

1998-99

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOTICE PAPER

No. 34

TUESDAY, 11 MAY 1999

The House meets this day at 2 p.m.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS
Orders of the day

- 1 **HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999*) on the motion of Dr Kemp—That the Bill be now read a second time—*And on the amendment moved thereto by Mr Lee, viz.*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to substituting the following words: “The bill be withdrawn and redrafted to provide for removal of the items which seek to impose voluntary student unionism, which will damage the interests of students, communities and the nation as a whole by
- (1) undermining the independence of universities by imposing political conditions on Commonwealth grants;
 - (2) reducing student representation in an attempt to silence opposition to higher education funding cuts;
 - (3) slashing services available to students, such as child care, legal and employment advice, cafeterias and sporting facilities;
 - (4) placing a further financial burden on universities; and
 - (5) putting at risk community services, facilities and employment, particularly in regional areas”.
- 2 **WOOL INTERNATIONAL PRIVATISATION BILL 1999** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999—Mr Martin*).
- *3 **SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 3) 1999** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 31 March 1999—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- *4 **TRADESMEN’S RIGHTS REGULATION REPEAL BILL 1999** (*Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 31 March 1999—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).

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

- *5 **A NEW TAX SYSTEM (FAMILY ASSISTANCE) BILL 1999** (*Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 31 March 1999—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- *6 **A NEW TAX SYSTEM (FAMILY ASSISTANCE) (CONSEQUENTIAL AND RELATED MEASURES) BILL (NO. 1) 1999** (*Treasurer*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 31 March 1999—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- 7 **HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 25 March 1999—Mr Truss*).
- 8 **EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999—Mr Martin*).
- 9 **ABORIGINAL LAND RIGHTS (NORTHERN TERRITORY) AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999** (*Minister representing the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999—Mr Martin*).
- 10 **ELECTORAL AND REFERENDUM AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1998**: Consideration of Senate's amendments (*from 18 February 1999*).
- 11 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 4) 1999** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 March 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 12 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 5) 1999** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 March 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 13 **LAW AND JUSTICE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Ms Macklin*).
- 14 **CUSTOMS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999** (*Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 25 March 1999—Mr McClelland*).
- 15 **IMPORT PROCESSING CHARGES AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 25 March 1999—Mr McClelland*).
- 16 **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*).
- 17 **CORPORATE LAW ECONOMIC REFORM PROGRAM BILL 1998** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 3 December 1998—Mr Martin*).
- 18 **SUPERANNUATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 2) 1999** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 March 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 19 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (CPI INDEXATION) BILL 1999** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 March 1999—Mr Melham*).

- 20 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (POLITICAL DONATIONS) BILL 1999** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 March 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 21 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT (DEMUTUALISATION OF NON-INSURANCE MUTUAL ENTITIES) BILL 1999** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 11 March 1999—Mr Melham*).
- 22 **DAMAGE BY AIRCRAFT BILL 1999** (*Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 24 March 1999—Mr Martin*).
- 23 **AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 25 March 1999—Mr McClelland*).
- 24 **COMPENSATION FOR NON-ECONOMIC LOSS (SOCIAL SECURITY AND VETERANS' ENTITLEMENTS LEGISLATION AMENDMENT) BILL 1999** (*Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 25 March 1999—Ms Macklin*).
- 25 **PUBLIC SERVICE BILL 1999** (*Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999—Mr Brereton*).
- 26 **PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (CONSEQUENTIAL AND TRANSITIONAL) AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Public Service*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999—Mr Martin*).
- 27 **STATUTE STOCKTAKE BILL 1999** (*Attorney-General*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999—Mr Martin*).
- 28 **COMMONWEALTH GRANTS COMMISSION AMENDMENT BILL 1999** (*Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Finance and Administration*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999—Mr Martin*).
- 29 **DEFENCE LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 1) 1999** (*Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999—Mr Martin*).
- *30 **TAXATION LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (NO. 6) 1999** (*Minister for Financial Services and Regulation*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 31 March 1999—Mr M. J. Ferguson*).
- 31 **CENTRELINK—LEVEL OF SERVICE**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 45 (*from 10 March 1999*).
- 32 **CENTRELINK**: Consideration of Senate's message No. 2 (*from 12 November 1998*).
- *33 **PARLIAMENTARIANS' TRAVEL PAID BY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION: JANUARY TO JUNE 1998—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS**: Resumption of debate (*from 31 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the papers.
- *34 **CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1998—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER**: Resumption of debate

(*from 31 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.

- *35 **ELSEY LAND CLAIM NO. 132—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 31 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 36 **ADVISORY PANEL ON THE MARKETING IN AUSTRALIA OF INFANT FORMULA—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 37 **FOREIGN INVESTMENT REVIEW BOARD—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 38 **VISIT TO SANDAKAN—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 30 March 1999—Mr Martin*) on the motion of Mr Scott—That the House take note of the paper.
- 39 **DIGITAL BROADCASTING INDUSTRY—ACTION AGENDA—PAPER—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 40 **SAFETY OF FIRE DOORS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 March 1999—Mr Tanner*) on the motion of Mr Hockey—That the House take note of the paper.
- 41 **AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENTS COMMISSION—REPORT ON INVESTIGATION INTO BURNS PHILP AND COMPANY LIMITED—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 42 **AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENTS COMMISSION—REPORT ON SPECIAL INVESTIGATION INTO SPEDLEY SECURITIES LIMITED—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 10 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 43 **TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PLANS—PROGRESS REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 44 **ADVANCE TO THE MINISTER FOR FINANCE, DECEMBER 1998 AND JANUARY 1999—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the papers.
- 45 **AUSTRALIA AND THE IMF—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 46 **AUSTRALIA AND THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 1999—*

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

- 47 **AUSTRALIA AND THE WORLD BANK—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 48 **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON THE AUSTRALIAN COMPETITION AND CONSUMER COMMISSION'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1996-97—GOVERNMENT RESPONSE—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 9 March 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 49 **CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY AUTHORITY—REGULATION OF AQUATIC AIR PTY LTD—PAPERS—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPERS:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 February 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the papers.
- 50 **BUREAU OF AIR SAFETY INVESTIGATION—CESSNA 185E FLOATPLANE, VH-HTS, CALABASH BAY, NSW—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 February 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 51 **AUSTRALIAN HEARING—REPORT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 18 February 1999—Mr McMullan*) on the motion of Mr Reith—That the House take note of the paper.
- 52 **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.
- 53 **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.
- 54 **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.
- 55 **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.
- 56 **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.
- 57 **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.

- 58 **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.
- 59 **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.
- 60 **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.
- 61 **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.
- 62 **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.
- 63 **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.
- 64 **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.
- 65 **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.
- 66 **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.
- 67 **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.
- 68 **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.
- 69 **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.
- 70 **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.

- 71 **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.
- 72 **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.
- 73 **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.
- 74 **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.
- 75 **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.
- 76 **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.
- 77 **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.
- 78 **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.
- 79 **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.
- 80 **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.
- 81 **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.
- 82 **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.

- 83 **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.
- 84 **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.
- 85 **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.
- 86 **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.
- 87 **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.
- 88 **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.
- 89 **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.
- 90 **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.
- 91 **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.
- 92 **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.
- 93 **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.
- 94 **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.
- 95 **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.
- 96 **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.
- 97 **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.
- 98 **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.
- 99 **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.
- 100 **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.
- 101 **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.
- 102 **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.
- 103 **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.
- 104 **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.
- 105 **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.
- 106 **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.
- 107 **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.

- 108 **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.
- 109 **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.
- 110 **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.
- 111 **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.
- 112 **TARIFF PROPOSALS** (*Mr Slipper*):
 Customs Tariff Proposals Nos. 6 to 10 (1998)—*moved 24 November 1998*—Resumption of debate (*Mr K. J. Thomson*).
 Customs Tariff Proposal No. 1 (1999)—*moved 30 March 1999*—Resumption of debate (*Mr Martin*).
- 113 **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.

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS

Orders of the day

- 1 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON RESERVE BANK OF AUSTRALIA'S ANNUAL**

- REPORT FOR 1997-98—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 1999—Mr Hawker, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Hawker—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 2 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—FINAL REPORT ON MULTILATERAL AGREEMENT ON INVESTMENT—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 March 1999—Mr A. P. Thomson, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr A. P. Thomson—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 3 **NATIONAL CAPITAL AND EXTERNAL TERRITORIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EXTERNAL TERRITORIES—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 March 1999—Mr Nehl, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Nehl—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 4 **ECONOMICS, FINANCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION—STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF PROVIDING BANKING AND LIKE SERVICES IN REGIONAL AND REMOTE AUSTRALIA—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 March 1999—Mr Hawker, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Hawker—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 5 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON FIFTH PROTOCOL TO GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TRADE IN SERVICES AND FIVE TREATIES TABLED ON 30 JUNE 1998—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 23 March 1999—Mr A. P. Thomson, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr A. P. Thomson—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 6 **TREATIES—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON TREATIES TABLED ON 26 MAY AND 11 NOVEMBER 1998—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 29 March 1999—Mr A. P. Thomson, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr A. P. Thomson—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 7 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—REPORT ON LOSS OF HMAS SYDNEY—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 29 March 1999—Dr Theophanous, in continuation*) on the motion of Dr Theophanous—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)

- *8 **FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DEFENCE AND TRADE—JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE—INTERIM REPORT ON BOUGAINVILLE VISIT 15-18 MARCH 1999—MOTION TO TAKE NOTE OF PAPER:** Resumption of debate (*from 31 March 1999—Mr Jull, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Jull—That the House take note of the report. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Notice given for Tuesday, 11 May 1999

- *1 **MR PRICE:** To move—That orders of the day Nos. 14, 15, 16, 17, 19 and 20, private Members' business, on the Notice Paper for 31 March 1999, stand referred to the Procedure Committee in conjunction with its inquiry into community involvement in the procedures and practices of the House of Representatives and its committees. (*Notice given 31 March 1999.*)

Notices

- 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 the next sitting Monday after 31 May 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 the next sitting Monday after 31 May 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 the next sitting Monday after 31 May 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 2 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 3 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 6 **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 4 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 7 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.)*

8 **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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.)*

9 **MRS CROSIO:** To move—That the House:

- (1) notes the high number of self-funded retirees in Australia who are struggling financially at the present time;
- (2) recognises that the Howard Government's GST will create greater financial hardship for thousands of self-funded retirees because it taxes the essentials of life, will make people receiving low fixed incomes from superannuation or other measures pay the same rate of tax as people on higher incomes and offers inadequate financial compensation; and
- (3) investigates other means of offering financial assistance and incentive to struggling self-funded retirees distinct from a Goods and Services Tax. *(Notice given 8 March 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.)*

10 **MS O'BYRNE:** To move—That the House:

- (1) draws to the attention of the Government the vital role that the Wheat Freight Subsidy plays in Tasmania in underpinning up to 1600 jobs in the baking, chicken, stockfeed and pork sectors; and
- (2) calls for the Government to extend the Wheat Freight Subsidy Scheme for a further three years on a calendar year basis to provide essential industry security. *(Notice given 11 March 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.)*

11 **MR McLEAY:** To move—That this House deplores the complete disregard of mobile phone carriers for the rights and health of 500 000 hearing-impaired people shown by the failure of the carriers, particularly Telstra, to address the problem of GSM interference with hearing aids. *(Notice given 22 March 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.)*

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

- (1) requests the federal Government to introduce a noise amelioration program for the Perth International Airport to address areas currently affected by aircraft noise and bring Perth International Airport within the ambit of the *Aircraft Noise Levy Act 1995* and the *Aircraft Noise Collection Act 1995*; and
- (2) calls on the Government prior to or contemporaneously with the signing of the Perth International Airport Draft Master Plan to initiate a comprehensive social, economic and environmental study to examine the longer term ramifications of any proposed expansion of the airport with a view to implementing a compensation or other noise amelioration program for areas identified as being affected. (*Notice given 23 March 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)

13 **MR FORREST:** To move—That this House:

- (1) acknowledges the significance of Murray River bridge crossings to the national economy;
- (2) recognises the deteriorated condition of many existing bridge crossings and their urgent need of major capital for upgrading to meet modern safety and traffic load standards;
- (3) commends the federal Government for its funding commitment of \$44 million for upgrading of bridge crossings at Corowa, Echuca and Robinvale and a further \$203 million for a new bridge and approaches on the Hume Highway at Albury and Wodonga;
- (4) acknowledges the Murray River Crossings Transport Economic Study which clearly establishes the regional and national economic significance of all Murray River crossings and establishes a priority for the upgrading of bridges for the first time; and
- (5) calls on the State Governments of Victoria and New South Wales to provide like funding for reconstruction of bridges requiring urgent replacement. (*Notice given 30 March 1999. Notice will be removed from the Notice Paper unless called on on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 2 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 2 **IRANIAN BAHAI 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 2 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 2 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 3 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 3 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 3 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 3 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 4 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 4 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 4 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)

- 19 **PROPOSED NEW STANDING ORDER 145A:** 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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 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 5 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)

- 21 **EMPLOYEE PROTECTION (WAGE GUARANTEE) BILL 1999** (*Mrs Crosio*): Second reading (*from 8 March 1999*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 22 **AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP—50TH ANNIVERSARY**: Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 1999—Mr Adams, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr M. J. Ferguson—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 23 **SUICIDE**: Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 1999*) on the motion of Mr Cadman—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 24 **STUDENT HOSTELS**: Resumption of debate (*from 8 March 1999*) on the motion of Mrs Hull— 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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 6 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 25 **ADELAIDE AIRPORT CURFEW BILL 1999** (*Mrs Gallus*): Second reading (*from 22 March 1999*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)

- 26 **CYSTIC FIBROSIS:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 March 1999*) on the motion of Mr Sidebottom—That this House calls on the Government to add cystic fibrosis to the list of recognised disabilities contained in the Child Disability Assessment Determination 1998. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 27 **STUDENT UNIONS:** Resumption of debate (*from 22 March 1999—Mrs Gash, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Pyne—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. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 7 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 28 **EMPLOYMENT SECURITY BILL 1999** (*Mr Bevis*): Second reading (*from 29 March 1999*). (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 29 **SYDNEY OLYMPICS:** Resumption of debate (*from 29 March 1999*) on the motion of Mr Barresi—That the House:
- (1) continues to support the staging of the Sydney Olympics as an opportunity to showcase Australia, its people, culture and above all our sporting traditions;
 - (2) acknowledges the commitment, work and performance of Australia's athletes and sporting organisations as they prepare to participate in the 2000 Olympics;
 - (3) deplores the disrepute caused to the Olympic ideals by the continuing bribery allegations;
 - (4) notes the concerns expressed by the local and international community at the loss of integrity in the Olympic movement and its possible effect on the successful staging of Australia's 2000 Games; and
 - (5) requests that SOCOG calls on the IOC to fund any shortfall in sponsorship finances which may result from inappropriate action by IOC members. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)
- 30 **ASBESTOS EXPOSURE:** Resumption of debate (*from 29 March 1999*) on the motion of Mr Zahra—That this House:
- (1) recognises the enormous pain, suffering and economic hardship which has been experienced, and which is still being experienced, by victims of asbestos exposure, and their families; and
 - (2) calls on the Government to:
 - (a) immediately ratify ILO Convention No. 162 regarding the prevention and control of health hazards due to occupational exposure to asbestos;

- (b) immediately legislate to:
 - (i) preserve the right to claim general damages for relatives of victims of asbestos related diseases upon the death of the claimant in all States and Territories save New South Wales;
 - (ii) remove time limits on claims for damages by those suffering claims for asbestos related disease;
 - (iii) allow the reuse of evidence to minimise the cost of litigation and court time; and
 - (iv) increase financial assistance for asbestos disease support groups; and
- (c) instigate a national inquiry into the occupational use of asbestos to determine the:
 - (i) extent of knowledge held by government agencies on the lethal effects of asbestos;
 - (ii) extent of knowledge held by private companies using asbestos in their operations as to the lethal effects of asbestos;
 - (iii) nature of work practices which were employed in Australia in relation to the use of asbestos by both government agencies and private companies; and
 - (iv) adequacy of the existing and ongoing arrangements for the payment of compensation to Latrobe Valley workers affected by asbestos exposure in light of the privatisation of the SECV, which for decades has been the region's largest employer as well as being an employer operating in an industry in which asbestos construction materials were extensively used. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)

31 **DRUGS:** Resumption of debate (*from 29 March 1999—Ms Plibersek, in continuation*) on the motion of Mr Cadman—That this House:

- (1) expresses its deep concern at the level of addictive drug taking in Australia;
- (2) calls on Australians and all Australian governments to enhance their attack on illegal drugs by all means at their disposal; and
- (3) encourages the development of preventive programs. (*Order of the day will be removed from the Notice Paper unless re-accorded priority on any of the next 8 sitting Mondays after 31 May 1999.*)

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATION REPORTS (standing orders 101, 102A and 102C): Presentation and consideration of committee and delegation reports has precedence each Monday.

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS (standing orders 101 and 104) has precedence from the conclusion of consideration of committee and delegation reports, being interrupted at 1.45 p.m. and then continuing for 1 hour after the presentation of petitions each Monday.

The **SELECTION COMMITTEE** is responsible for determining the order of precedence and allotting time for debate on consideration of committee and delegation reports and private Members' business. Any private Members' business not called on, or consideration of private Members' business or committee and delegation reports 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).



BUSINESS OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS****Order of the day**

- 1 **OZONE PROTECTION AMENDMENT BILL 1998** (*Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage*): Second reading—Resumption of debate (*from 31 March 1999—Mr Jenkins*).



QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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

First appeared on date shown

11 November 1998

1 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) What percentage of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) budget is directed to (a) compliance activity, (b) audit activity and (c) research into and implementation of tax reform projects.
- (2) Has the Government directed the ATO to concentrate more staff and funds in the area of tax reform; if so, has extra funding been provided to the ATO for the purpose.
- (3) Will the Government provide more funding to the ATO for compliance and audit activities.

8 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

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

43 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

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

12 November 1998

71 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

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

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

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

23 November 1998

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

- (1) What was the total cost to the (a) Commonwealth and (b) Australian Taxation Office (ATO) of implementing the superannuation contributions surcharge including salaries, systems, advertising, liaison, outrider agency costs, legal and accounting.
- (2) What is the estimated cost to the superannuation industry of implementing the surcharge provisions.
- (3) What sum was collected from surchargeable contributions in 1997-98.
- (4) What sum is estimated to be collected from surchargeable contributions in (a) 1998-99, (b) 1999-2000 and (c) 2000-2001.
- (5) How many dead persons (a) have been levied with the surcharge and (b) will be required to pay the advance instalment.
- (6) What special arrangements have been made to allow dead persons to recover the advance surcharge instalment.
- (7) What are the details of the test cases the ATO is running on the surcharge and what will the test cases cost.
- (8) How many due surcharge assessments had not been issued by the ATO as at 12 November 1998.
- (9) How many surcharge assessments were issued to persons who did not provide their tax file number to their superannuation fund or the ATO.
- (10) What is the estimated number of persons who have been issued with a surcharge assessment but who earn less than the threshold income.

90 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (1) What sum did his Department pay in (a) overtime and (b) travel allowance to (i) personal and (ii) electorate staff of each incumbent Member and Senator between 31 August and 3 October 1998.
- (2) What was the average monthly sum of (a) overtime and (b) travel allowance paid by his Department to (i) personal and (ii) electoral staff of each sitting Member and Senator in 1997-98.

107 **MR JENKINS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government—What sums were allocated in local government financial assistance grants in (a) 1995-96, (b) 1996-97 and (c) 1997-98 to the (i) City of Whittlesea, (ii) City of Banyule, (iii) Shire of Nillumbuk and (iv) City of Darebin.

24 November 1998

- 181 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What processes were established to ensure that organisations tendering for round 13 of Home and Community Care (HACC) funding had consulted with other HACC and similar providers.
 - (2) How do tenderers demonstrate that they have consulted other providers.
 - (3) What checks does the Department of Family and Community Services make to ensure the requirement has been met.
 - (4) Is the Commonwealth reducing HACC funding to New South Wales by \$3 million in 1998-99.
 - (5) Is the Commonwealth insisting HACC client user-pay levels be raised to 20 per cent of the total program budget; if so, how will the client fee be collected from dementia sufferers.

25 November 1998

- 201 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Attorney-General—Will he bring up-to-date the answer to question No. 2470 (*Hansard*, 2 March 1998, page 154) concerning legislation to implement the 1948 Genocide Convention with full domestic effect.

2 December 1998

- 252 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) How many drug related prosecutions have been initiated under Commonwealth law in Western Australia in each financial year since 1992-93.
 - (2) How many cases in each year referred to in part (1) resulted in convictions.
- 267 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What Commonwealth funding was provided in each financial year since 2 March 1996 directly to projects or programs operating in the electoral divisions of (a) Barton, (b) Watson, (c) Banks, (d) Hughes and (e) Cook with the purpose of (i) combating or (ii) preventing the negative health effects of opiate addiction.
 - (2) With respect to each project or program referred to in part (1), (a) what is its name, (b) who operates it, (c) what are its aims and objectives, (d) what funding has it received and (e) in what year did Commonwealth funding commence.

7 December 1998

- 305 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What was the cost to the Commonwealth of closing the Medicare office in Belmont, NSW, including obtaining a release from the lease of its premises.
 - (2) How long did the lease have to expire.
 - (3) How many staff were employed in the office.
 - (4) What was the total annual remuneration paid to the staff.

- (5) What proportion of the staff is still employed by Medicare or Medibank Private.
- (6) What was the projected operational cost of the office for the period of the lease.
- (7) What is the projected operational cost for the Medibank Private office at Charlestown, NSW.

307 **MS HALL:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Is there a mismatch between the local availability of, and demand for, nursing home and hostel beds; if so, what steps is the Government taking to make beds available where needed.
- (2) Is it a fact that proportionally the aged population of the electoral division of Shortland is among the highest in Australia but that its per capita nursing home/hostel bed rate is half the national average; if so, why.

9 December 1998

323 **MR SIDEBOTTOM:** To ask the Prime Minister—

- (1) Did the former Tasmanian Liberal Government and the former Member for Braddon provide him information about proposed magnesite mining and processing in Tasmania and related energy options for Bass Strait; if so, what information.
- (2) Did he indicate to the former Member for Braddon that (a) he would personally take an overview of the proposal and (b) Mr Bob Mansfield of the Government's special projects team would be asked to take a leading role in advancing the proposal.
- (3) Is the proposed Crest Resources \$1 billion magnesite project in Tasmania on the Government's special projects priority list; if not, why not.

8 February 1999

374 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Has his attention been drawn to a report of the New South Wales Parliament's Standing Committee on Social Issues regarding hepatitis C which was tabled in the Legislative Council on 11 November 1998; if so, (a) has he determined whether any aspects of the report can be pursued at the Commonwealth level and (b) will the Commonwealth Government take further action in combating hepatitis C.

375 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Is legal aid available to native title respondents; if so, are applicants required to demonstrate financial hardship.
- (2) Is the legal aid referred to in part (1) available to corporations as well as individuals; if so, is a corporation which is respondent to a native title claim entitled to legal aid regardless of its income or profitability.

376 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Will the Government split the family relationships services program so that family and child mediation and child contact services remain within the Attorney-General's portfolio and family and child counselling, marriage and relationships education, family skills training and adolescent mediation and

family therapy would move to the Family and Community Services portfolio; if so, why.

- (2) Did the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs recommend that the Australian Institute of Family Studies be relocated to the Attorney-General's Department; if so, will the Government implement the recommendation.
- 379 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Trade—
- (1) What are Australia's obligations under its APEC individual action plan for (a) tariff and (b) non-tariff measures.
 - (2) What progress has been made in fulfilling the obligations.
 - (3) How does Australia's obligations and progress, measured by unweighted average tariff rates, compare to (a) Hong Kong, (b) New Zealand, (c) Singapore, (d) Taiwan and (e) the United States of America.
- 380 **MR GRIFFIN:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has his attention been drawn to a discussion paper on the role of authorised marriage celebrants published in 1997; if so, what steps have been taken to encourage inactive and uninterested marriage celebrants to resign.
 - (2) What measures will be taken to ensure that only the best candidates are selected to be authorised marriage celebrants.
 - (3) Will an interview by a skilled personnel practitioner be included in the selection procedure.
 - (4) Will the provision of evidence that the applicant has studied and understands the celebrant's role be a criterion.
 - (5) What advice for prospective applicants is available to ensure that they are adequately prepared for the selection procedure.
- 382 **MR MELHAM:** To ask the Prime Minister—Did his Department assess applications for funding (a) for major projects from the Federation Fund and (b) from the Federation Cultural and Heritage Projects Program; if so, in each case, (i) how many applications were made in each State and Territory (A) in total and (B) by or on behalf of indigenous organisations, (ii) will he provide a list of all applications made by or on behalf of indigenous organisations in each State and Territory, (iii) how many applications made by or on behalf of indigenous organisations were successful and (iv) will he provide a list of all successful applications made by or on behalf of indigenous organisations.

9 February 1999

- 394 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) What Imperial and Australian medals are available to RAAF personnel who served (a) as signallers on Labuan Island during the Malayan Emergency, (b) with Nos. 3 and 77 Squadrons at Butterworth during Indonesian Confrontation and (c) with 79 Squadron at Ubon Thailand, after June 1965, during the Vietnam War.
 - (2) What were the specific rules of engagement applicable to each period of RAAF service referred in part (1).

- (3) Are the medal entitlements of RAAF personnel consistent with the rules of engagement applicable to each period of service referred to in part (1); if so, how is consistency established.
- (4) Has the Department of Defence completed its further review of service entitlements for RAAF personnel at Ubon; if so, what (a) findings and recommendations did it make and (b) action has the Government taken as a result.

10 February 1999

404 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) What sum has the Government spent on the private health rebate advertising program.
- (2) Will he provide copies of all advertising used to promote the private health rebate.
- (3) Will private health cover become 30 percent cheaper for all Australians as claimed in the advertising.
- (4) What guidelines has he provided to private health companies about the advertising of the private health rebate.
- (5) Has the Government informed recipients of the Private Health Insurance Incentive Scheme that they will not receive the full private health rebate.
- (6) What sum will a pensioner couple receive in rebate if their private health insurance premium was \$254.85 a quarter before 1 January 1999.
- (7) What actual percentage rebate is a pensioner couple receiving if they were paying \$254.85 a quarter for private health insurance before 1 January 1999 and, after receiving the private health rebate, are now paying \$192.95.

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.

17 February 1999

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.

18 February 1999

450 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—

- (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.

8 March 1999

460 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) How many general practitioners and specialists, by specialty, practise in each electoral division.
- (2) How many and what percentage of general practitioners and specialists, by specialty, practising in each electoral division bulk-billed in each month from January 1998 to January 1999.

461 **MS MACKLIN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—How many services were (a) provided in total and (b) bulk-billed by (i) general practitioners and (ii) specialists, by specialty, in each electoral division in each month from January 1998 to January 1999.

465 **MRS CROSIO:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Did the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) recently send a series of fact sheets on GST transitional arrangements, entitled 'Important tax reform information', to businesses across Australia in an unaddressed A4 envelope; if so, (a) how many envelopes were mailed out, (b) what was the total cost of mailing the information packs, (c) what was the cost of printing the fact sheets and covering letter and (d) which Appropriation Bill covered the funding for printing and posting the information packs.
- (2) What is the total cost, including staff salaries, of maintaining and monitoring the ATO's (a) World Wide Web site at www.ato.gov.au and (b) faxback system.
- (3) How many ATO staff are employed maintaining and monitoring the (a) web site and (b) faxback system.
- (4) How many ATO staff are attached to the Tax Reform Business Education and Communication Project.
- (5) What is the annual salary of each person referred to in part (4).
- (6) What is the running cost of the project.
- (7) Do other Tax Reform Project teams exist within the ATO; if so, (a) how many, (b) what are their specific responsibilities, (c) how many staff are attached to each project team, (d) what is each project's overall running cost and (e) which Appropriation Bill covers the funding for the project teams.
- (8) How many GST fact sheets has the ATO produced in total.
- (9) What are the titles of each GST fact sheet.
- (9) What was the total cost of preparing the fact sheets.
- (10) Which Appropriation Bill covered the funding for printing and posting the fact sheets.

9 March 1999

473 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration—

- (1) Has his attention been drawn to research indicating the way in which social capital, including social trust, reciprocity and cooperation, has a positive impact on economic growth and social wellbeing.

- (2) In the development of accrual budgeting systems for the 1999-2000 Budget, what consideration has been given to (a) including social capital objectives and indicators among the outcome and output measures for Commonwealth agencies, (b) including social capital objectives and indicators as Third Party outputs and (c) the performance measurement of social capital indicators.

480 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—

- (1) How many successful (a) Flex 1, (b) Flex 2 and (c) Flex 3 placements have been made in each of the 29 Job Network regions in each month since May 1998.
- (2) What is the (a) name, (b) date of cessation, (c) name of the participant to which the contract was subsequently allocated and (d) operating regions of each national participant who has withdrawn from the Job Network since it commenced operating.
- (3) What sum has the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business paid to national providers for Flex 3 payments.
- (4) What portion of the sum referred to in part (3) has been paid by the providers for assistance to the unemployed such as wage subsidies, training and clothing and fare assistance.

10 March 1999

483 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** 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 Moreland, Vic., 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 Moreland, Vic., on (i) 1 January 1999, (ii) 1 January 1998 and (iii) 1 January 1997.

484 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—On most recent data, what sum in child care assistance per child per annum was allocated to (a) family, (b) private long and (c) community long day care in the postcode areas of (i) 3039, (ii) 3041, (iii) 3055, (iv) 3056, (v) 3057, (vi) 3058, (vii) 3059, (viii) 3040, (ix) 3044 and (x) 3046.

485 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—

- (1) Has the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) agreed to fund at \$500 000 per annum a Centre for Excellence in Tax Compliance at the Australian National University (ANU) without giving other universities and research groups an opportunity to bid for the centre; if so, (a) is this consistent with the Government’s commitment to competition including the supply of services to government, (b) why is the ATO not performing the work to be done by the centre and (c) will the position of head of the centre be advertised; if so, will the appointment process be conducted completely independently without Government involvement.
- (2) Does the ATO need to outsource its research; if so, is it required to follow an open tendering process.

11 March 1999

491 **MR EDWARDS:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—

- (1) Is it a fact that over 90 Gulf War veterans have applied for pensions related to service.
- (2) Is it also a fact that core symptoms being experienced by the veterans include chronic fatigue, gastrointestinal problems, diarrhoea, chest pain, heart problems including irregular pulse and blood pressure, chronic headaches, eye pain, ear pain, stomach cramps, burning diarrhoea, urinary tract problems, burning semen, nausea, liver problems, kidney problems, bronchial problems, thyroid problems, sinus problems, anxiety, depression, mood swings, bleeding gums, chronic joint pain, muscle weakness, memory loss, reproductive problems, light sensitivity, dizziness, concentration loss, vision problems and bleeding bowels.
- (3) Are statements of principles in force to cover Gulf War illness under the Veterans' Entitlements Act.
- (4) Will he instruct his Department to endeavour to contact all Gulf War veterans and encourage them to seek medical advice should they experience the symptoms listed in part (2); if not, why not.
- (5) Will he ensure that his Department covers the costs of Gulf War veterans seeking medical advice about the symptoms; if not, why not.

492 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
Are restrictions placed on the length of time that aircraft engineers may be required to work; if not, will he investigate the safety consequences of the absence of a restriction.

493 **MR HOLLIS:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—Is the Minister able to say when surveillance cameras were installed at the Port of Kembla; if so, (a) how long have the cameras been in operation, (b) how many cameras have ceased operation and why and (c) where are the cameras now located.

22 March 1999

497 **MR PRICE:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Has he announced proposals to establish a federal magistracy, if so, (a) what are the benefits and (b) does the proposal include magistrates serving under the jurisdiction of the Family Court of Australia; if so, how many.
- (2) Do magistrates serve under the Family Court of Western Australia.
- (3) Has his attention been drawn to research which establishes that (a) greater client satisfaction is obtained by appearing before magistrates in the Family Court of Western Australia and (b) less than 5 per cent of matters proceed to the Family Court of Western Australia.
- (4) Have comparisons been made between the Family Court of Australia and the Family Court of Western Australia on (a) the time it takes each court to handle matters and (b) the expenditure on legal representation by parties before each court; if so, what are the details.

- 500 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Is it a fact that the Minister's Department includes disability compensation pensions paid by the Department of Veterans' Affairs for war related disease or injury as income under the means test for the age pension; if so, why.
 - (2) Before the general election in 1998, did the Government undertake to change the way the disability pension paid by the Department of Veterans' Affairs was treated under the social security means test; if so, when will it implement the change.
 - (3) What would be the annual cost to the Commonwealth of exempting the disability pension paid by the Department of Veterans' Affairs from the social security means test
 - (4) How many of Centrelink's (a) aged pension recipients and (b) other clients receive a disability pension paid by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.
- 501 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) What sum of Commonwealth funding was spent on advertising the private health insurance rebate incentives in regional and rural (a) newspapers, (b) radio and (c) television.
 - (2) Who decides which regional and rural outlets are chosen for advertising similar campaigns and what selection process is followed.
 - (3) Why were communities, like Oberon, NSW, with independent newspapers overlooked in the health insurance campaign.
- 502 **MR ANDREN:** To ask the Minister for Veterans' Affairs—
- (1) Is it a fact that his Department exempts disability compensation pensions arising from war related disease or injury from the income test applying to the service pension; if so, why.
 - (2) How many clients of his Department receive a disability pension as compensation for war related diseases or injuries but do not qualify for a service pension because of the nature of their war service.
- 504 **MR RIPOLL:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Is it a fact that the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) has changed its practice from investigating every complaint against employers for nonpayment of compulsory superannuation contributions to gathering the information in a database and developing profiles of industries and employers where compliance is a problem; if so, (a) is the information used to conduct targeted investigation and education measures, (b) when was the practice of investigating every complaint changed, (c) how many complaints of nonpayment of compulsory superannuation contributions (i) were investigated annually under the previous practice and (ii) are conducted annually under the existing practice and (d) what effect will the change have on persons affected by noncompliance.
 - (2) Will the Government ensure that the ATO acts on every reported breach of the superannuation guarantee regulations to protect the entitlements of Australian workers, particularly low-income workers.

- (3) Will the Government provide legal aid to enable low-paid workers to act against their employers when the ATO has failed to act.
- (4) What is the (a) cost of, and (b) number of ATO employees involved in, compliance activities concerning (i) PAYE taxpayers, (ii) business taxpayers and (iii) compulsory superannuation contribution by employers.
- (5) Is the ATO's superannuation compliance unit adequately resourced.

505 **MR G. J. EVANS:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—

- (1) Was 30 September 1998 the closing date for applications for Home and Community Care funding; if so, on what date will community groups who have applied for funding be advised whether they have been successful.
- (2) Will compensation be provided to groups which are adversely affected by a delay in the announcement of funding.

23 March 1999

511 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage—Did the organisers of the 1998 Sydney to Hobart yacht race consult an agency or authority for which the Minister has portfolio responsibility before the race started; if so, (a) what information was provided and (b) did the agency or authority suggest then or subsequently that the timing of the race was dangerous or inappropriate in the circumstances.

514 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Sydney 2000 Games—Does the Government propose to exempt the Sydney Olympics from a goods and services tax; if so, (a) why, (b) how would the exemption be administered, (c) who would determine what was and was not exempt, (d) would the exemption effectively result in Australian consumers subsidising the Sydney Olympics, (e) will she provide a list of exempt items and (f) would similar exemptions be available to other areas of sport and recreation and industry in general; if not, why not.

515 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Prime Minister for the Sydney 2000 Games—Is it a fact that (a) the Government paid \$1.2 million for tickets to the Sydney Olympics for entertaining visiting dignitaries and (b) it had initially asked for the tickets to be provided without cost; if so, (i) who initially raised the issue of free tickets with the Sydney Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (SOCOG), (ii) on what date was the issue first discussed, (iii) how many free tickets were requested, (iv) how many tickets were purchased, (v) for what events were the tickets purchased, (vi) what criteria apply to distributing the tickets, (vii) how many departmental officers are establishing the criteria, (viii) what is the cost of using departmental officers to establish the criteria, (ix) will the Government meet the (A) travel costs to and from Australia and (B) expenses of the visiting dignitaries; if so, what are the details and (x) will she publish a list of the recipients of the tickets.

517 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Attorney-General—

- (1) Who are the members of the Australian National Group who will make nominations for the election of 5 members of the International Court of Justice for the 9 year term beginning on 6 February 2000.
- (2) By what date does Australia have to lodge nominations.

- (3) Which states have made declarations accepting the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court.
- (4) Which states have included reservations in their declarations accepting the compulsory jurisdiction of the Court.
- 518 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—
- (1) When will advertisements seeking expressions of interest in another round of community aged care packages appear.
- (2) Will non-ethnic specific packages be provided in the local government area of Blacktown, NSW; if not, why not.
- 519 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—
- (1) Will the Government provide additional funding under special needs for aged care assistance to centres with large numbers of special care residents who need to use unsubsidised interpreters in many aspects of their care; if so, when.
- (2) Will the Government provide special funding to centres with large numbers of special care residents requiring staff to be trained in sign language.
- 520 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—Will the Government release the Productivity Commission's report on nursing home subsidies; if so, when.
- 521 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—
- (1) How many assessments has the Aged Care Assessment Team completed in the local government area of Blacktown, NSW.
- (2) How many of those assessed are awaiting placement in nursing homes, hostels or community care packages.
- 523 **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 22 March 1999.
- (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 22 March 1999.
- (3) How many Centrelink customer service officers were located in the Centrelink customer service centres in (a) Tuggeranong, ACT and (b) Woden, ACT on 22 March 1999.
- (4) How many of the Centrelink customer service officers referred to in part (3) were involved in "point-of-contact" service to clients in (a) Tuggeranong, ACT and (b) Woden, ACT on 22 March 1999.

24 March 1999

MR M. J. FERGUSON: To ask the Ministers listed below (questions Nos. 525 - 539)—
Has (a) the Minister, (b) his or her predecessors or (c) the Department or an agency for which the Minister holds, or his or her predecessors held, portfolio responsibility, engaged Australasian Research Strategies, related companies or organisations or Mr Mark Textor to undertake research since 2 March 1996; if so,

in each case, (i) what was the nature of the research, (ii) what was its purpose, (iii) what was its cost, (iv) was the outcome of the research supplied to a non-government organisation, individual or political party and (v) will the Minister release the outcome of the research.

- 525 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Trade.
- 526 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer.
- 527 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services.
- 528 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for the Environment and Heritage.
- 529 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts.
- 530 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business.
- 531 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services.
- 532 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- 534 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care.
- 535 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Finance and Administration.
- 536 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs.
- 538 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Attorney-General.
- 539 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.
- 542 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Treasurer—What percentage of unlisted companies paid the full rate of company tax in 1997-98.
- 543 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—Further to question No. 128 concerning the National Youth Roundtable, (a) what was the cost of the National Youth Roundtable held in Parliament House, Canberra, commencing 9 March 1999 and (b) how will members of the National Youth Roundtable be assisted to enable them to consult with their peers and local communities on the issues he raised in opening the Roundtable.
- 545 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Has the UK Government requested the extradition of Mr Peter Clarence Foster; if so, what sum has the Commonwealth spent in pursuing the request.
 - (2) Did counsel appearing for the Commonwealth in the Federal Court before Justice Spender state that all costs related to the extradition proceedings against Mr Foster had been met by the requesting country; if so, has the requesting country met all costs related to the proceedings; if not, what action will the Commonwealth take to rectify the misrepresentation.
 - (3) Has the Commonwealth established the period of imprisonment for which Mr Foster is liable if he is convicted of the offences for which his extradition has been sought.

- (4) Is it a fact that (a) Mr Foster has spent 25 months in maximum security prison and 15 months solely waiting for the extradition proceedings and (b) the total period he has been detained is longer than the period referred to in part (3).
- (5) Has the UK Government sought a waiver of the specialty assurance in relation to 13 charges listed in the original warrant for Mr Foster's extradition; if so, (a) is the Government considering the request, (b) what precedents exist for waiving specialty assurances, (c) what action will the Government take and (d) have Mr Foster or his solicitors been told of the seeking of a waiver; if not, why.
- (6) Is the Minister able to say whether charges brought by the British Serious Fraud Squad against Mr Foster's co-accused, Mr Christopher Williams, in September 1998 were dismissed.
- (7) Has the Minister's attention been drawn to answers by the Lord Chancellor in the UK House of Lords to questions by Lord Spens about the extradition of Mr Foster; if so, (a) do the answers contradict submissions made by the Commonwealth to Justice Spender in the Federal Court and (b) will the Minister clarify the situation.

25 March 1999

- 547 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) Since Australia acceded to the 1979 Unesco Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees concerning Higher Education in the States belonging to the European Region, when and where have there been sessions of the Regional Committee responsible for promoting the application of the Convention.
 - (2) Who represented Australia at the sessions.
 - (3) When and where will the next session be held.
 - (4) Who will represent Australia at the session.
- 548 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—
- (1) When and where have there been sessions of the Regional Committee responsible for promoting the application of the 1983 Unesco Regional Convention on the Recognition of Studies, Diplomas and Degrees in Higher Education in Asia and the Pacific.
 - (2) Who represented Australia at the sessions.
 - (3) When and where will the next session be held.
 - (4) Who will represent Australia at the session.
- 549 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—Is it a fact that more than 76 per cent of work-for-the-dole projects have been carried out in electoral divisions held by Coalition Members; if so, what action is he taking to ensure that national distribution of the projects is fairly balanced.
- 550 **MR ALBANESE:** To ask the Attorney-General—
- (1) Has he received advice indicating whether the referendum procedure in section 128 of the Constitution permits amendment of the preamble as

distinct from the Constitution itself within the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act.

- (2) Has he received advice on the validity of Sir Robert Garran's statement that the Constitution could be altered but not the Act in which the Constitution was incorporated.
- (3) Has he received advice indicating whether an attempt to alter the preamble by referendum would be invalid because of the provisions of the *Colonial Laws Validity Act 1865* in effect by virtue of the Statute of Westminster and the *Australia Acts 1986*.
- (4) Has he received advice indicating whether the *Australia Acts 1986* prevent the UK Parliament from amending the preamble.
- (5) Has he received advice indicating whether the preamble can be amended by the Commonwealth at the request, or with the concurrence, of the parliaments of all States pursuant to placitum 51(xxxviii) of the Constitution and section 15 of the *Australia Acts 1986*.
- (6) Has he received advice indicating that the approach referred to in part (5) was flawed; if so, on what grounds.

29 March 1999

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

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 393 (*Hansard*, 22 March 1999, page 3409), have additional full-time officer positions been allocated to the Army Reserve; if so, how many positions have been allocated (a) nationally and (b) in Victoria.
- (2) Have longstanding officers in the Army Reserve received letters notifying them that they have been involuntarily transferred to the Inactive Reserve; if so, how many officers have been notified (a) nationally and (b) in Victoria.
- (3) Did the officers referred to in part (2) receive letters from the Defence Personnel Executive stating that their transfer was not a reflection of dissatisfaction with their service but necessary to meet the ongoing developmental requirements of the Army Reserve; if so, did the transfers actually result from the allocation of additional full-time officer positions to the Reserve.
- (4) What redundancy benefits were provided to the officers who were transferred to the Inactive Reserve.

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

- (1) Has an environmental impact statement been prepared on the possible health effect on residents of Western Sydney by an increase in the use of diesel fuel for transport following the relaxation of the diesel fuel levy.
- (2) Has his attention been drawn to the high incidence of asthma among residents of the Sydney basin, particularly in the west.
- (3) Have projections been made of the potential increase in sales of small trucks, vans and utilities fuelled by diesel rather than petrol.

- (4) What measures are being taken to preserve the price competitiveness of low polluting alternative fuels.

30 March 1999

- 560 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Further to the answer to question No. 370 (*Hansard*, 23 March 1999, page 3509), was additional information requested by the Committee on Freedom of Association; if so, (a) has the Government provided additional information; if not, why not, and (b) what additional information was provided.
- 564 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) What documentation is required to be completed for customs purposes by an importer of items which are exempt from duty and tax to enable them to be released.
 - (2) Is the Australian Customs Service (ACS) required to seize and hold exempt items; if so, (a) why, (b) what is the average time the items are held before being released, (c) is the ACS required to provide the importer with reasons for holding the items and an estimate of the time before release and (d) are costs or charges imposed on the importer; if so, (i) what costs or charges and (ii) why are they imposed.
 - (3) Is the Minister able to say whether a development in recent months is the explanation for the ACS seizing and holding new metallic badges imported from countries such as the UK, the USA and Germany for sale to collectors of militaria.
 - (4) Is it a fact that quarantine inspection services have been ordered, at the importer's expense, in connection with the case referred to in part (3); if so, why.
- 565 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) In undertaking normal value investigations overseas, what specific steps does the Australian Customs Service (ACS) take, in addition to examining so-called audited accounts, to check the veracity of an exporter's claims.
 - (2) Do the steps referred to in part (1) include reference to third parties or independent and credible trade and industry sources; if not, why not; if so, will the Minister provide specific examples.
 - (3) Does the ACS recognise the Corruption Perception Index (CPI) and its purpose to provide data on perceptions of corruption within countries by national surveys.
 - (4) Does the ACS make allowances and adjustments to quantify the reliability of audited accounts supplied by exporters from countries which suffer from crony capitalism or corruption.
 - (5) Is it a fact that (a) Indonesia scored sixth lowest of the 100 countries ranked on the 1998 Corruption Perception Index and (b) Australian paper producers contend that it has a high level of corruption; if so, has the ACS allowed for

possible corruption in Indonesia during its recent inquiries concerning Indonesia; if so, how; if not, why not.

- (6) Does the ACS apply regulations to the conduct of its officers undertaking overseas investigations.
- (7) Are ACS officers cautioned about the essential need to remain at arm's length from former colleagues who may represent the interests of foreign exporters from time to time as consultants or lobbyists.
- (8) Does the ACS permit its officers to rely upon the statements of former colleagues in the circumstances referred to in part (7).
- (9) Does the ACS impose checks and balances to detect undue influence in the circumstances referred to in part (7); if so, what are they; if not, why not.
- (10) Is it a fact that the public file report of the ACS officer who conducted the overseas inquiries in Indonesia for the inquiry into dumping of coated papers contains comments and words of appreciation for a former ACS officer who is now a consultant; if so, how does the ACS explain the comments.

566 **MR KERR:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—

- (1) How does the Australian Customs Service (ACS) determine normalcy in its consideration of normal values in overseas investigations when the country in question is markedly disturbed by economic, political or social crises with resultant impact on local markets from lack of demand and excess manufacturing capacity.
- (2) Is it a fact that in Indonesia (a) exchange rates fluctuate by as much as 26 per cent in a day and regularly move more than 10 per cent in either direction in a week, (b) volatile currency movements cause the currency to decline to a small percentage of its original value, (c) inflation rates reach as much as 8 per cent in a month and then turn negative, (d) interest rates reach 50 per cent per annum, (e) the banking system is collapsing with 60 to 80 per cent of loans non-performing, (f) many of the country's enterprises are technically insolvent and (g) the currency is artificially supported by substantial foreign aid including significant funding by the International Monetary Fund.
- (3) Does the ACS use weighted averages in the circumstances referred to in part (1); if so, is this approach adequate in the circumstances referred to in part (2).
- (4) Do the circumstances referred to in part (2) warrant the use of a surrogate country to establish normal values; if not, why not.

568 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—Further to the answer to question No. 476 (*Hansard*, 30 March 1999, page 3963), concerning the international social security agreement between Australia and New Zealand:

- (1) When did the agreement first come into operation.
- (2) What are the terms of reference of the Prime Minister's Taskforce to address the Social Security Agreement, when will it report and when will the burden

on the Australian taxpayer caused by the imbalance in pension payments under the agreement be rectified.

- (3) For each financial year since the agreement came into operation, what has been the imbalance between the two countries for each benefit paid under the agreement.

31 March 1999

569 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—Further to the answer to question No. 117 (*Hansard*, 25 March 1999, page 3774) in respect of Mr M. E. Baume, Australian Consul General, New York; the Hon A. S. Peacock, Australian Ambassador, Washington D. C.; and Mr J. M. Spender, Australian Ambassador, Paris; (a) in addition to their salaries, what are the overseas allowances and other entitlements payable to them, (b) do any of them receive all or part of their parliamentary pension at the same time as receiving their salaries and (c) what was the purpose of each trip they made between 30 April 1996 and 31 August 1998.

570 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Education, Training and Youth Affairs—What are the names and addresses of the (a) schools served by the Jobs Pathways Program and (b) brokers providing services under the program.

571 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) During the Migration Agents Regulation Authority's (MARA) first three months of operation, (a) against which migration agents were complaints made, (b) what was the name of each agent whose registration was suspended and (c) what was the period of suspension in each case.
- (2) What penalties can MARA apply to agents who breach MARA's code of conduct, other than suspension of registration.
- (3) Is there a need to improve migration agents' conduct, especially because many agents are lodging applications which they know have no chance of success and which are designed to delay their clients being made to leave Australia; if so, does his Department record for each migration agent (a) how many applications they lodge, (b) their success rate and (c) the fees charged for the services they perform.
- (4) Who will the Government consult, other than MARA, on ways to further improve migration agents' conduct.

572 **MR GRIFFIN:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—

- (1) Is it a fact that the Australian Drug Evaluation Committee (ADEC) approved the use of the pharmaceutical Tasmar (Tolcapone) but subsequently reversed its decision; if so, on what grounds did ADEC (a) originally approve the use of Tasmar and (b) reverse its decision.
- (2) Does ADEC's decision accord with the Pharmaceutical Benefits Advisory Committee's recommendation to allow Tasmar to be listed on the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme; if so, how.
- (3) In reversing its original recommendation regarding Tasmar, what (a) specialist opinions did ADEC rely on and (b) other options did ADEC canvass.

- (4) What consideration did ADEC give to allowing Tasmar to remain listed.
 - (5) Was consideration given to the condition that patients were fully informed of the risk of liver toxicity and consented to the risk, as occurs in parts of the USA.
 - (6) Did his delegate decide to allow limited access to Tasmar under the Special Access Scheme; if so, (a) was he consulted about the delegate's actions or decision, (b) what specialist opinions did his delegate rely on in making his decision and (c) what other options were considered by his delegate.
 - (7) How does the recently reported risk of liver toxicity of 3 patients in 100 000 for Tasmar compare with other drug approvals for pharmaceutical compounds to treat serious illnesses.
 - (8) What is his position on the acceptability of slightly higher risks of toxicity for a pharmaceutical designed specifically to treat serious and devastating diseases such as Parkinson's Disease than for a more general pharmaceutical.
 - (9) Is it a fact that as a result of the decisions on Tasmar, Australians suffering Parkinson's Disease can obtain this drug legally in Australia if they can afford to buy it directly from the manufacturer.
 - (10) In which countries, in addition to the USA and New Zealand, is Tasmar available to sufferers of Parkinson's Disease.
 - (11) Is it a fact that as a result of the decisions on Tasmar (a) some Australians suffering Parkinson's Disease are travelling to New Zealand, obtaining the pharmaceutical there and bringing a 3 month supply back to Australia which is permissible under Therapeutic Goods Administration and Australian Customs Service rules and (b) the unsubsidised price of the pharmaceutical, or a trip to New Zealand to buy it, is not affordable or practical for most sufferers of Parkinson's Disease; if so, what is his position on this outcome.
 - (12) Will he (a) reconsider the issue personally and (b) exercise ministerial discretion to resubmit the matter to ADEC for further consideration.
- 573 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) Which States and Territories contributed to the printing and publishing costs of the report by Mr Des Moore titled "The case for further deregulation of the labour market" and what sum did each State and Territory contribute.
 - (2) How many copies were made available to participating States and Territories.
 - (3) What was the cost to the Commonwealth of publishing the report.
 - (4) Are copies available to the public; if so, at what cost.
 - (5) Did (a) he, (b) anyone from his office or (c) anyone from his Department approach the government of any State or Territory proposing that additional free copies, or copies at cost, be provided to Mr Moore for resale; if so, (i) who made the approach and (ii) why.
 - (4) If free copies were provided to Mr Moore, were any restrictions placed on their resale; if so, what were the restrictions.

- 574 **MR BEVIS:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—Has he or his Department engaged Australasian Research Strategies to conduct research; if so, (a) what matters are to be, or were, canvassed in the research, (b) who has received a copy of the research report, (c) is the report available to the public; if so, at what cost, (d) was the research put to tender; if so, (i) what criteria and process were used to select the successful tender and (ii) was the cheapest tender accepted, (e) did any of the States or Territories contribute to the cost of the research, (f) what was the cost to the Commonwealth and (g) what percentage of the cost was borne by the Commonwealth and each of the contributing States and Territories.

11 May 1999

- *575 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) Did the Australian Government vote in support of the ILO's new Declaration on Fundamental Rights and Principles at Work at the 1998 ILO Conference.
 - (2) Will the ILO's reports measuring compliance by countries to the new declaration be completed in the year 2000; if so, what action has the Australian Government taken to ensure compliance and commence preparing Australia's country report on the declaration.
- *576 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) Has the ILO accepted that two of its core labour standards are a prohibition on abusive child labour and a prohibition on forced labour; if so, has the Australian Government considered following the US Government's lead to devote additional funds to the ILO's International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour.
 - (2) What sum has the Australian Government committed to the program in each year since its inception.
- *577 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business—
- (1) Has the Australian Government been involved in the development of the proposed ILO convention on child labour expected to be finalised at the ILO Conference in June 1999; if so, what are the details.
 - (2) On the basis of work undertaken at the 1998 ILO Conference, will the Australian Government support the proposed declaration at the 1999 ILO Conference; if not, why not.
 - (3) Has the Australian Government considered the common policy of the World Bank's Multilateral Guarantee Agency and the Internal Finance Corporation to include in all their contracts a prohibition on the use of forced labour and exploitative child labour; if so, does the Australian Government incorporate a similar policy in its overseas aid agreement.

*578 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—

- (1) Does the Social Security and Veterans' Entitlements Legislation Amendment Bill 1999 propose an income test on lump sum compensation payments for pain and suffering.
- (2) Is it a fact that lump sum compensation payments historically have been regarded as intending to compensate an injured person for the suffering and loss of quality of life they have endured.
- (3) Does the Bill propose that periodic payments of lump sum compensation under \$2000 within a 28-day period will not be income tested; if so, is it common for compensation for pain and suffering to be paid in that manner.
- (4) Is it a fact that under the provisions of the proposed legislation lump sum compensation payments for pain and suffering will result in reduced social security and veterans' entitlements but that similar provisions will not apply to libel settlements, another form of compensation for pain and suffering; if so, why.

*579 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—Further to the answer to question No. 116 concerning the engagement of the Hon. Dame Margaret Guilfoyle, DBE, to undertake a review of the social security review and appeals system, (a) is she entitled to parliamentary superannuation benefits, (b) was membership of, or holding office in, a political party a factor which was considered in her selection, (c) how was she selected, (d) who was involved in her selection, (e) how were fees for the review determined, (f) on what basis was the fee of \$100 000 paid to her, (g) over what period was the review conducted, (h) was departmental support provided to the review; if so, what was its nature, (i) who drafted the report arising from the review, (j) was the sum of \$1647.95 referred to in paragraph (F)(I)(ac) of the answer in addition to the sum of \$100 000, (k) what was the destination of each trip made away from her home base and (l) what was the standard SES travel allowance payable for each trip to a destination away from her home base.

*580 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—

- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 479 (*Hansard*, 31 March 1999, page 4100), in which he acknowledged that some employers willingly employ illegal workers, (a) which departments participate in the inter-agency Cash Economy Working Group, (b) what are its terms of reference, (c) how many times has it met since it was established and (d) what recommendations has it made to ensure that employers and employees meet their fair share of the tax burden.
- (2) Has the maximum penalty of \$10 000 which may be imposed on an employer who is convicted of having knowingly employed unlawful non-citizens been reviewed; if so, (a) when was the last occasion it was reviewed and (b) is there a formula to review the penalty.
- (3) Since his appointment as Minister, has his Department recommended the prosecution of employers for knowingly employing illegal labour; if so, did the Director of Public Prosecutions refuse to act on the recommendations; if so, on what grounds.

- (4) Is it a fact that since 1988 only one employer has been convicted of being knowingly concerned in visitors working without permission but locations of illegal workers and overstayers increased to 12 679 in 1997-98; if so, (a) does this indicate a weakness in the Employer Awareness Campaign and (b) are his Department and associated enforcement bodies failing to rigorously pursue the possible prosecution of employers for disregarding the law.
- *581 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Special Minister of State—Further to the answer to question No. 487 (*Hansard*, 31 March 1999, page 4101) concerning the superannuation entitlements of Comcar drivers, did Mr Phil Gouldson, Mr Chris Gabriel and the local management of Comcar, in presenting the current Comcar drivers agreement to drivers for endorsement at a meeting held in Melbourne on 16 December 1997, (a) promise a one-off payment to drivers of approximately \$1000 for each year of service as additional superannuation payments and (b) state in response to a driver's question at the meeting that, as an example, a driver with 27 years' experience would receive approximately \$27 000 additional as a lump sum payment into the driver's superannuation account; if so, did the undertakings by Comcar management play a major role in the drivers' decision to accept the current Comcar agreement.
- *582 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Community Services—
- (1) What applications have been received from each federal electoral division with respect to the capital upgrading grants for outside school hours care services since they were announced in the 1997-98 Budget.
 - (2) Which applications referred to in part (1) were successful and what sum was granted in each case.
- *583 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for the Arts and the Centenary of Federation—
- (1) When was the National Council for the Centenary of Federation appointed.
 - (2) Who are the members of the council.
 - (3) How many times has the council met.
 - (4) What is the attendance record of each member.
 - (5) Are council members paid fees and travelling allowance; if so, (a) what is the nature of the payments, (b) what sums have been paid to each member since appointment and (c) on what basis were the payments made.
 - (6) What is the remuneration package for the Chief Executive Officer of the National Council of the Centenary of Federation.
 - (7) What sum has been paid in (a) fees and (b) travelling allowances to the Chief Executive Officer since appointment.
- *584 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—
- (1) Does question B4 in the questionnaire for the survey conducted by Centrelink on Job Search Training ask specifically whether the Job Network was responsible for placing the respondent in employment; if not, why not.
 - (2) Is it a fact that the questionnaire has no capacity to determine whether the Job Network was responsible for assisting a respondent find employment.

- *585 **MR M. J. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—Has the Department of Employment, Workplace Relations and Small Business undertaken research into the success rate of employment services companies using Flex3 to place persons in employment since the introduction of the Job Network; if so, how do the outcomes compare with the performance of Employment Services Regulatory Authority employment services.
- *586 **MR LATHAM:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs—
- (1) Are there 95 parties to the Unesco Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (The Hague, 1954).
 - (2) Which countries have become parties since 1989.
 - (3) Was the Second Protocol to the Convention adopted by acclamation at the Diplomatic Conference at The Hague on 26 March 1999.
 - (4) Was the Australian representative a member of the drafting committee.
 - (5) Will the Second Protocol be signed at The Hague on 17 May 1999 in association with the 100th anniversary of the first Hague Peace Conference.
 - (6) Will Australia sign the instrument on 17 May 1999; if not, why not.
- *587 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Prime Minister—Is it a fact that the draft report of the National Competition Council on the review of subsections 51(2) and 51(3) of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* recommends the removal of certain exemptions for intellectual property under the Act; if so, will he ensure similarly to his assurance concerning the protection of newsagencies' home deliveries that the removal will not endanger research and innovation in Australia.
- *588 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Treasurer—
- (1) Does the proposed new tax system provide that a charitable organisation selling raffle tickets will be required to impose a 10 per cent goods and services tax on the sale of each ticket.
 - (2) Will commercial gambling operations be provided with goods and services tax concessions; if so, is the consistent with concerns he has expressed about gambling.
 - (3) Will he refer the matter to the Productivity Commission to be included in its review of gambling.
- *589 **MR K. J. THOMSON:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Communications, Information Technology and the Arts—
- (1) Is it intended to close the Essendon Post Office or convert it to a licensed operation.
 - (2) Will the Minister ensure that the Essendon Post Office continues to remain open.
- *590 **MR MOSSFIELD:** To ask the Minister for Aged Care—
- (1) Has Centrelink decided not to notify pensioners directly about changes to their entitlements.
 - (2) Are pensioners required to phone a central inquiry point for information about their entitlements.
 - (3) Are sufficient personnel available to deal promptly with pensioners' queries.

- (4) What are the delay times in responding to telephone queries to the Centrelink multilingual inquiry points.
 - (5) Has the number of staff been increased to deal with queries to the multilingual inquiry points.
- *591 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Is he able to provide the estimated cost of constructing the new Sydney airport.
 - (2) What is the breakdown of major expenses involved in building a new airport.
 - (3) Is he able to provide estimations of (a) what it would cost to relocate Perth Airport and (b) the time it would take to do so.
- *592 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Is he able to say how many injuries were caused by accidents involving the use of cigarette lighters in Australia in 1998.
 - (2) How many of the accidents referred to in part (1) involved children.
- *593 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—
- (1) Are married couples entitled to prescriptions at no cost when more than 52 prescriptions are made in a single year.
 - (2) To how many free prescriptions are single persons entitled annually.
 - (3) Is reducing the free prescription rate for single persons being considered.
- *594 **MR WILKIE:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Justice and Customs—
- (1) Is the importation of cigarette lighters banned under regulation 4S of the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1996 being investigated; if so, what are the details.
 - (2) How does the Australian Customs Service (ACS) ensure that imported cigarette lighters comply with regulation 4S.
 - (3) Has the ACS prosecuted importers for imports contravening the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations.
 - (4) How many cigarette lighters are imported into Australia annually.
- *595 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 155, does the concept of segregated air space involve aircraft landing from one direction and taking off from the opposite direction so that the paths of aircraft which are arriving and departing do not intersect either on land or in the air; if not, will he describe the concept which was supported by the study conducted by Ratner & Associates in 1992.
 - (2) Do any modes of operation under the Long Term Operating Plan for Sydney (Kingsford Smith) Airport involve the paths of arriving and departing aircraft crossing either on land or in the air; if so, which modes.

- *596 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Transport and Regional Services—
- (1) Further to the answer to question No. 448, what are the “over the water” modes, other than Mode 4, which were used for approximately 5.2 per cent of the non-curfew operating hours at Sydney (Kingsford-Smith) Airport.
 - (2) Would a variation between Mode 4 and Mode 2 increase the total aircraft movements over water; if so, why has the variation in modes not been made.
- *597 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—
- (1) Has the Government conducted research on its own behalf or retained the services of another organisation to advise it on the steps required to outsource or privatise Centrelink’s fundamental functions of assessing pension and benefit entitlements and the payment of those entitlements.
 - (2) Is the Government considering outsourcing or privatising any of Centrelink’s functions; if so, which functions.
- *598 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Health and Aged Care—Further to the answer to question No. 185 (*Hansard*, 30 March 1999, page 3958), will he provide a list of private health insurers providing coverage for domestic nursing care.
- *599 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Immigration and Multicultural Affairs—
- (1) Has the Integrated Humanitarian Settlement Strategy program been put to competitive tender; if so, (a) why, (b) how will a better service for refugees and humanitarian entrants be provided and (c) how will he ensure that the quality of service will not be undermined.
 - (2) Has he responded to the findings in the report of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs on competitive tendering of welfare service delivery, presented to the House on 29 June 1998, which advised against the further tendering of welfare services until the Government develops a contestability continuum; if so, what was his response; if not, why not.
- *600 **MR McCLELLAND:** To ask the Minister for Employment Services—How many Job Network sites (a) existed immediately after the Government introduced its new Jobs Network program and (b) providing services have been (i) closed and (ii) opened since the program began operating.
- *601 **MR L. D. T. FERGUSON:** To ask the Minister Assisting the Minister for Defence—
- (1) Which companies have contracts with the Department of Defence for the carriage of explosives.
 - (2) Do all vehicles used by each company referred to in part (1) to carry explosives meet the required standards set out in Statutory Rules 1991, No. 329—Explosives Regulations.
 - (3) Do all company employees engaged in carrying explosives hold “secret” security clearance.
 - (4) Does each company carry a Commonwealth indemnity for carrying explosives under contract.

- (5) Are all company employees engaged in carrying explosives trained to the level of explosive ordnance class I.
- (6) What level of training is undertaken annually by drivers engaged in carrying explosives.

*602 **MR TANNER:** To ask the Minister representing the Minister for Family and Community Services—Has the Commonwealth provided funding to Equal Vocational Employment Network (EVEN) Inc. and its associated organisation, Zenith Employment and Training; if so, (a) what sum did it provide in (i) 1996-97, (ii) 1997-98 and (iii) 1998-99, (b) on what programs, activities or products did EVEN and Zenith spend the funds and (c) was portion of the funds used to finance a proposed contract with the Eden Fishermen's Recreation Club under which EVEN/Zenith would assume responsibility for managing the club; if so, (i) what sums and (ii) on what items.

I. C. HARRIS

Clerk of the House of Representatives

SPEAKER'S PANEL

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

COMMITTEES

Unless otherwise shown, appointed for life of 39th Parliament

Standing

Pursuant to standing orders

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.

Current inquiry:

Managing fatigue in transport.

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 inquiry:

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.

Current inquiries:

Employee share ownership in Australian enterprises.

Issues specific to older workers seeking employment, or establishing a business, following unemployment.

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 inquiry:

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. (Mr Jenkins and Mr Nugent to serve as supplementary members for the purpose of the inquiry into indigenous health.)

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.

Current inquiries:

Adding value to Australian raw materials.

Effects on research and development of certain public policy reforms.

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.

Current inquiry:

Enforcement of copyright.

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.

Current inquiries:

Infrastructure and the development of Australia's regional areas.

Primary producer access to gene technology.

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

Current inquiries:

The status of records held by Members of the House of Representatives.

Whether there was unauthorised disclosure of the 'Regional Banking Services: Money too far away' report of the Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration.

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

Current inquiry:

Community involvement in the procedures and practices of the House of Representatives and its committees.

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 Forrest, Mr Jull, Mr McArthur, Mr McLeay, Senator Sandy Macdonald, Senator MacGibbon, Senator Ray.

Current inquiry:

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Legislation Amendment Bill 1999.

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.

Current inquiry:

Provisions of the Corporate Law Economic Reform Program Bill 1998. (*To report by 11 May 1999.*)

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 Snowden, 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.

Darwin—Redevelopment of Darwin Naval Base Project.

Lucas Heights, NSW—Replacement nuclear research reactor.

North Ryde, NSW—CSIRO Riverside Corporate Park: Joint Research Complex for CSIRO Molecular Science and Food Science Australia.

Townsville—RAAF Base Townsville Redevelopment Stage 1.

Weston Creek, ACT—Staff Colleges Collocation Project.

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 Snowden, 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:

- Australia's efforts to promote and protect freedom of religion and belief.
- Australia's trade and investment relationship with South America.
- Bougainville peace process.
- Military justice procedures.
- Suitability of the Australian Army for peacetime, peacekeeping and war.

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 Snowdon, 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.*)

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*).