3) of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* regarding the exceptions from the Act provided for (a) employment conditions and the labour market, (b) standards and (c) intellectual property.
- 417 **MR HOLLIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) Is the Government considering the report of the Review of Funding Arrangements for Long Service Leave in the Black Coal Mining Industry; if so, (a) at what stage is its consideration, (b) when did he receive the report, (c) what were the report's recommendations, (d) which organisations were consulted during the review and (e) which organisations made submissions to the review.
  - (2) Will he initiate reviews for long service leave arrangements in other industries; if so, which industries.
- 418 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) How many Centrelink customer service officers were employed in the Centrelink customer service centres in (a) Tuggeranong, ACT, and (b) Woden, ACT, on (i) 1 January 1999, (ii) 1 January 1998 and (iii) 1 January 1997.
  - (2) How many of the Centrelink customer service officers referred to in part (1) were involved in "point-of-contact" service to clients in (a) Tuggeranong, ACT, and (b) Woden, ACT, on (i) 1 January 1999, (ii) 1 January 1998 and (iii) 1 January 1997.
- 419 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Further to the answer to question No. 242 (*Hansard*, 11 February 1999, page 2459), how many private health insurance members resided in the electoral division of Canberra on (a) 25 November 1998 and (b) 1 February 1999.
- 420 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government—How many (a) local and (b) interstate/international visitors were recorded at the (i) Australian War Memorial,

(ii) Parliament House, (iii) Old Parliament House, (iv) National Science and Technology Centre, (v) Australian National Gallery, (vi) National Library of Australia, (vii) High Court of Australia, (viii) Tidbinbilla Space Centre, (ix) National Botanic Gardens, (x) Australian Institute of Sport, (xi) Royal Australian Mint and (xii) Telstra Tower in Canberra in (A)1995-96, (B) 1996-97 and (C) 1997-98.

421 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Will specific purpose payments such as those made under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreements (CSHAs) cease with the introduction of a goods and services tax.
- (2) Is the Government negotiating a CSHA for 1999-2003; if so, has the Minister obtained advice on whether the agreement will have effect after the introduction of a goods and services tax in July 2000.
- (3) If the CSHA is to have effect, are the cost implications of a goods and services tax for community, social and public housing organisations being taken into account during negotiations.
- (4) Will Commonwealth funding under the next CSHA be increased to alleviate the (a) increased cost effects of a goods and services tax and (b) decline in funding since the 1996-97 Budget.
- (5) Since the 1997-98 Budget, has the Government justified cuts to the CSHA by arguing that State housing authorities can absorb the cuts by pursuing more cost effective public housing management practices; if so, what are the cost effective management practices.
- (6) Has the Government forecast that State housing authorities will save up to \$50 million per year until 2000-01; if so, how will the savings be achieved.
- (7) Has the Minister sought confirmation from the Department of the Treasury that social rental housing activities will be deemed commercial under a goods and services tax and therefore input taxed; if so, what was Treasury's response.
- (8) Considering the impact a goods and services tax will have on increased costs for maintaining and running public housing, has the Minister obtained Treasury estimates of the net impact in dollar terms for maintenance spent in housing programs in all States and Territories.
- (9) Does the new tax reform legislation propose to treat trusts in the same manner as companies for tax purposes; if so, has the Minister considered the impact on trusts such as the NSW Home Purchase Assistance Fund, which is predicted to lose \$12.6 million of investment income because of the new tax laws.
- (10) Has the Minister prepared estimates of the reduction in the number of home purchasers who will be unable to receive purchase assistance as a result of the new tax laws; if so, what are the estimates.
- (11) Has the Minister obtained Treasury estimates of the cost per annum for public, social and community housing agencies to comply with the administrative requirements of a goods and services tax in all States and Territories; if so, what are the estimates.



- (12) Has the Minister obtained confirmation that a goods and services tax will apply to headleasing services provided to housing administrators by landlords; if so, (a) will the tax on these services be costed at the weekly rent value and (b) what are Treasury's predictions of the impact on the costs of headleasing for housing authorities in all States and Territories.
- (13) Will the Minister provide details of modelling or projections of the likely reduction in private sector engagement in the provision of public sector housing following the introduction of a goods and services tax.
- (14) Will the Minister provide estimates of the number of households likely to be forced out of their current accommodation because of increased rents following the introduction of a goods and services tax.
- (15) Will the Minister provide information on the number of persons who live in (a) boarding houses; (b) hostels; and (c) caravan parks in each State and Territory; if so, what is the breakdown by (a) age, (b) ethnicity, (c) gender and (d) household income.
- (16) Is it a fact that long-term residents of boarding houses, caravan parks and hostels will pay tax on their rents under a goods and services tax but house and apartment rents will be exempt; if so, what mechanisms has the Minister considered to address the different treatment.
- (17) Has the Minister prepared estimates of the number of households likely to be forced out of caravan park, boarding house and hostel accommodation because of increased rents following the introduction of a goods and services tax.
- (18) Will the Minister provide total numbers of Rent Assistance recipients, broken down by (a) country of birth, (b) languages other than English spoken at home and (c) principal language spoken at home.
- (19) How many Rent Assistance recipients had payments cut as a result of the reduction in Rent Assistance payable to single persons in shared accommodation.

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

- (1) When did Australia last nominate for membership of the Unesco Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in case of Illicit Appropriation.
- (2) Does Australia propose to nominate for membership of the committee at the Unesco General Conference in 1999.
- (3) How many persons are employed at the Australian Embassy in Paris.
- (4) Did Australia have an observer at the committee's 10th session (Paris, 25-28 January 1999); if not, why not.
- (5) Will international conferences and seminars concerning the Parthenon Marbles, including their conservation, be held in Washington (February 1999) and Athens (December 1999).
- (6) At which of the conferences and seminars will Australia be represented, and at what level.
- (7) Did the committee at its 10th session invite the United Kingdom and Greece to negotiate on the issue of the Parthenon Marbles.

- (8) Further to the answer to question No. 986 (*Hansard*, 9 May 1994, page 519), is it still the Australian Government's position that the question of the return to Greece of the Parthenon Marbles is a matter for resolution by the Greek and British Governments.
- (9) In what circumstances has the Australian Government made representations to the Greek or British Governments on the issue of the Parthenon Marbles.

423 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Minister representing the Assistant Treasurer—

- (1) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to an article in the *Australian Financial Review* of 3 November 1998 entitled "Multilateral investment pact on ice" in which it is claimed that the Government hoped that the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) would be revived.
- (2) Is it a fact that Australian OECD negotiators in Paris sought the paring back of the MAI to its core elements; if so, what are the core elements.
- (3) Did the OECD, in a press release dated 3 December 1998, confirm that negotiations on the MAI were no longer taking place but that OECD officials agreed on the importance of multidisciplinary work on the desirability of establishing international rules for investment.
- (4) Has the Minister undertaken to carefully consider the Government's approach to further agreement on international investment rules; if so, what criteria will apply to the consideration.

*16 February 1999*

424 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Will self-funded retirees aged between 55 and 60 who have not reached pensionable age, such as widows, be ineligible to receive the proposed one-off goods and services tax compensation package; if so, would this discriminate unfairly against this category of retiree.
- (2) Has his Department identified other groups or individuals who would similarly be ineligible; if so, what groups or individuals.
- (3) Were self-funded retirees referred to in preceding parts considered in modelling upon which the Government based its proposed tax package.

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 79, will the construction of the Western Sydney orbital road system divert the heavy volume of heavy transport travelling through residential areas of Western Sydney.
- (2) Has he received submissions from, or seen media releases by, the Chair of the Greater Western Sydney Economic Development Board, Mr Jim Bosnjak, seeking funding for the Western Sydney orbital road system; if so, has Mr Bosnjak claimed that decisions on further business development are being delayed in Western Sydney because the road system has not been constructed.
- (3) Would expenditure on the construction of the Western Sydney orbital road system be justified by the resulting creation of further business and employment in Western Sydney.

- 426 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to (a) serious problems in the administration of the visitors visa program publicised in recent cases, (b) complaints of many ethnic groups, other community organisations and members of parliament about arbitrary actions by immigration officers towards visitors visas and (c) rejection rates of applications from some countries for visitors visas including persons wishing to visit their families in Australia having reached levels of up to 46 per cent.
  - (2) Will he initiate an inquiry into the administration of the visitors visa program especially as applied to Lebanon, Turkey, the People's Republic of China and Vietnam.
- 427 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) During the program of consultations on the next planning year of the immigration intake, will he give due weight to submissions from groups in the community who favour increasing the immigration intake.
  - (2) Will he extend the closing date for submissions from organisations wishing to present a detailed case in relation to immigration intake.
- 428 **DR THEOPHANOUS:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs— Has his attention been drawn to criticisms from Australian industry leaders and others in the community who have argued that the level of immigration has reached an unacceptably low level and that economic growth and social considerations require a substantial increase in the level of immigration and a commitment to a longer program over 5 years of increases in immigration; if so, what is his response.
- 429 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—How many Australian Defence Force personnel were discharged in (a) 1996, (b) 1997 and (c) 1998 after medical officers had determined that their work-related injuries were temporary or probably temporary.
- 430 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) How many breaches of the (a) Occupational Health and Safety (Commonwealth Employees) Act and (b) Defence Force Disciplinary Act involving health and safety matters affecting Australian Defence Force personnel were reported in the last year for which statistics are available.
  - (2) What (a) action was taken, (b) fines were imposed and (c) compensation was paid in respect of the breaches referred to in part (1).
- 431 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) On 2 October 1998 did he announce grants to welfare agencies under the Gas Assistance-Material Aid Program through the Victorian Emergency Fund; if so, who in the general community was informed about the grants.
  - (2) Were criteria set to satisfy demonstrated hardship for the purposes of the program; if so, what criteria.

- (3) Which welfare organisations in Victoria received grants from the emergency fund.
  - (4) Were there welfare organisations in Victoria which did not receive grants to help meet requests for assistance.
  - (5) Was the emergency fund's closure date extended from 18 December 1998 to 31 January 1999; if so, who (a) decided to extend the closure date and (b) was informed of the decision.
  - (6) Were steps taken to invite interstate applications in accordance with the announcement on 2 October 1998; if so, what steps.
  - (7) What procedures have been implemented to review the effectiveness and operation of the Gas Assistance-Material Aid Program.
- 432 **MR HOLLIS:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) How many overseas posts held official Australia Day functions on 26 January 1999.
  - (2) Which overseas posts did not hold official Australia Day functions on 26 January 1999.
  - (3) What reason did each post referred to in part (2) provide for not holding an official Australia Day function.

*17 February 1999*

- 433 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—
- (1) Did his predecessor's answer to question No. 1372 (*Hansard*, 10 October 1994, page 1614) indicate that Prime Minister Menzies never visited Portugal.
  - (2) Which Prime Ministers of Australia have visited Portugal.
  - (3) On what dates have Australian Prime Ministers visited Indonesia.
- 434 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Which Prime Ministers of Australia have addressed the General Assembly of the UN.
  - (2) Which of them have mentioned Portuguese overseas possessions in their address.
- 435 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Did the General Assembly of the UN on 14 December 1960 adopt and proclaim the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.
  - (2) Did the Menzies Government instruct the Australian delegates to abstain from voting on the declaration.
  - (3) Which other countries abstained.
  - (4) Did the General Assembly in 1961 establish a special committee to examine the application of the declaration and to make suggestions and recommendations on the implementation of the declaration.
  - (5) Did the Gorton Government take Australia out of the committee in 1969.

- 436 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) What were the texts of the letters that Prime Minister Menzies wrote in October 1961, February 1963 and October 1963 to Prime Minister Salazar about Portuguese Timor.
  - (2) What were the dates and texts of Dr Salazar's replies.
  - (3) Has his attention been drawn to the submission to the Menzies Cabinet on 21 February 1963 in which his predecessor, Sir Garfield Barwick, revealed that the USA had prompted the letters; if so, (a) how and when were the letters brought to the attention of the USA and (b) what responses were made by the US.
- 437 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Does his Department have records of discussions between Prime Ministers of Australia and Presidents of Indonesia; if so, in respect of which conversations does the Department hold such records
  - (2) Does the Department have copies of letters between Prime Ministers of Australia and Presidents of Indonesia; if so, what are the dates of the letters.
- 438 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) On 12 December 1972 in the UN General Assembly did (a) Australia vote in favour of the resolution on the rights of peoples to self determination and the speedy granting of independence to colonial countries and (b) France, Portugal, the UK and the USA vote against the resolution.
  - (2) On what dates had there previously been votes on the resolution on these issues in the General Assembly and the Fourth Committee.
  - (3) How did Australia vote on the previous occasions.
- 439 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—What sums did (a) Australia and (b) Portugal pay in 1973-74 and each subsequent financial year to (i) the Red Cross and (ii) other international organisations to support their activities in East Timor.
- 440 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—On what dates, in what places, in what circumstances and with what outcomes have the boundaries of the territorial sea and seabed between Australia and its northern neighbours been discussed by Australian Ministers or officials with foreign authorities who accepted or claimed responsibility for parts of the sea and seabed.
- 441 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—On what occasions and in what circumstances has the UN considered the question of Macau.
- 442 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 153 (*Hansard*, 8 February 1999, page 2119), why has the Government not commissioned an independent study to provide an objective report on the viability of the long term operating targets regarding various flight paths over Sydney.
  - (2) Has the Government commissioned an independent study of the safety repercussions of the long term operating plan; if so, (a) which organisation undertook the study, (b) over what period was the study conducted, (c) what were the findings of the study and (d) has a Government agency or

instrumentality commented on the adequacy of the study; if so, what were the comments.

443 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—

- (1) Will he provide details of polling being conducted on behalf of the Office of the Employment Advocate including (a) who is conducting the polling, (b) the questions being asked, (c) the methodology used and (d) the financial cost.
- (2) Have funds been allocated for future polling; if so, what is the budget.
- (3) Does the polling referred to in the preceding parts constitute push polling.

444 **DR LAWRENCE:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—Further to the answer to question No. 204 (*Hansard*, 8 February 1999, page 2121), how many of the 11 649 young unemployed persons referred to in part (2) of the answer as having commenced Mutual Obligation activities at 27 November 1998 had commenced training in (a) literacy and numeracy, (b) career counselling and (c) job placement and employment training.

445 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) How many work-for-the-dole projects are operating in the electoral division of Canberra.
- (2) Which organisations are involved in running work-for-the-dole projects in the electoral division of Canberra.
- (3) Where are the projects located.
- (4) How many (a) voluntary and (b) compulsory participants are there in each project.
- (5) What is the duration of each project.
- (6) How many voluntary participants in the work-for-the-dole scheme reside in postcode areas (a) 2600 (b) 2603 (c) 2605 (d) 2606, (e) 2607, (f) 2611, (g) 2900, (h) 2901, (i) 2902, (j) 2903, (k) 2904, (l) 2905 and (m) 2906.

### 18 February 1999

\*446 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to the message transmitted on 6 January 1999 by the President of the USA to the US Senate seeking its advice and consent to ratification of the Convention and accession to the Protocol for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (The Hague 1954); if so, when.
- (2) Has the President's message been brought to the attention of the Departments, States and Territories mentioned in question No. 218, which has been on the Notice Paper since 30 November 1998; if so, in each case, when.

\*447 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources—

- (1) Has the Minister's attention been directed to the evidence given to the Longford Royal Commission about the failures of the fire hose couplings used at Esso's Longford plant.

- (2) Since the answer to question No. 2167 (*Hansard*, 24 September 1997, page 8454), what progress has been made by the committees of the Australian Fire Authorities Council in reviewing the couplings in use by member agencies and funding their replacement by the STORZ-type coupling.
- \*448 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) What percentage of airline movements at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport involve the mode of operation known as Mode 4.
  - (2) Is it a fact that Mode 4 does not permit departures from the main North-South runway over Botany Bay; if so, will the Government consider varying Mode 4 to facilitate a greater number of aircraft movements over water.
- \*449 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 189 (*Hansard*, 11 February 1999, page 2455), was the figure of 10 minutes obtained from research undertaken at the Hurstville Medicare Office.
  - (2) Will he request the Health Insurance Commission to undertake research on the quality of service in specific Medicare offices, particularly the waiting time of customers at the Hurstville Medicare Office.
- \*450 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) How many staff were employed by (a) Ministers, (b) Senators and (c) Members (i) in total and (ii) at each classification level at 1 July in each year since 1988.
  - (2) How many staff were employed at each classification level by Ministers at 15 February 1999.
- \*451 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—
- (1) Has his Department conducted a trial to provide Internet access to certain Members' and Senators' electorate offices; if so, (a) which Members' and Senators' offices were involved and (b) has the trial been evaluated; if so, was it successful.
  - (2) Will his Department extend Internet access to all Members' and Senators' electorate offices.
  - (3) Is it a fact that many Government departments and agencies refer persons seeking information to their World Wide Web sites; if so, is it also a fact that it is difficult for Members, Senators and their staff to conduct inquiries effectively on behalf of constituents if their electorate offices do not have access to the Internet.
- \*452 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—What was the cost to the Commonwealth in each year from 1988-89 to 1997-98 of (a) Members' and Senators' salaries and ministerial supplements, (b) parliamentarians' entitlements including superannuation, travel allowances, provision of vehicles, office rent, telecommunications, office equipment, stationery and newspapers, (c) parliamentarians' staff including salaries, overtime, superannuation, travel and training, (d) domestic and international conveyance of parliamentarians and their staff, (e) the operation of each of the five parliamentary departments and (f) other costs associated with the running of Parliament and Members' and Senators' electorate offices.

- \*453 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Did the Acting Prime Minister make a statement on 7 January 1999 referring to the expected approval of a tax rebate under the Infrastructure Borrowings Tax Offset Scheme for Melbourne's Citylink extension project.
  - (2) Does the project require an environmental assessment; if so, (a) has it been conducted and (b) what form of assessment was or will be used.
- \*454 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) Did the Office of the Employment Advocate advertise a senior executive position tasked with increasing the recognition and take-up rates of Australian Workplace Agreements (AWAs) by employers; if so, (a) what are the duty statement and selection criteria for the position, (b) is funding for the position provided within the \$3 million awareness campaign budget; if not, how is the position funded and (c) will the position attract performance pay; if so, what criteria will be used to determine performance pay.
  - (2) Have targets been set for the take-up rate of AWAs; if so, what are they.
  - (3) Do the advertisement and other publicity measures indicate a failure of the AWA process, in particular, and the Government's industrial relations initiatives, in general.
- \*455 **MR McMULLAN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government—Has the Minister's attention been drawn to the ACT Government's Rural Residential Development (RRD) Scheme; if so, (a) what is the Minister's position on the ACT Government's encouragement of RRDs, (b) do RRDs conform with the spirit and letter of the National Capital Plan and (c) is it a fact that an open-ended process in evaluating the suitability of rural leases to RRDs may lead to the majority of rural leases being converted to RRD purposes.
- \*456 **MS ELLIS:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What sum did the Commonwealth allocate to youth suicide prevention strategies for 1998-99 (a) in total and (b) to each State and Territory.
  - (2) What method was used to allocate the funds.
  - (3) Was the funding allocated to each State and Territory targeted at specific sectors of the community; if so, which sectors.
  - (4) What percentage of the ACT's allocation for youth suicide prevention was allocated to the work of (a) health services, (b) community organisations and (c) youth services.
  - (5) How is the funding referred to in part (4) tied to youth suicide prevention in the ACT.
  - (6) What is the time frame for the implementation of programs funded in the ACT funded under the youth suicide prevention strategy.
  - (7) Are programs funded under the strategy in the ACT required to be evaluated; if so, what is the time frame for each evaluation.
  - (8) What are the Commonwealth's reporting requirements on funding for the ACT and within what time frame must they be met.



\*457 **MR SMITH:** To ask the Minister for Sport and Tourism—

- (1) What sum did the Australian Tourism Commission spend on international advertising in (a) 1996-97 and (b) 1997-98.
- (2) What sum was spent on promoting Australia as a holiday destination in (a) England, (b) the UK, (c) Singapore, (d) Indonesia and (e) Japan in (i) 1996-97 and (ii) 1997-98.
- (3) To what extent have the advertising campaigns increased the number of overseas tourists to Australia.

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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*

**ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER AFFAIRS:** Mr Lieberman (*Chair*),  
Mrs Draper, Mr Haase, Ms Hoare, Mr Katter, Mr Lloyd, Mr Melham, Mr Quick,  
Mr Snowdon, Mr Wakelin.

*Current inquiry:*

Review of the Reeves Report on the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act.

**COMMUNICATIONS, TRANSPORT AND THE ARTS:** Mr Neville (*Chair*), Mr Gibbons,  
Mr Hardgrave, Mr Hollis, Mr Jull, Mr Lindsay, Mr McArthur, Mr Mossfield,  
Mr Murphy, Mr St Clair.

**ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION:** Mr Hawker (*Chair*),  
Mr Albanese, Ms Burke, Ms Gambaro, Mrs Hull, Mr Latham, Mr Pyne,  
Mr Somlyay, Dr Southcott, Mr Wilton.

*Current inquiries:*

Alternative means of providing banking and like services in regional and remote Australia.

Review of the Reserve Bank of Australia's annual report for 1997-98.

**EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND WORKPLACE RELATIONS:** Dr Nelson (*Chair*), Mr Barresi, Mr Bartlett, Dr Emerson, Ms Gambaro, Mrs Gash, Ms Gillard, Mr Katter, Mr Sawford, Mr Wilkie.

**ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE:** Mr Causley (*Chair*), Mr Barresi, Mr Bartlett, Mr Billson, Mrs Gallus, Ms Gerick, Mrs Irwin, Mr Jenkins, Dr Lawrence, Mrs D. S. Vale.

*Current inquiries:*

Infrastructure and the development of Australia's regional areas.

Review of the Department of the Environment's annual report for 1997-98.

**FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:** Mr Wakelin (*Chair*), Mr K. J. Andrews, Mr Edwards, Ms Ellis, Mrs Elson, Ms Hall, Mrs D. M. Kelly, Dr Nelson, Mr Quick, Mr Schultz.

*Current inquiry:*

Indigenous health.

**HOUSE:** The Speaker, Mr Charles, Mr Hollis, Mr McLeay, Mr Nehl, Mr Sawford, Mr Somlyay.

**INDUSTRY, SCIENCE AND RESOURCES:** Mr Prosser (*Chair*), Mr Baird, Mr Hatton, Mr Lawler, Mr Lloyd, Mr Morris, Mr Nairn, Ms Roxon, Dr Washer, Mr Zahra.

**LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS:** Mr K. J. Andrews (*Chair*), Ms J. I. Bishop, Mr Cadman, Mr Kerr, Ms Livermore, Mr Mossfield, Mr Ronaldson, Ms Roxon, Mr St Clair, Mrs D. S. Vale.

**LIBRARY:** The Speaker, Mr Adams, Mr L. D. T. Ferguson, Ms Hoare, Mr Lawler, Mr I. E. Macfarlane, Dr Washer.

**MEMBERS' INTERESTS:** Mr Somlyay (*Chair*), Mr K. J. Andrews, Mrs Crosio, Mr Jenkins, Mr Neville, Mr Nugent, Mr O'Keefe.

**PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND REGIONAL SERVICES:** Ms Bailey (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Andren, Mr Horne, Mr Katter, Mrs D. M. Kelly, Mr I. E. Macfarlane, Mr McLeay, Mr Nairn, Mr Secker, Mr Sidebottom, Mr C. P. Thompson.

**PRIVILEGES:** Mr Somlyay (*Chair*), Deputy Leader of the Opposition or his nominee, Mr K. J. Andrews, Mr Danby, Mr Jull, Mr McLeay, Mrs May, Mr Neville, Mr Sawford, Mr Sercombe, Dr Southcott (nominee of the Leader of the House).

**PROCEDURE:** Mr Pyne (*Chair*), Mr Cameron, Mr M. J. Ferguson, Mr Forrest, Mrs Gash, Ms Gerick, Mr Price.

**PUBLICATIONS:** Mr Lieberman (*Chair*), Mr Hardgrave, Mrs Hull, Mr Lloyd, Mrs J. S. McFarlane, Mr Rudd, Mr Sidebottom.

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

**Joint Statutory**

**AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION:** Mr Jull, Mr McArthur, Mr McLeay, Mr Nehl, Senator Sandy Macdonald, Senator MacGibbon, Senator Ray.

**BROADCASTING OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS:** The Speaker, The President, Mr Adams, Mr Forrest, Mrs Gash, Mr Lindsay, Mr Morris, Senator Knowles, Senator West.

**CORPORATIONS AND SECURITIES:** Ms J. I. Bishop, Mr Cameron, Mr Rudd, Mr Sercombe, Dr Southcott, Senator Chapman, Senator Conroy, Senator Cooney, Senator Gibson, Senator Murray.

**NATIONAL CRIME AUTHORITY:** Mr Nugent (*Chair*), Mr Edwards, Mr Hardgrave, Mr Kerr, Mr Somlyay, Senator George Campbell, Senator Denman, Senator Ferris, Senator McGauran, Senator Stott Despoja.

**NATIVE TITLE AND THE ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER LAND FUND:** Senator Ferris (*Chair*), Mr Causley, Mr Haase, Mr Melham, Mr Secker, Mr Snowdon, Senator Abetz, Senator Crossin, Senator Reynolds, Senator Woodley.

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT:** Mr Charles (*Chair*), Mr K. J. Andrews, Mr Brough, Mr Cox, Mr Georgiou, Ms Gillard, Mr Griffin, Ms Plibersek, Mr St Clair, Mr Somlyay, Senator Coonan, Senator Faulkner, Senator Gibson, Senator Hogg, Senator Murray, Senator Watson.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Mrs Moylan (*Chair*), Mrs Crosio, Mr Forrest, Mr Hollis, Mr Lindsay, Mr Ripoll, Senator Calvert, Senator Ferguson, Senator Murphy.

*Current inquiries:*

Berlin—Australian Embassy—Refurbishment of heritage buildings—as a chancery and apartments.

Lucas Heights, NSW—Replacement nuclear research reactor.

**Joint Standing**

**ELECTORAL MATTERS** (*Formed 7 December 1998*): Mr Nairn (*Chair*), Mr Danby, Mr L. D. T. Ferguson, Mr Forrest, Mr Somlyay, Senator Bartlett, Senator Faulkner, Senator Lightfoot, Senator Murray, Senator Synon.

*Current inquiry:*

Conduct of the 1998 federal election.

**FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE** (*Formed 7 December 1998*): Senator MacGibbon (*Chair*), Mrs Bailey, Mr Baird, Mr Brereton, Mr G. J. Evans, Mr Hawker, Mr Hollis, Mr Jull, Mrs D. M. Kelly, Mr Lieberman, Mr Martin, Mrs Moylan, Mr Nugent, Mr O'Keefe, Mr Price, Mr Prosser, Mr Pyne, Mr Snowdon, Dr Southcott, Dr Theophanous, Mr A. P. Thomson, Senator Bourne, Senator Chapman, Senator Cook, Senator Ferguson, Senator Harradine, Senator Sandy Macdonald, Senator O'Brien, Senator Quirke, Senator Reynolds, Senator Schacht, Senator Synon.

*Current inquiries:*

Bougainville peace process.

Loss of HMAS *Sydney*.

**MIGRATION** (*Formed 7 December 1998*): Mrs Gallus (*Chair*), Mr Baird, Mrs Irwin, Mrs May, Mr Ripoll, Dr Theophanous, Senator Bartlett, Senator Eggleston, Senator McKiernan, Senator Tierney.

**NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES** (*Formed 7 December 1998*): Senator McGauran (*Chair*), Mr Cameron, Ms Ellis, Mr Nehl, Mr Neville, Mr Snowden, Mr Somlyay, Senator Allison, Senator Crossin, Senator Lightfoot, Senator Lundy.

**TREATIES** (*Formed 7 December 1998*): Mr A. P. Thomson (*Chair*), Mr Adams, Mr Baird, Mr Bartlett, Mrs Crosio, Mrs Elson, Mr L. D. T. Ferguson, Mr Hardgrave, Mrs D. M. Kelly, Senator Bourne, Senator Brownhill, Senator Coonan, Senator Cooney, Senator O'Chee, Senator Reynolds, Senator Schacht.

**Joint Select**

**RETAILING SECTOR** (*Formed 10 December 1998*): Mr Baird (*Chair*), Mrs Elson, Mr Fitzgibbon, Mr Jenkins, Mr Nairn, Senator Boswell, Senator Ferris, Senator Forshaw, Senator Murray, Senator Schacht. (*To report by 10 June 1999.*)

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## APPOINTMENTS TO STATUTORY BODIES

**ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES:** Mr Somlyay (*appointed 2 December 1998, for a period of 3 years*).

**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*).